

Annual Monitoring Report

December 2008

(Monitoring year April 2007 - March 2008)



SMITH & SHAW



Walsall Council

Walsall Council

Annual Monitoring Report

2008

The Annual Monitoring Report contains a lot of information about Walsall and explains how the Council's planning policies are performing against national, regional and local targets. If you have any difficulty in understanding the information provided please telephone 01922 652426 leaving a message in your own language on our telephone recording facility. Also please provide your telephone number and contact address for us to respond to you.

Bengali

ওয়ার্ডসমূহ সম্পর্কে অনেক সংবাদ বাৎসরিক উপদেশ-সভাবর্ষিক রিপোর্টটিতে রয়েছে, এক কন্ট্রোলিং বিভাগে নীতিমালা ধরনের পরিবর্তন করে জাতীয়, আঞ্চলিক এবং স্থানীয় লক্ষ্যসমূহের বিশদে পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করিতেছে এই রিপোর্টটি তার ব্যাখ্যা করেছে। যদি এর কোন বিষয় আপনার বুঝতে অসুবিধা হয়, দয়া করে ০১৯২২ ৬৫২৪২৬ নম্বরে ফোন করে আপনার ভাষায় আমাদের টেলিফোন মেসেজ রেকর্ডিং সুবিধায় আপনার কথাগুলি বর্ণনা করতে পারেন। আপনার মেসেজে অবশ্যই আপনার টেলিফোন নম্বর ও ঠিকানা উল্লেখ করবেন যাতে আমরা আপনার সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারি।

Gujerati

આ વાર્ષિક રિપોર્ટ રીપોર્ટ માં દરેક વોલસોલની પ્રજાકારી છે અને એની સમજાય છે કેવી રીતે કાઉન્સિલની આમલ કરેલી નીતીઓ આજારાષ્ટ્રીય, પ્રદેશીક અને લોકલ સમયે કામ કરે છે.

આ પ્રજાકારી સમજવામાં તકલીફ પડતી હોય તો ૦૧૯૨૨ ૬૫૨૪૨૬ (01922 652426) પર ફોન કરી અને તમારી ભાષામાં આનરારીય મરહીન પર મેરેજ મુકો, તમારા જ્ઞાન નંબર અને એડરેસ સાથે જે થી અમે તમને સમ્પર્ક સાધી શકીએ.

Hindi

वार्षिक समीक्षा रिपोर्ट में वास्तुतः आपके बारे में बहुत सी जानकारी है, और इस का वर्णन है कि कौन्सिल प्लैनिंग पोलिसिआ किस तरह राष्ट्रीय, प्रदेशीक और स्थानिय लक्ष्यो पर कार्य करती है। अगर वी गई जानकारी को समझने में आपको कोई मुश्किल आ रही हो तो कृपा करके 01922 652426 पर फोन करके अपनी भाषा में हमारी टेलीफोन रिकॉर्डिंग की सुविधा पर संदेश छोड़ें। कृपया अपना टेलीफोन नम्बर और पता जापछ्य छोड़ियें ताकि हम आपसे सम्पर्क कर सकें।

Kurdish

رپورتی سالانہ ی چاؤڈی زانیاری زور سے بارہ تا بہ Walsall له خو نہ کری. هه روه ها نه وه ش روه نه کاته وه که چون پاتنه داریزراوه کانی شماره وانی له به رامیه ر ناماته نایخوئی و هه رومی و نیشتمانیه کان کارنه که نرگه ر هاتو هه ر جوره گرفتکت بو له نیکه یشتتی نه و زانیاریانه تکایه به یوه ندی بکه به 01922 652426 و به زمانی خوئی به یام جن بیله .
تکایه هه روه ها شماره ته له فون و نه دره سی خوئی جن بیله بو ته وه ی بتوانین وه لامت بده بینه وه.

Punjabi

ਸਲਾਨਾ ਮਨੀਟਰਿੰਗ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਚ ਵਾਲਸਲ ਬਾਰੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਸਾਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਖੁਲਾਸਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਕਾਊਂਸਿਲ ਪਲੈਨਿੰਗ ਪਾਲਿਸੀਆ ਕਿਸ ਤਰਾ ਮੁਲਕੀ, ਕੌਮੀ ਅਤੇ ਮਕਾਮੀ ਮੁੱਦਿਆਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਕੰਮ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਅਗਰ ਚਿੰਤੀ ਗਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕੋਈ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਿਲ ਆਈਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਮਿਹਰਬਾਣੀ ਕਰਕੇ 01922 652426 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਸੋਲੀ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਡੀ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਰਿਕਾਰਡਿੰਗ ਦੀ ਸਹੂਲਤ 'ਤੇ ਸੁਨੇਹਾ ਛੱਡੋ। ਮਿਹਰਬਾਣੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣਾ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਅਤੇ ਪਤਾ ਵੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰ ਛੱਡੋ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕੀਏ।

Turkish

Yıllık denetim raporu, Walsall hakkında bir çok bilgi içermektedir ve konseyin siyasetlerini dini, milli ve yerel hedeflerine karşı nasıl planlamakta olduğunu açıklamaktadır. Eger sunulan bilgiyi anlamakta herhangi bir zorlukla karşılaşırsanız, lütfen 01922 652426'yı telefon kayıt merkezimize kendi dilinizde mesaj bırakarak arayın. Bizim size cevap vermemiz için lütfen telefon numaranızı ve ulaşım adresinizi bırakın.

Urdu

جانرے کی سالانہ رپورٹ میں وال سال کے بارے میں بہت سی معلومات دی گئی ہیں اور اس رپورٹ میں واضح طور پر یہ بتایا گیا ہے کہ قومی، علاقائی اور مقامی اہداف کے مترادف کو نسل کی پالیسیوں کے مطابق کی گئی مشورہ بندی پر کس طرح عمل درآمد کیا جا رہا ہے۔ اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں مشکل پیش آرہی ہو تو براہ مہربانی 01922 652426 پر فون کر کے ہماری ٹیلیفون کی ریکارڈنگ سروس پر اپنی زبان میں پیغام چھوڑ دیں۔ اس پیغام میں اپنا ٹیلیفون نمبر اور پتہ بھی بتائیں تاکہ ہم واپس آپ سے رابطہ کر سکیں۔

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For more information about any of the issues raised in this Annual Monitoring Report please contact:

Regeneration Strategy
Strategic Regeneration
Walsall Council
Civic Centre
Darwall Street
Walsall
WS1 1DG

Telephone: 01922 653655

Email: ldf@walsall.gov.uk

This document will also be available on the Council's website at:

http://www.walsall.gov.uk/local_development_framework.htm

Disclaimer: This Annual Monitoring Report has been prepared to seek to respond to the requirement to produce such a report, under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided, no liability is accepted for any errors or omissions.

Overview

The development plan system introduced in 2004 requires each local planning authority to prepare a Local Development Framework, which will comprise a folder of Local Development Documents. The Local Development Framework is to be continually reviewed and revised, and to support this, the local planning authority is required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report.

Walsall Council's 2008 Annual Monitoring Report provides information on:

1. The social, environmental and economic context of the Borough
2. Implementation of the Local Development Scheme
3. How the policies in the Local Development Framework are performing
4. Actions to address the underperformance of policy

A key indicator to the social, environmental and economic context of the Borough is the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007. It shows that Walsall is the 45th most deprived Local Authority in England, and is 27th on the Income scale and 34th on the Employment scale (1 being the most deprived out of 354 Local Authorities). This identifies the scale of the challenges facing the borough as it seeks to strengthen its economy, environment and communities. Although planning policies are pivotal to delivering the successful regeneration of the borough, many issues are influenced by external factors including globalisation or other government legislation. We have therefore tried to identify where performance is influenced or constrained by factors outside the scope of Walsall's planning policies.

The project plan for producing the Walsall Local Development Framework (LDF) is contained within the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The AMR, by reviewing the performance of our existing planning policies, will help us decide whether we need to review the LDS in the future. The July 2007 version of the LDS has been used to assess progress for this AMR (this being the most up to date version during the majority of the monitoring year).

The LDF documents adopted or started during 2007/08 were broadly in accordance with the milestones contained within the July 07 LDS. However, the milestones for producing both the Black Country Joint Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Natural Environment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) were not adhered to. In the case of the SPD this was a result of the need to undertake a sustainability appraisal/strategic environmental assessment and in the case of the Joint Core Strategy a decision to undertake additional consultation not programmed for previously.

The planning policies in the Local Development Framework are monitored by a set of indicators. These include 'Core Output indicators' (set by central government) and 'Local Output Indicators' (specified by Walsall Council).

They are graded by a 'traffic light' system of 'smiley faces' as set out in the table below:

Performance of Policy Grade	Number of Indicators Achieving this Grade
☺	Policy being implemented
☹	Progress on implementing policy
☹	Policy not being implemented
?	Not clear whether or not policy is being implemented

Although the majority of planning policies can be described as performing in accordance with their stated objectives, actions have been identified to address those policies that appear to be underperforming. These may include recommending that policies are amended and addressed through other LDF documents, or that actions are taken to improve delivery of the agreed objectives.

Contents

1.	Introduction	1
2.	The Walsall Context	4
3.	The Local Development Framework	10
3.1	Introduction to assessing Walsall's LDF	10
3.2	Local Development Scheme Update	11
3.3	Environment and Amenity	17
3.4	Jobs and Prosperity	21
3.5	Strengthening Our Centres	24
3.6	Housing	27
3.7	Transport	33
3.8	Leisure and Community	36
3.9	Minerals	39
3.10	Waste Management	50
4.	Glossary	61

Appendices are provided in a separate document.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Under the new development plan system introduced in 2004 each local authority is required to prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF), which will comprise a folder of Local Development Documents, aiming to provide an up-to-date and flexible set of plans for its area. In the future this will replace previous plans including the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) which was adopted in Walsall in March 2005.

1.1.2 Like other plans adopted after 28th September 2004 the UDP's policies were saved automatically for 3 years, i.e. until March 2008. In 2007 the Council wrote to the Secretary of State to ask for all of the UDP Policies to be saved (with the exception of Policy BR3, which had been fully implemented). A letter from the Secretary of State, dated 6 December 2007 directed that all of the UDP Policies should be saved, with the exception of Policy BR3 – Brownhills Resource Centre, ENV22 – Protected Species, ENV39 – Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation and H8 – Accommodation for Travelling People. Apart from the four policies that have been allowed to expire, Walsall's UDP policies will remain saved until they are replaced by policies from the Local Development Framework.

1.1.3 Each planning authority's LDF should be continually reviewed and revised, which should be informed by monitoring. To support this each planning authority is required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

1.1.4 The purpose of the AMR is to provide information on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and the extent to which the policies contained within the plans and documents in the LDF are being achieved. In particular:

- Whether the timetable and milestones are being met in the preparation of documents set out in the LDS
- Progress against policies and targets in Local Development Documents
- Where policies are not being implemented, an explanation of why and actions to address this
- The significant effects of implementing policies in the Local Development Documents, whether this is as intended or whether policies should be amended or replaced
- Impacts of policies on national and regional targets, or whether policies need changing to reflect changes in national and regional policy.

1.2 The Contents of this AMR

1.2.1 This is Walsall Council's fourth AMR. It covers the period from 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008. It also comments on significant events up to December 2008. At March 2008 the documents in the LDF were:

- Walsall Unitary Development Plan 2005
- Affordable Housing SPD
- Urban Open Space SPD
- Healthcare SPD
- Education SPD
- Waterfront SPD
- Designing Walsall SPD
- Statement of Community Involvement

1.2.2 As the UDP is still the main document within the Walsall LDF, this report provides information on progress with both the “old” and the “new” development plan systems. The AMR is also required to consider how the LDF will relate to other strategies, notably the borough’s Community Strategy (The Walsall Community Plan) prepared by the Borough Local Strategic Partnership. Work commenced, in January 2007 on producing the successor to this document; The Walsall Sustainable Community Strategy. This was subsequently adopted by Walsall Council in May 2008.

1.2.3 This AMR provides information to monitor the policies in the UDP, the SPDs listed above, and the indicators promoted by the Government in respect of the LDF system. The indicators to be used for monitoring fall into the following three categories:

- i. **Contextual Indicators**, are identified by the Council to give a description of the borough and to identify particular issues
- ii. **Output Indicators**, monitor the application of the Local Development Documents. There are two types:
 - a) **Core Output Indicators**, which are recommended by the Government
 - b) **Local Output Indicators**, which are identified by the Council, based on the monitoring indicators in the UDP and SPDs.
- iii. **Significant Effects Indicators**, which assess the significant social, environmental and economic effects of policies to measure the actual effect of policies.

1.2.4 The Local Output Indicators are those that the Council has already agreed to measure. Some of the Core Output Indicators are additional to these, and in some cases the monitoring information is not available. The Council is working towards obtaining this information by increasing its capabilities, when the resources are available.

1.2.5 No Significant Effects Indicators have been identified in this AMR, as the sustainability appraisals undertaken on both the Natural Environment and Designing Walsall SPDs during 2007 -2008 did not identify any new monitoring indicators. The RSS Phase 1 Revision (for the Black Country) began the process of defining Significant Effects Indicators, and the Adoption Statement for the Sustainability Appraisal for Phase 1 identified indicators in respect of the objectives to:

- raise income levels

- reverse out-migration; and
- change the socio-economic mix of the population.

The Phase 1 Revision was published in January 2008, and it is envisaged these indicators will be monitored through the RSS in the next monitoring year (2008-2009). By that time the Sustainability Appraisal for the Black Country Core Strategy will also be more advanced towards identifying significant effects that should be monitored either by Walsall Council or through a Joint Black Country AMR.

1.2.6 Performance against the Core and Local Output Indicators is assessed in the LDF section of this report, which reflects the structure of Walsall's UDP. Main issues raised by the monitoring are included in this section, and further detail can be found in the appendices. Appendix I in the appendices lists all the output indicators and identifies those that are currently capable of being monitored, and those that are not.

2. The Walsall Context

2.1.1 Walsall Metropolitan Borough lies to the north-west of Birmingham and is one of the four authorities that make up the Black Country (the others being Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton). The Borough has a population of 254,500 (mid 2007, ONS) and covers an area of some 41 square miles (103.6 km²).

Figure 2.1: Walsall Urban Form

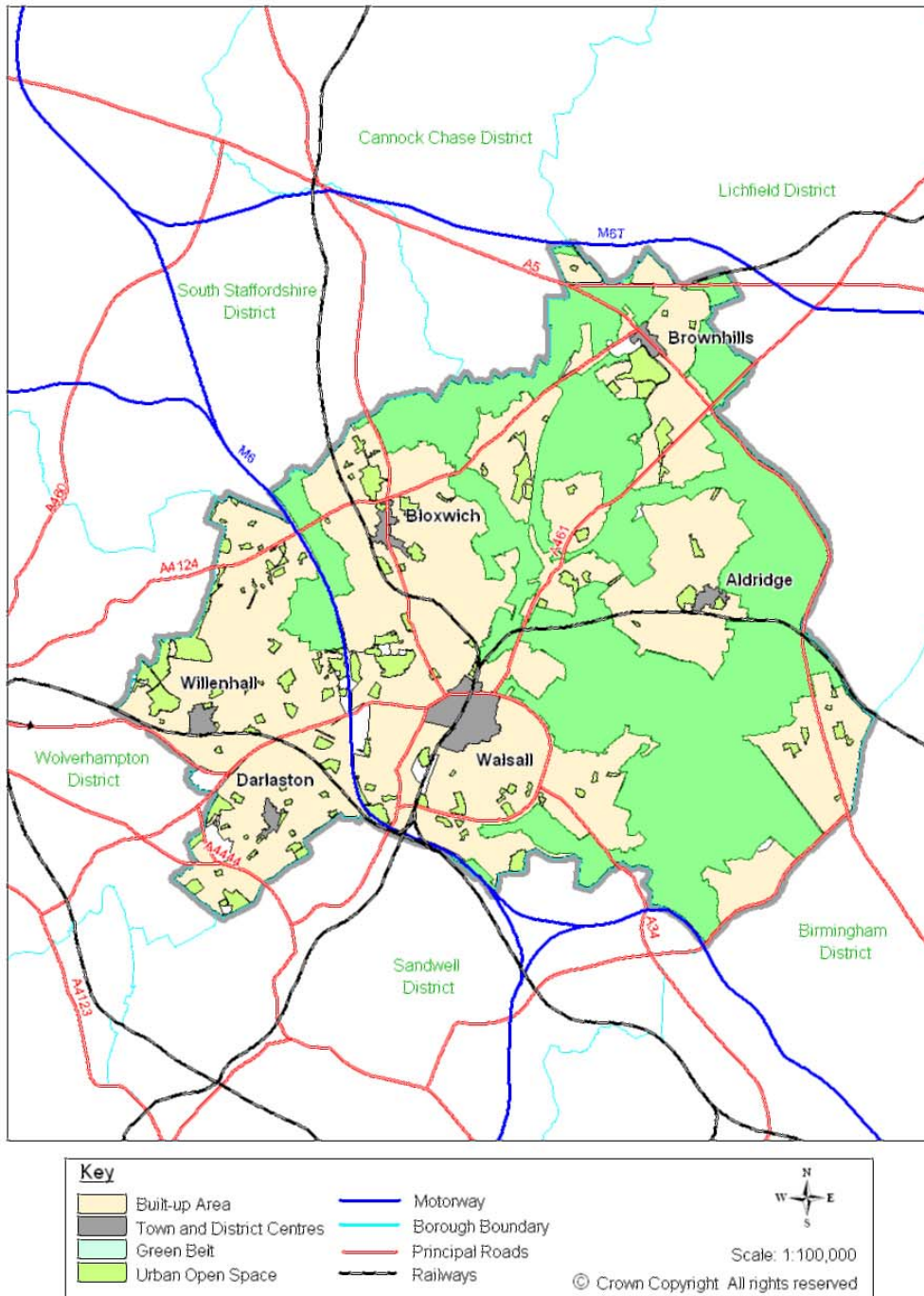


Table 2.1: Demographic Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Net in/ out migration	+ 1,000 (2005 – 2006 population estimates)	The proportion of young people is higher in Walsall than the UK average according to the 2001 census. The 2004 based population projections show that over the next 10 years the number of young people (those aged 0-24) will drop by 3.8%. In contrast, the number of older people (50+) will increase by 6.7%. However the increase in older people will be only about half the national one of 14%. Walsall has a vibrant, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural population. 14% of its population are from black and minority ethnic groups.
Projections/ forecasts of population growth	2010: 251,200 2015: 250,500 (2004 population projections)	
Demographic structure of communities – age, gender, ethnic mix, etc.	49% male, 51% female Age 0-4: 6.5%; 5-15: 15.3% 16-29 16.6% 30-44 21.5% 45-59 18.5% 60-64 5.5% 65-74 9.2% 75+ 7.0% BME 14% - Mixed 1.4% Asian 10.4% Black 1.4% Chinese 0.4% (from 2001 census)	

Table 2.2: Environmental Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Percentage of area classified as urban open space/ green space	20.4%	Improving access to green spaces and the natural environment is identified as a key issue in the Walsall Community Plan, under the “safer, stronger communities” pillar, and the impact of contaminated/ derelict land is also identified as a potential issue for health
Remediation of derelict and contaminated land	3.1ha (06/07) (Total Derelict Land 165.23ha)	
Air quality / percentage of area covered by AQMA	100% for NO ₂ Specific areas declared across Borough for different pollutants	An important environmental issue in Walsall and the wider West Midlands conurbation is air quality. Most parts of Birmingham and the Black Country suffer from poor air quality, mainly as a result of nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) emissions from traffic.
Number of Sites on the Contaminated Land Register	None	Investigations are due to commence in 2008 into contaminated sites, which may lead to sites being added to the register

Table 2.3: Economic Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Range of employment sectors represented	13 (2001 Census)	Walsall remains a traditional manufacturing economy, with proportionately far more employment in production sectors than the UK as a whole, and far fewer in services. Output from manufacturing, at 37% of the economy, is nearly twice the proportion in the UK as a whole. Walsall's generally low output growth, when compared regionally and nationally, is reflected in lower employment growth. Walsall as a whole suffers from a relative lack of economic demand; and this fundamental problem tends to trap the Borough in a low wealth creating cycle. Low aggregate demand means that there will be fewer job opportunities and lower incomes; in turn this reduces household expenditure.
Percentage of people who are economically inactive/ unemployed	Claimant Count 3.9% (WM – 3.0% UK – 2.2%) (Source: Nomis, March 2008)	
Gross Value Added per head (£)	£15,031 (Walsall and Wolverhampton), £14,647 (Black Country), £15,841 (West Midlands), £18,205 (United Kingdom) (Source: National Statistics, 2005)	
Numbers of new VAT business registrations	600 (Source: BERR - vat registrations/deregistrations by industry from Nomis Website, 2007)	
Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.	£419.4 (WM - £ 450.0, GB- 479.3) (Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis from Nomis Website, 2008)	

Table 2.4: Educational Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A* - C GCSE grades, compared to national and regional average	Walsall 58.6%, Statistical Neighbours 60.3%, National 64.6% (2008) (Source: Walsall Children's Services)	Walsall's educational attainment has been increasing steadily, but is still much lower than the national figures.
Percentage of school leavers not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Walsall 5.4% (2008) (Source: Connexions)	The Walsall Community Plan identifies educational attainment as a key issue affecting the borough's long-term economic prospects.

Table 2.5: Transport Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Changes in trunk road traffic speeds	No Walsall specific information available.	Walsall has a major advantage in being close to the hub of the national motorway network and the rail network. However, many of the local connections into this road and rail network need to be improved so that the borough can benefit from this potentially advantageous geographical position.

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Average duration/distance of journeys to work	Distance: 17% of all Metropolitan Area employees travelled less than 2km to work. 80% travelled under 20km (2001 census). No figures for duration of travel.	Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership undertook research into the accessibility of key services, and prepared a Local Accessibility Action Plan. This was approved by Cabinet in September 2007 and was approved by the WBSP board in February 2008. There are several issues and barriers to accessibility in Walsall. One of these is the cost of transport.
Percentage of primary and secondary school children arriving at school by car	Primary = 36.8% Secondary = 21% Primary and Secondary = 29.9% (Source: Walsall Annual Census for schools)	
Cost of Transport	Fares risen in WM in 2007/08: Bus 3%, Metro 8.6% and rail 4.8%. (Source: Centro Annual Statistics Report)	

Table 2.6: Quality of Life Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2008	Commentary
Patterns of deprivation/ proportion of population suffering from multiple deprivation	5.56% Walsall residents living in the 5% most deprived areas. (Source: CLG 2007 and ONS mid-year population estimates 2007)	
Structure of housing stock (types, tenures)	Owner occupied: 64.7% (2001 census) Rented: 35.3% (2001 census)	
House prices-Walsall Metropolitan District	March 2008 £133,665 March 2007 £130,449 (Land Registry)	
Number of homes below decent homes standard	3% of total RSL stock is non-decent (HSSA 2008) 24505 private sector households in Walsall are vulnerable. 16851 vulnerable households, or 68.8%, currently live in Decent Homes. (Private Sector Stock Condition Survey 2008)	
Levels of crime and people's perception of crime	Level of crime 2007/08 Overall Crime Rate of 54.9 per 1000 population (recorded crime BCS comparator) (Source: DCLG website, 2008)	

<p>Life expectancy and mortality rates</p>	<p>Perception of crime 97% of Walsall residents feel safe outside in their neighbourhood during the day, and 65% feel safe after dark. 34% said crime or the fear of crime had no impact on them, and only 4% said that it had a notable or significant impact. (Source: <i>Feeling the Difference Research</i>, WM Police, March 2008)</p> <p>2004-06 Life Expectancy at birth (in years):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="603 752 994 846"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Walsall</th> <th>E&W</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Males</td> <td>75.7</td> <td>77.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Females</td> <td>80.8</td> <td>81.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: National Centre for Health Outcomes Database (NCHOD)</p>		Walsall	E&W	Males	75.7	77.2	Females	80.8	81.5	<p>2007/08.</p> <p>Perception of crime This is above WM Police target of 95%</p> <p>Walsall had the best figures for people unaffected by crime or the fear of crime of all seven LAs in the West Midlands Police area.</p> <p>Walsall faces major health challenges. In 2002/04 the life expectancy of men was 0.9 years lower than that for England and Wales, and the life expectancy of women was 0.4 years lower. However, life expectancy varies considerably in different parts of the borough, from 72 to 80 years in men, and from 78 to 86 years in women. Walsall also has significantly higher levels of obesity than the average for the West Midlands region – for women it is 19% compared to the regional average of 16%.</p>
	Walsall	E&W									
Males	75.7	77.2									
Females	80.8	81.5									
<p>levels of obesity</p>	<p>As at March 2008, 9.6% of Walsall adults were on Obesity disease registers. At the same time, 32.9% of those with BMI recorded in Primary Care were classed as obese.</p> <p>Source: NHS Information Centre and NHS Walsall.</p>	<p>Walsall still faces major health and inequality challenges. In 2004/06 the life expectancy of men was 1.5 years lower than that for England and Wales, and the life expectancy of women was 0.7 years lower – larger than the gap 2 years previous.</p> <p>Walsall has markedly higher levels of diagnosed obesity than the average for the West Midlands region and England and Wales – 9.6% compared to 8.4% (West Midlands) and 7.6% (England & Wales).</p> <p>Linked to this, Walsall also has higher levels of CHD, Type2 Diabetes and Hypertension than the West Midlands region as a whole.</p>									
<p>NI 5 Satisfaction with the area as a place to live</p>	<p>78% very/fairly satisfied (Source: Budget consultation 2009/10, Sept 08)</p>	<p>This score is an improvement on a 2005 survey with a similar methodology which had a score of 74%</p>									

2.1.2 Walsall Context Summary:

- Environment needs improvement (with most green space in the East of the Borough and the whole Borough designated as a AQMA)
- High Claimant Count – with particularly high numbers of unemployed men
- Educational attainment still low, but rising
- Life Expectancy, as an indicator of health, is lower than the UK average
- Walsall has markedly higher levels of diagnosed obesity than the average for the West Midlands region and England and Wales – 9.6% compared to 8.4% (West Midlands) and 7.6% (England & Wales)
- However, 78% of residents are very/fairly satisfied living in their local communities

2.1.3 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007 gives a picture of the Walsall Context. Out of the 354 Local Authorities in England, Walsall is ranked the 45th most deprived. It is also ranked 27th on the Income scale and 34th on the Employment scale. The 2004 IMD ranked Walsall as 51st most deprived. (Source: Department of Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2007.)

3. The Local Development Framework

3.1 Introduction to Assessing Walsall's LDF

3.1.1 At March 2008, the Walsall Local Development Framework (LDF) included the UDP, six SPDs and the SCI. This chapter summarises progress on implementing the key policies, proposals and targets in the above documents.

3.1.2 The following sections consider the extent to which LDF policies are being applied, and whether or not they are effective. Because of the number of indicators, this chapter is broken down into sections that reflect the chapters of the UDP. Both the core and the local output indicators are addressed in these sections.

3.1.3 Given the number of indicators and the data required, it was not possible to ascertain performance against every indicator and target this year. However, we have been able to show performance against more indicators than ever before. Whilst it is unlikely that all of the information gaps can be addressed in the short-term, the Council is aiming to make gradual improvements each year, so that eventually, data will be available for all of the indicators proposed to be retained.

3.1.4 Each of the following sections is divided into three parts. The first identifies the UDP's main aim for that topic. The second is a monitoring table that analyses the relevant UDP policy against the output indicators, and suggests further action to address the underperformance of policy. The UDP policy reference is included in the table, and is expanded upon in Appendix I. The third is a summary of the main issues arising from the monitoring, any key events from the last year, and those expected in the future.

3.1.5 Within each of the monitoring tables, the policies overall performance and the extent to which it is being implemented is graded as follows:

- ☺ Policy being implemented
- ☹ Progress on implementing policy
- ☹ Policy not being implemented
- ❓ Not clear whether or not policy is being implemented

This is a simple classification that summarises the policies performance. Further, in-depth, analysis of the monitoring indicators is included in the appendices.

3.1.6 The Appendices reflect the structure of the report, with each LDF section having an appendix which includes an updated version of the relevant section from the 2007 AMR. This has allowed current data to be compared to past

trends and allow for a deeper analysis than was achievable in the constraints of the main report. It also enables the consistent presentation of data required in Table 3.3 of the 'Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide'. The appendices also include a table containing the UDP policy objectives referred to in the monitoring tables, and an update of data collection and monitoring.

3.2 Local Development Scheme Update

3.2.1 Walsall's first Local Development Scheme (LDS) came into effect in March 2005. Since then it has been updated four times, and the current, at the time of writing (December 2008), version was agreed with the Government Office for the West Midlands in March 2008.

3.2.2 The timetable for producing the Walsall LDF, as set out in the July 2007 version of the LDS, has been used to assess progress for the monitoring year 2007/08 (this being the most up to date version during the majority of the monitoring year). During this year, the Walsall Local Development framework (LDF) included the following documents:

- Walsall Unitary Development Plan 2005 (old style 'saved' plan)
- Statement of Community Involvement (adopted in June 2006)
- Affordable Housing SPD (adopted in July 2005)
- Open Space SPD (adopted in April 2006)
- Walsall Waterfront SPD (adopted in November 2006)
- Healthcare Provision SPD (adopted in January 2007)
- Education Provision SPD (adopted in February 2007)
- Designing Walsall SPD (adopted in February 2008)

3.2.3 The LDF documents adopted during 2007/08 were produced in accordance with the milestones contained within the July 2007 LDS. However, the milestones for producing both the Black Country Joint Core Strategy DPD and the Natural Environment SPD, as programmed within the July 2007 LDS, were not adhered to. Publication of the Black Country Joint Core Strategy Preferred Options slipped from January 2008 to March 2008 as a result of a delay by one of the Black Country authorities obtaining Cabinet approval. In the case of the Natural Environment SPD, the result of a requirement to subject the SPD to a Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment resulted in a slight delay in the document's adoption from March 2008 to April 2008. However, work continued on both the Designing Walsall SPD and an updated version of the Affordable Housing SPDs in accordance with the timetable contained within the July 2007 LDS.

3.2.4 The March 2008 LDS re-instated the previous proposal for an Area Action Plan (AAP) for Central Willenhall. Work commenced on evidence gathering during January 2008.

3.2.5 We will need to further revise the March 2008 LDS in early 2009 to take into account both the impact of recent (June 2008) revisions to the Town and

Country Planning Regulations and PPS12 and the delays in progressing Phase 2 of the RSS Review on the timetable for producing the Joint Core Strategy. The changes to the regulations introduced an additional 'publication' stage prior to the submission of DPDs (including the Joint Core Strategy) to the Secretary of State for examination. It is intended that publication of the Joint Core Strategy will occur later in 2009 with submission in early 2010. We will also need to review the impact of changes to the timetable for producing the Joint Core Strategy on our remaining DPDs and discussions have commenced with our key partners on this process.

Table 3.1: Before 07/08 Monitoring year the LDF consisted of:

Document	Comments
UDP	A letter from the Secretary of State, dated 6 December 2007 directed that all of the UDP Policies should be saved, with the exception of Policy BR3 – Brownhills Resource Centre, ENV22 – Protected Species, ENV39 – Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation and H8 – Accommodation for Travelling People. Apart from the four policies that have been allowed to expire, Walsall's UDP policies will remain saved until they are replaced by policies from the Local Development Framework
Affordable Housing SPD Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Open Space SPD Waterfront SPD	See Table 3.12 for monitoring. It was decided to produce an additional Affordable Housing SPD which will be a refresh of this adopted SPD. Work commenced in July 2007 The adopted (June 2006) SCI includes a commitment to monitoring after the first year of operation. Monitoring of the implementation of the SCI, incorporating an Equalities Impact Assessment commenced in January 2008 and was completed in Summer 2008. Appropriate monitoring indicators are in the process of being agreed which will be included in subsequent AMRs. See Table 3.15 for monitoring Although no formal monitoring indicators were included within the SPD; the following could be used to identify 'progress towards implementing the SPD' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessup Developments – consent for 357 residential unit and 51,000 sq ft office scheme achieved in June 2007. • Skate Park demolished in September/October 2007 in preparation for Urban Splash scheme. • Urban Splash commenced preparatory works on site, with grouting of the limestone mine, in February 2008. • William House – 60 apartments and two ground floor A3/A4 units achieved consent in March 2008. • Lex site architectural design competition launched at MIPIM in March 2008
Healthcare SPD Education SPD	See Table 3.16 for monitoring See Table 3.17 for monitoring

Table 3.2: Adopted during 07/08 Monitoring year:

Document	When adopted?	compare to milestone in LDS?	monitoring - have/can we?
Designing Walsall SPD	Feb-08	In accordance with milestones	Appropriate monitoring indicators are in the process of being agreed which will be included in subsequent AMRs. However, Council still needs to decide to proceed with monitoring against Building For Life (BFL) targets. See Housing section for further detail

Table 3.3: Being worked on through 07/08 monitoring year:

	Progress at April 08	Progress at Dec 08	Timetabled adoption in July 07 LDS	Compare to milestone in July 07 LDS LDS2006 LDS	Compared to milestones in March 08 LDS	Reason for slippage	our action to slippage	comments
Joint Core Strategy	Issues and Options document published for consultation during Summer 2007 in accordance with timetable contained within July 2007 LDS. Publication of Preferred Options Document commenced in March 2008 which represented a slippage from Jan	Work has commenced on producing the Publication Document. This is not in accordance with the timetable contained within neither LDS as this stage was added within the changes to the Regulations in June 2008.	Oct 2009	In accord with milestones regarding Issues and Options stage. Not in accordance with preferred options stage.	In accordance with the Preferred Options consultation milestones but submission has slipped from October 2008.	Publication of The Black Country Joint Core Strategy Preferred Options slipped from January 2007 to March 2007 as a result of one of the Black Country's Cabinet timetable being changed. The impact of recent (June 2008) changes to the regulations and delays in progressing the Phase 2 of the RSS review on the timetable for producing the Joint Core Strategy has also resulted in delays.	Work with key partners and GOWM to review the timetable for producing the Joint Core strategy that takes into account the impacts of the regulation changes and delays to the RSS review.	These changes will be included within an amended LDS which will be produced in early 2009.


	Progress at April 08	Progress at Dec 08	Timetabled adoption in July 07 LDS	Compare to milestone in July 07LDS LDS2006 LDS	Compared to milestones in March 08 LDS	Reason for slippage	our action to slippage	comments
	2008 contained within the July 2007 LDS.							
Natural Environment SPD	The SPD was adopted by the Council's Cabinet in April 2008.	The SPD was adopted by the Council's Cabinet in April 2008.	March 2008	Adoption slipped from March 2008 to April 2008.	Adoption April 08	The result of a requirement to subject the SPD to a Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment resulted in	N/A	

	Progress at April 08	Progress at Dec 08	Timetabled adoption in July 07 LDS	Compare to milestone in July 07LDS LDS2006 LDS	Compared to milestones in March 08 LDS	Reason for slippage	our action to slippage	comments
Affordable Housing Refresh SPD	SPD awaiting approval from the Council's Cabinet to adopt	The SPD was adopted by the Council's Cabinet in April 2008.	April 2008	In accordance with milestones	Adoption April 2008	N/A	a slight delay in the document's adoption from March 2008 to April 2008.	


3.3 LDF Implementation: Environment and Amenity

Aim: Sustainable development and environment improvement are two of the key aims underlying the UDP. The Council will conserve and enhance the Borough's natural and man-made environment assets whilst seeking to eliminate, ameliorate or control any features or activities that have an adverse impact on the environment. (UDP Paragraph 3.1)

Greenbelt (Table 3.4)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/8	Action
UDP Policy ENV2	Local Output Indicator – Green Belt: Protection of the Green Belt.	UDP Target: 100% protection	 Although significant development proposals have been approved in the Green Belt, these are all either extensions to existing buildings, conversions or replacements for existing buildings, and are therefore considered “appropriate.”	Continue to apply Green Belt policy and ensure any development is indeed appropriate.

Biodiversity (Table 3.5)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policies ENV 19 – 24	New Core Output Indicator E2 Change in areas of biodiversity importance	N/A	Two additional Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINCs) were identified in a site review. Their area totalled 3.7 Hectares. No areas of biodiversity importance were lost	
	Local Output Indicator – Biodiversity: Progress in relation to targets in	None specific to Walsall	 At present it is not possible to establish the extent to which the	There is a need to review the definition of this indicator and the feasibility of monitoring it


LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
	Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham & Black Country		LBAP targets are being met.	with the resources available.
UDP Policies ENV 15 – 19	Local Output Indicator – Tree Planting: Progress in relation to targets in forest plans/ strategies	None identified	? No monitoring targets have so far been identified for the Forest of Mercia initiative.	This indicator is being deleted as it has little to do with biodiversity and is of questionable benefit compared with the resources required to monitor it.

The Historic Environment (Table 3.6)


LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policies ENV 27 – 29	Local Output Indicator – Historic Environment: Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest.	100% protection	☹ One statutory listed building was lost due to fire (Shannon's Mill, Walsall) and no buildings have been added to the statutory list 2007-2008	Continue to apply planning and listed building / Conservation Area Policies.
UDP Policy ENV 29	Local Output Indicator – Conservation Area Management: Preparation of character appraisals and	5 to be prepared by April 2008	☺ Area Appraisals and Management Plans were	Maintain programme of management plans and continue to seek funding for improvements.


	management strategies.		completed for the Bridge Street, Walsall, Lichfield Street, Walsall, Old Pelsall, Pelsall Common and Willenhall conservation areas. These were all approved by Cabinet.	
--	------------------------	--	---	--

Renewable Energy (Table 3.7)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policy ENV 39	LDF Core Output Indicator E3: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 9) Renewable Energy capacity installed by type.	Regional Energy Strategy Target: 5% of electricity to be from renewable sources by 2010	 Although one there has been 1 commercial development and 1 householder application and 1 householder application was approved in the monitoring year, Renewable Energy has not been taken up to a great extent in Walsall.	This is being addressed in several ways: - through the Designing a Better Walsall SPD (which encourages sustainable design including energy efficiency and onsite generation) - through - future DPDs

Water Resources, Water Quality and Flood Risk (Table 3.8)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policy ENV 40	LDF Core Output Indicator E1: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 7) Number of	None	 No applications were approved by the Council contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency during 2007/08 on water quality grounds.	Continue to apply the policy and to take account of Environment Agency advice.

	<p>planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood risk or water quality.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Two applications were approved by the Council where to The Environment Agency had raised objections on flood risk grounds during 2007/08.</p>	
--	---	--	---	--

Environment and Amenity LDF Policy Performance Summary:

- The target for Greenbelt has not been achieved, as several proposals have been approved, albeit ones that the Council considered appropriate.
- In the Biodiversity Indicators Two additional Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation (SINCs) were identified in a site review and the Natural Environment SPD was adopted on 16th April 2008.
- There has been successful implementation of LDF Historic Environment policies with one statutorily listed building being lost to fire, which is outside of our control.
- The implementation of the LDF Energy policy has not been successful as there have been few successful proposals for renewable energy / low energy technology in Walsall.
- The LDF Policy on Water Quality and Flood Risk has mixed implementation with some planning applications granted contrary to Environment Agency advice. It is anticipated that Water Resource studies will be used to inform the emerging Joint Core Strategy.

3.4 LDF Implementation: Jobs and Prosperity

Aim: To boost jobs and prosperity in the Borough by providing enough land of the right quality to meet the full range of employment needs and by promoting the enhancement of existing employment areas (UDP paragraph 4.7)

Jobs and Prosperity




Table 3.9a Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Revised Core Output Indicators


Indicator		B1a	Permission For More Than One Class*	Total	Notes
BD1-Total Amount of Additional Employment Floor space	gross	500	2,694	3,194	One site completed had planning permission across B1b, B1c,B2 and B8 for 2,694 metres square
	net				No Net Figures Available Because Planning Applications Only List Gross Size
BD2- Total Amount of Employment Floor space On Previously Developed Land	gross	500	2,694	3,194	
	% gross on PDL	100 %		100%	
BD3 Employment Land Available by Type	hectares			61.1	This is the total of outstanding UDP employment sites (35.26 Hectares) and sites with planning

					<p>permission for employment uses at April 2004 which have yet to be developed. (25.84 Hectares)</p> <p>It has been impossible to provide a fuller survey given the resources required in this reporting year.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--

*(There were no Permission solely for B1b,B1c,B2 and B8)

Table 3.9b Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Existing Indicators

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/8	Actions for the future
UDP Policy JP1	Local Output Indicator: Land developed for employment uses.	UDP Target: 13 ha per annum	 0.88ha (10.8ha average 1991–2007)	Reflects manufacturing poor performance over the last 10 years – not within Council control
UDP Policy JP1	Local Output Indicator: The proportion of development that takes place on Brownfield sites.	UDP Target: 95% of all land developed	 100% - all development in 2007/8 took place on previously developed land.	
UDP Policy JP1	Local Output Indicator: Employment Land Supply: The extent to which the New Employment Sites	UDP Target: 95% of the total land area (taking into account	 89.5%	This depends on the extent to which national policy ensures that town centre uses are directed to town centres.

	allocated in Policy JP1 are successfully protected from loss to other, inappropriate uses.	flexibility of Policy JP4.1 and JP4.2)		
LDF Core Output Indicator (1b): Amount of floor space developed for employment by type, in employment or regeneration areas.	No specific target	 22,796sqm 3872sqm also developed for B1a	Reflects manufacturing's poor performance over the last 10 years – not within Council control	



Jobs and Prosperity LDF Performance Summary:

- 0.79ha of industrial land was developed down from 7.5ha in 2006/7, plus 0.07ha for out-of-centre offices. This is way below the average since 1991 of 10.8ha per annum.
- 3.47ha of land was under construction for employment uses whilst a further 6.39ha of land has outstanding planning consent for employment uses. This implies a low rate of development for employment uses in the near future
- Notwithstanding some new high quality B8 and B1a development, there is still a lack of new diversified office-based development coming forward to replace the declining manufacturing sector in Walsall.


3.5 LDF Implementation: Strengthening Our Centres

Aim: To promote established town, district and local centres as the main focus for shopping, services, leisure and other aspects of community life, and to make sure that these centres are easily accessible to everyone (UDP paragraph 5.12).

Strengthening Our Centres (Table 3.10)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policy S1 – S7	LDF Core Output Indicator (4a, amended to BD4ii): Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (amended to relate to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) within the local authority area.	No specific targets	 13,567sq.m. gross. This is a decrease in development, compared to 2006/07 ¹ . However, see re the amount and proportion of development in centres, below.	There is a continuing need to make positive provision for investment in the local authority area, particularly in existing centres and to use planning policies to direct investment towards them. This has been supported through the recent RSS Phase 1 Revision and pursued in the sub-regional and regional contexts through the Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision, as well as through the use of UDP policies.
UDP Policy S1 – S5	LDF Core Output Indicator (4b, amended to BD4i): Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (amended to relate to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) in town centres.	No specific targets	 12,601sq.m. gross This is an increase in development in town centres	As above.

¹ Due to the introduction of the new BD4 indicator, 2007/08 figures now include Use Class A2 but no longer include hotels (Class C1)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policy S1 – S5	Local Output Indicator - Town Centre Development: The proportion of all retail, leisure and other 'town centre' uses that takes place in established centres.	UDP Target: 90%	 92.9% Compared to 6% in 2006/07	As above.
UDP Policy S1 – S5	Local Output Indicator – Shopping Centres: Amount of vacant floor space in centres	UDP Target: Vacancies to be at or below the national average (unable to ascertain national average).	? It has not been possible to monitor vacancies in the Borough's centres this year, although it is clear there are issues regarding their vitality and viability.	Review the arrangements needed to be able to monitor this indicator. Support the use of this indicator with other relevant information.

Strengthening Our Centres LDF Performance Summary

- The amount of development for retail, office and leisure uses has fallen to 13,567 sq.m. gross² for the year. This represents a 21.5% fall on the figure for the previous year, but is significantly above the low figures for 2004/05 and 2005/06.
- Most of the completed floor space was for retailing (12,681 sq.m. gross) and the vast majority of this was for a large Asda store in Walsall Town Centre (10,356 sq.m. gross). A Lidl store on the edge of the centre of Willenhall has been counted within the in-centre floor space.
- All of the office development was accounted for by a single scheme (a 500sq.m conversion from housing on Ida Road to support the nearby hospital), which was in an out-of-centre location.
- The only leisure development completed during the year has been an extension to the clubhouse at Calderfields Golf Club.
- The principal issue is the lack of investment in the borough and its centres, especially in terms of leisure and office development. However, because of the large store development, the overall proportion of new development in

² Floorspace figures are in terms of gross external space, unless otherwise stated.


the existing centres was very high and well above the UDP target that 90% of new development should be in centres.



- The Council was not able to monitor vacancies in centres for 2007/08, although it does appear there has been some increase in vacancies. Other information for Walsall town centre indicated investment confidence has remained and primary retail rents remained unchanged.
- In August 2007 Shannon's Mill in Walsall Town Centre was destroyed by fire. The council is working with the landowners and developers to assemble a replacement development. Elsewhere on the edge of the town centre planning permission has been granted for major office development ('Walsall gigaport') adjacent to where the new technical college is under construction. Construction of a large new store for Tesco is due to start next year on the existing college site. Another major food-based store has been given planning permission on the edge of the centre of Willenhall.
- Generally, there is a need to continue to apply and to strengthen planning policy to support investment in the borough's centres, particularly office and leisure investment.




3.6 LDF Implementation: Housing



Aim: To promote the provision of the right quantity and type of housing, in the most appropriate locations, whilst minimising any adverse impact on the environment (UDP paragraph 6.7).

Housing (Table 3.11)

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action for the Future
UDP Policies H2, H3	LDF Core Output Indicator (COI)(H1):	UDP (1991-2011) 10,100 dws gross	 9,953 (up to 2008)	
	COI H2): Housing trajectory showing:	Performance linked to LDF requirements and targets.		
	(i) Net additional dwellings over the previous five year period or since the start of the relevant development plan document period, whichever is the longer (COI H2a);		(i) 2,162 (5 years 2002-07)	
	(ii) Net additional dwellings for the current year (COI H2b);		(ii)-211	
	(iii) Projected		(iii) 5,422	

	<p>net additional dwellings up to 2026 (COI H2c);</p> <p>a) Net additions up to 2026</p> <p>b) Hectares 2008-2014</p> <p>c) Target 2008-14; and</p> <p>(v) Number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous year's performance (H2d).</p>		<p>a) 12,978</p> <p>b) 59</p> <p>c) 2,840 dwellings net</p> <p>(v) 8,114</p> <p>Trajectory shows shortfall against RSS2 PO target arising from the credit crunch, but recovering to reach target by 2026</p>	
UDP Policies H2, H3	<p>Local Output Indicator – Housing Requirement:</p> <p>Progress towards RPG11 target for the provision of additional dwellings.</p>	<p>422 new dwellings per annum (gross) *</p> <p>*RSS (2008) target is 500 new dwellings per annum</p>	<p></p> <p>591 dwellings completed</p> <p>Remainder @ 2008 = 147 dwellings or 49/yr.</p>	
UDP Policies H2, H3	<p>Local Output Indicator – Housing Windfalls:</p> <p>The contribution of windfall sites to</p>	<p>275 dwellings per annum on windfall sites (gross)</p>	<p></p> <p>581 dwellings (98.3%)</p>	

	housing provision.		(5 yr average = 525)	
UDP Policies H1, H3	LDF Core Output Indicator (H3): Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land.	PPG3 target: 60% UDP target: 95%	 99.3%	
UDP Policy H1	Local Output Indicator – Housing Vacancies: The reduction of vacancy rates in the existing housing stock.	Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011	 The vacancy rate is 4.1% which is an improvement on last years figure of 4.6%. (Source HSSA 2008: 4,447 total vacant homes / total stock, 108,724)	Large number of vacancies awaiting demolition; 657 demolitions programmed for 2008-09.
UDP Policy H9	LDF Core Output Indicator (2c) : Percentage of new dwellings completed at: (i) Less than 30 dwellings per hectare;	PPG3 target: At least 30 dwellings per hectare	 (i) 16%	Note: The UDP allows for some lower density developments (policy H9(b)). Average density of commitments = 50.6 dph (50.8 .in 2007-08)

	(ii) Between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare; and (iii) Above 50 dwellings per hectare.		(ii) 19% (iii) 65%	
UDP Policy H10	Local Output Indicator – Housing Types and Sizes: The types and sizes of dwellings built – aim to achieve a mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances.	None	 Data on completions indicates a mismatch between needs and recent building of flats and houses.	Use development control and policy-making processes to redress balance. In practice it is likely that the market will do this, anyway.
UDP Policy H4 & Affordable Housing SPD	LDF Core Output Indicator (H5): Affordable housing completions.	UDP residual requirement 184 new affordable dwellings per annum	 171 completions (up from 74 in 2006-07)	Funding from the Housing Corporation has been secured for approximately 600 affordable homes in 2008-11. S106 contributions are likely to decline given the current market.
	New Core Output Indicator H4 Net Additional Pitches (Gypsy and Travellers)	N/A	No Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) were created during the monitoring year	A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for the Black Country was published in July 2008. It includes requirements for Walsall for sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show people. This

				will be monitored from 2009.
--	--	--	--	------------------------------

Affordable Housing SPD (Table 3.12)

Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08
Number of affordable homes	57
Average % of affordable housing on all developments	17%
% of developments where the 25% target was achieved	28.6%
% of provision by property type	Flats: 80% Houses: 20%

COI H6 Housing Quality-Building For Life Assessments Design

Policy DW10 of the adopted (March 08) Designing Walsall SPD sets an expectation that to achieve well designed sustainable buildings, new development should meet Building for Life (BfL) 12 points out of 20, unless otherwise justified. At the time of writing no developments have been assessed using BfL and the CABE BfL training programme has not been rolled out. Therefore this indicator has not been included within this AMR.

However, continuing to commit to this BfL target would need to be included within a Development Plan Document such as the Black Country Joint Core Strategy. This target will need to be established as a result of dialogue with key stakeholders including developers. In areas of marginal development viability such as Walsall, the additional costs associated with developments achieving a higher BfL rating need careful consideration. The costs associated with developing Brownfield sites, with all their constraints generally exceeds those associated with developing unconstrained Greenfield sites. When asking developers to contribute towards affordable housing, education, transport etc Walsall Council may not be in a position to seek anything that increases costs of development.

Applying BfL in isolation without considering broader sustainability objectives such as reducing the need to travel could undermine the achievement of a sustainable settlement pattern within Walsall. The priority in Walsall should be based around 'putting the right things in the right place' to deliver sustainable urban regeneration. This should be the priority objective of development over achieving some of the more micro criteria contained within BfL. The BfL target should therefore be set at a level that does not impinge on development viability and considers wider urban regeneration and overall sustainability objectives.

In this context, Walsall Council will need to decide how BfL is used, and what target is established and applied, to assess the level of quality in new housing development for inclusion in subsequent AMRs.


Housing LDF Policy Performance Summary:




- During 2007/8 performance exceeded targets for overall completions and use of previously-developed land (similar to the 2006/7 performance).
- Walsall's Housing Trajectory is shown in figures D1.1 and D1.2 in Appendix D. It shows that Walsall can accommodate increased house building in line with the proposed RSS target up to 2026.
- Housing densities have been increasing over the last few years. Although completions at over 50 dwellings a hectare dipped by 11% in 2006/7 the trend towards higher densities continued in 2007-08.
- The size and type of housing has only been monitored in 2005/6 and 2006/7. The emerging trend is that there are a large number of small dwellings being completed, but a longer time series of data is required.
- Although affordable housing completions are just below the target, the SPD (adopted July 2005) has started to improve this and completions more than doubled to 171 in 2007-08.
- A revised SPD for affordable housing was adopted in April 2008 to address imbalances in type of provision, which was skewed towards intermediate when the greater need is for social rented accommodation.
- The supply of ready to develop housing land in Walsall is more than adequate to satisfy the five-year supply requirement in PPS 3 as measured against both the existing and emerging RSS, despite the current economic downturn.
- The longer term housing land supply is more than adequate to meet the requirements of the emerging RSS and Joint Core Strategy


3.7 LDF Implementation: Transport

Aim: To promote the provision of a wide range of sport, recreation leisure, entertainment, arts, education, health and other community facilities in locations that are easily accessible by a choice and means of transport (UDP paragraph 8.10)

Transport (Table 3.13)

UDP Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
T13	Core Output Indicator 3a: Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards set out in UDP.	UDP Parking Standards: Non-resi development: Range from 1 space per 14m ² to 50m ² of gross floor space	Deleted	This Core Indicator has been deleted from this years AMR in accordance with the latest published guidance
T12	Core Output Indicator 3b – Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP; hospital; primary school; secondary school; areas of employment; major retail centres.	Propose the use of the West Mids Local Transport Plan Indicator LTP1b <i>“Increase the Total Population within 30 minutes inter-peak travel time of a main NHS Hospital by accessible public transport from 2005 baseline of 580,000 by 50% by 2011”</i>	 Performance is on-track, with the latest data from 2007 showing population levels within 30 minutes travel time being 789,460, nearly 17% above the interim 2007 target of 676,667 based on a linear distribution between 2005 and 2011.	This indicator relates closest to NI175 <i>“Access to services and facilitates by public transport, walking and cycling”.</i> Continue to monitor against this LTP1b indicator in future years. Continue to apply UDP planning policies and accessibility standards.
T13	Local Output Indicator: car parking provision for new housing development to be in line with standards in Policy T13.	Residential development: 2 spaces for 1,2,3 b’room houses; 3 spaces for housing above this; flats: 1.5/2 spaces per unit	Deleted	Following last years proposal to delete this local indicator, we have not monitored performance this year and do not intend monitoring it in future years.

UDP Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
T2	Local Output Indicator: Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target.	LTP target is to increase bus use within West Mids Met Area from the 2003/04 base of 325 million trips per year to 355 million by 2010/11.	 <p>LTP Target interim milestone for 2007/8 313m. Actual performance 325.4m. These figures are for the whole conurbation. (Source: Centro ASR 2007-08)</p> <p>In Walsall, biennial cordon surveys have shown 8.7% decrease in bus trips into Walsall Town Centre during the morning peak between 2005 and 2007.</p>	<p>Continue good work across Met Area through Bus Showcase, Bus Partnership Routes, Bus Network Reviews and the wider actions from the Audit Commission Report into West Midlands Bus Use</p> <p>Additionally in Walsall complete the Town Centre Transport Package Major Scheme</p>
T3	Local Output Indicator: Increase number of rail passenger journeys in line with LTP target.	No longer a specific target	 <p>Rise in train journeys of 8.2% to 35.5 million in 2007/08. These figures are for the whole of the conurbation. (Source: Centro ASR 2007-08)</p> <p>21% increase in footfall at Walsall Station between 2004 and 2008.</p>	Continue good work in Walsall and across the Region as a whole.
T4, T5	Local Output Indicator: Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target.	LTP target is for no more than a 7% increase in road traffic mileage between 2004 and 2010.	 <p>The methodology has changed from a 25 point traffic survey to a biennial 1500 point survey – making comparison between data impossible. A Base figure has been set at 2004 of 100.</p> <p>2006 = 102.3 (Source: CEPOG Support Team)</p>	<p>Continue with 1500 point surveys.</p> <p>Deliver improvements on congestion corridors included in LTP PSA target.</p> <p>Implement Decriminalised Parking Enforcement.</p> <p>Implement Red Routes & other management</p>

UDP Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
				improvements.
T9	Local Output Indicator: Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target	LTP Target is 1% increase in cycling index between 2003/04 and 2010/11	 <p>Index for the Met Area for 2007/08 is reporting at 109.01, which is significantly above target trend line.</p> <p>(Source: CEPOG Support Team) Figures are for the whole conurbation.</p>	Continue to implement good quality facilities for cyclists as part of the authority's capital works programmes and through developers via planning conditions.






Transport LDF Policy Performance Summary:

- Local monitoring suggests that whilst rail use into Walsall town centre has increased in 2007/08, bus use has decreased. However, this is in the context of a decline in the overall number of trips into the town centre of 12% between 2005 and 2007. In actual fact, the proportion of overall trips made by public transport into Walsall during the morning peak has increased to over 34% from 32% in 2005.
- Disruption from the continued construction of the Town Centre Transport Package plus wider regeneration development within the town is felt to have influenced the reduced trip levels into the Town Centre. However, the Town Centre Transport Package works will be finished in 2008/09.
- Investment in cycling facilities through LTP1 and LTP2 now appears to be showing positive returns in terms of increases in cycling trips.

3.8 LDF Implementation: Leisure and Community

Aim: To promote the provision of a wide range of sport, recreation leisure, entertainment, arts, education, health and other community facilities in locations that are easily accessible by a choice and means of transport (UDP paragraph 8.10)

Leisure and Community (Table 3.14)

UDP Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2007/08	Action
LC1	Local Indicator (formerly Core Output Indicator 4c): Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard.	1 site by 2008	 Palfrey Park (6.5 Ha) (retained from 2007) and Willenhall Memorial Park (20 Ha) managed to Green Flag Award standard (announced 2008.)	Pursue further awards in line with Greenspace Strategy.
LC1	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development.	UDP Target: 100% protection	 100%	Continue to apply planning policies
LC2	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Provision of new urban open spaces.	UDP Target: At least 24 hectares of new urban open space 1991-2011	 None in 2007/08 (but 43.62 Ha completed previously – see comment below)	The emphasis is on improvements to existing open space (see UDP 8.18).
LC5	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Length of greenways constructed.	UDP Target: At least another 10 miles (16 km) 2002 - 2011	 None in 2007-08 (but 48 km previously).	Continue to explore opportunities with landowners and developers.
LC6	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of playing fields / sports pitches.	UDP Target: 100% protection	 100%	Continue to apply planning policy.

Urban Open Space SPD (Table 3.15)

Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/8
Total Funds collected in the year	£100,711.88
Total funds outstanding	£1,237,820.20
How funds have been used	Projects include the Highfield Road North Play Area Project and the Palfrey Park Bowling Green
House price inflation in the Walsall Metropolitan District calculated from Land Registry data	2.47%

Healthcare SPD (Table 3.16)

Monitoring Indicator	Performance 2007/8
Total Funds collected in the year	£0
Total funds outstanding	£513,424.50
How funds have been used	N/A
Cost of providing primary healthcare facilities	GP requires 355.5 sqm @ £2,333 per sqm

Education SPD (Table 3.17)

Monitoring Indicator	Performance 2007/8
Total Funds collected in the year	£79,727.01
Total funds outstanding	£1,772,952.39
How funds have been used	Projects at the Frank F Harrison Engineering College and the Joseph Leckie Community Technology College
Costs of providing school places and the Walsall Multiplier	Primary £12,257 Secondary £18,649 Walsall Multiplier is 0.94 Therefore: Primary £11,521.58 Secondary £17,530.06

Leisure and Community LDF Policy Performance Summary:


- Policy has performed well against all of the indicators in 2007/8
- Though no new urban open space was created this year, but more than 43 hectares of new open space was created earlier in the UDP period.
- Walsall has broadly the right amount of Greenspace, though its quality and proximity to residents varies greatly across the Borough. A programme of work has been established to address this, including Green Flag awards and a second award was achieved this year.

The SPD tables above do not include targets or 'smiley face' classifications as they have only been adopted recently and their full effect is yet to be seen. A suggested target for future years for all of the SPDs is; ***that there is full contribution on all qualifying developments***. No funds for the Healthcare SPD had been collected by March 2008, but there have been contributions collected through the Urban Open Space and Education SPDs.

3.9 LDF Implementation: Minerals


Aims: To enable the Borough to meet its obligations to maintain supplies of minerals for industry within the region and to prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources which may be required to be worked in the future, to secure the satisfactory restoration of mineral workings for a suitable use and to safeguard the amenity of adjoining land uses, particularly residential and other sensitive areas. (UDP paragraph 9.12).

Table 3.18 Minerals – Summary of Progress on LDF Implementation 2007/08

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
<p>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 9.9, UDP Policies M2, M3</p>	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator M1 (formerly 5a):</p> <p>Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>There is no up-to-date information available for Walsall. The latest information (2006) indicates that sand and gravel production rates in the West Midlands County area (of which Walsall is part) are around 0.5 million tonnes per annum, which is in line with the current RSS annual production target.</p> <p>However, permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County have been declining since 2002. At December 2006 there were around 1.6 million tonnes remaining. This provided only a 3.1 year land bank, 4 years short of the 7 year requirement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing the UDP strategic minerals policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 3 Revision. • The Core Strategy will set targets for sand and gravel production in the Black Country which will contribute to the current/ emerging sub-regional apportionment. Supply deficiencies will be addressed by identifying an Area of Search and strategic site allocations where possible. • In the meantime, the UDP policies + national policy guidance will be applied to any future applications for the extraction of sand and gravel.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Strategic Policy Statement, 9.4	LDF Core Output Indicator M2 (formerly 5b): Production of secondary/ recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority.	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">?</p> <p>There is still no information available for Walsall as there is currently no effective mechanism for collecting data.</p> <p>The only information currently available is for the West Midlands region. This indicates that in 2005, the West Midlands Region produced the following quantities of secondary and recycled aggregate:</p> <p>Secondary Aggregate: 0.42 million tonnes³</p> <p>Recycled Aggregate: 4.45 million tonnes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing the UDP strategic minerals policies via Black Country Core Strategy. The RSS Phase 2 Revision is also addressing requirements for recycling of CD&EW. • The Core Strategy will seek to identify suitable locations for “urban quarries” to store, treat and process CD&EW, and promote the use of alternatives to primary aggregates in new developments. • There are currently no effective mechanisms in place to gather data on secondary and recycled aggregates at individual MPA level. This is another issue that the Core Strategy will need to address.

³ N.B. 2007 AMR said 0.61 million tonnes – this was an error caused by double-counting due to the inclusion of some figures relating to arisings.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
<p>UDP Strategic Policy Statement, 9.10, UDP Policies M4 – M8</p>	<p>New Local Output Indicator:</p> <p>Supply of clay to brick manufacturing plants</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>At March 2008 there were three brick manufacturing plants in Walsall, each of which was using a range of clays for brick-making.</p> <p>The only type of clay currently produced in Walsall is Etruria Marl, which is used by all three brickworks. Only one of Walsall's brickworks currently has a secure 25 year supply of Etruria Marl. The other two brickworks each have less than 15 years' supply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing the UDP strategic minerals policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 3 Revision. • The Core Strategy will seek to provide adequate supplies of brick clay to local brick works, where feasible. This will depend on identifying new sources of supply which are well-related to existing brickworks, and can be exploited without causing unacceptable harm to the environment or to the amenity of local communities. • The Core Strategy will also need to set out an effective mechanism for monitoring future supply, production and usage of clays for each works. • In the meantime, the UDP policies + national policy guidance will be applied to any future applications for the extraction of brick clays.

Minerals LDF Policy Performance Summary

This is a summary of progress and performance against LDF minerals policy indicators and targets during 2007/08. The underlying data is set out in more detail in the AMR Technical Appendix.

Core Output Indicator M1 (formerly 5a) - Production of Primary Land Won Aggregates in Walsall 2007/08

There were no significant changes to this indicator In the Update of Core Output Indicators published in July 2008.

We have only considered production of primary land won **sand and gravel** here, as crushed rock is not produced in Walsall and there are no relevant apportionments or targets for this. Unfortunately, it is not possible to provide data on sand and gravel production in Walsall 2007/08 for the following reasons:

- Current RSS sand and gravel apportionments and production targets apply to the West Midlands County area⁴ as a whole and are not specific to Walsall;
- Aggregates surveys in the West Midlands are co-ordinated by the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (WMRAWP) and these relate to calendar years (1 January – 31 December) rather than monitoring years (1 April – 31 March) – the latest information available is for 2006;
- Aggregates surveys are based on information provided by aggregates operators on sales of material, and operators do not always provide the information requested;
- As there are only four active sand and gravel quarries in the West Midlands County area and as information is provided on a confidential basis, only aggregated data can be published.

In line with the current national and regional aggregates guidelines,⁵ the West Midlands Region is required to produce 162 million tonnes of primary land won sand and gravel 2001 – 2016, which equates to around 10.125 million

⁴ West Midlands County = the area covered by the seven Metropolitan (unitary) authorities of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton. Each of these authorities is a separate mineral planning authority.

⁵ The national and regional aggregates guidelines are currently under review. Any changes are expected to be reflected in the RSS Phase 3 Revision, which is currently underway.

tonnes per annum. Policy M2 of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (WMRSS) has therefore set the following sub-regional apportionments:

- Herefordshire – 0.283 million tonnes per annum
- Worcestershire – 0.871 million tonnes per annum
- Shropshire – 0.820 million tonnes per annum
- Staffordshire – 6.602 million tonnes per annum
- Warwickshire – 1.043 million tonnes per annum
- **West Midlands County – 0.506 million tonnes per annum**

National policy guidance⁶ expects mineral planning authorities to maintain a **minimum 7 year land bank** for sand and gravel production, based on existing apportionments, and to address any deficiencies through their LDF. Thus, the West Midlands County area should be able to identify a minimum of **3.542 million tonnes** of permitted reserves (0.506 x 7 years).

Table M1 below summarises the latest information on sand and gravel production (sales) in the West Midlands Metropolitan area, the extent of permitted reserves and the land bank. This is based on a draft of the 2006 WMRAWP Annual Report, which will be published shortly.

Table M1: Core Output Indicator M1: Production of Primary Land Won Sand and Gravel in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area, 2006

Sales in 2006 (tonnes)	Permitted Reserves @ 31 December 2006 (tonnes)	Land bank @ 31 December 2006 (years)
550,000	1,600,000	3.1

Source: 2006 WMRAWP Annual Report (forthcoming)

Although production rates appear to be roughly in line with the annual apportionment, there were significant shortfalls in permitted reserves at the end of 2006.⁷ Almost all of the sand and gravel currently produced in the West Midlands County area comes from quarries in Solihull and very little is produced in Walsall.

⁶ MPS1: Planning and Minerals, Annex 1: Aggregates, paragraphs 4.1 – 4.5.

⁷ The supply situation has recently improved as in 2007 Solihull MBC granted permission for an extension to Berkswell Quarry. Two other applications for sand and gravel extraction are in the pipeline. See AMR Technical Appendix for further details.

There are currently two active sand and gravel quarries in Walsall:

- Aldridge Quarry, Birch Lane, Stonnall (Cemex)
- Branton Hill Quarry, Branton Hill Lane, Aldridge (Bliss Sand & Gravel).

Although we do not have any up-to-date information on production rates at these quarries, they are believed to be low. Evidence gathered to inform the preparation of the Black Country Core Strategy indicates that permitted reserves of sand and gravel in Walsall were estimated to be less than 150,000 tonnes in March 2007⁸ and will have been further depleted since then.

The Core Strategy will therefore need to set out appropriate and realistic targets for sand and gravel production in Walsall 2006 – 2026, and identify sites/ locations containing resources which may be extracted to maintain an adequate and steady supply of minerals in the long-term.

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- There are no specific sand and gravel apportionments or supply targets relating to Walsall – current WMRSS targets relate to the West Midlands County area and monitoring is carried out at a regional/ sub-regional level. The latest survey covers 2006.
- Solihull MBC and Walsall Council are the only authorities that currently contribute to the West Midlands County sand and gravel apportionment which sets a requirement to produce 0.506 million tonnes of sand and gravel per annum.
- Annual surveys by WMRAWP show that permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County area have been declining steadily since 2002.
- At the end of December 2006 the West Midlands County area had only around 1.6 million tonnes of permitted sand and gravel reserves remaining (a land bank of around 3.1 years), mostly in Solihull.
- Existing “saved” UDPs for Solihull and Walsall suggest that Solihull provides around 91% of the West Midlands County’s sand and gravel,

⁸ A Survey of Current Mineral Reserves in the Black Country: Published Report (March 2007), Scott Wilson for the Black Country Authorities.

and Walsall provides the balance, but recent monitoring suggests that Walsall is producing somewhat less than this at present.

- The Black Country Core Strategy will need to identify appropriate and realistic targets for sand and gravel production in Walsall, which reflect existing/ emerging regional and sub-regional apportionments.
- The Black Country Core Strategy will also need to identify potential sources of sand and gravel supply in Walsall which can help to meet existing shortfalls and maintain supplies in the long-term.

Core Output Indicator M2 (formerly 5b) - Production of Secondary and Recycled Aggregates in Walsall

In the Update of Core Output Indicators published in July 2008, mineral planning authorities are requested to provide a breakdown of (i) secondary and (ii) recycled aggregates in tonnes. Recycled aggregates are defined as construction, demolition and excavation waste (CD&EW) recycled for use as aggregate.⁹

Secondary and recycled aggregates are “alternatives” to virgin or primary aggregates. The current RSS assumes that 88 million tonnes out of the 359 million tonnes of aggregates that West Midlands region is expected to produce between 2001 and 2016 will be from alternative sources. This equates to around **5.87 million tonnes per annum**.

Unfortunately, there is no data available for production of either secondary or recycled aggregate in Walsall, as there is currently no effective mechanism for collecting information. Although a 2006 survey of production sites was undertaken by WMRAWP recently, this did not generate any information on CD&EW production in Walsall.

The only information available at present is therefore from a national survey carried out in 2005, and the results of this cannot be disaggregated below regional level with any confidence due to the limitations of the survey. The results of this survey are set out in Table M2 below (figures rounded to the nearest 1,000 tonnes).

⁹ Secondary aggregates are not defined in the Update. We have therefore assumed that this includes the “other materials” covered in the 2005 Capita Symonds/ WRc survey.

Table M2: Core Output Indicator M2: Estimated Production of Secondary and Recycled Aggregate in the West Midlands Region, 2005

Year	Secondary Aggregate & Other Materials (tonnes) ¹⁰	Recycled Graded/ Ungraded Aggregate (tonnes)	Recycled Soils (tonnes)
2005	420,000	4,447,000	470,000

Source: Table A10.4, Survey of Arisings and Use of Alternatives to Primary Aggregates in England, 2006 (February 2007), Capita Symonds/ WRc plc for CLG – Table A10.4 of CD&EW report and Annex 2 of Other Materials report

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- The latest national survey of arisings and use of alternatives to primary aggregates indicated that in 2005 the West Midlands region produced around 5.06 million tonnes, which is less than what is assumed.
- Although the same survey came up with an estimated figure for production of secondary and recycled aggregates in Birmingham and the Black Country (around 1.7 million tonnes), this is not considered reliable due to the limitations of the data.
- Another survey undertaken recently by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) suggests that recycling of CD&EW is already taking place in the West Midlands Metropolitan area at optimum levels, other than in the case of contaminated soils, as processing of such materials is not commercially viable.
- There is currently no reliable information available on the production of secondary and recycled aggregates in Walsall, and there are no mechanisms in place that would enable the Council to collect such information.
- The Black Country Core Strategy will need to promote the use of alternatives to primary aggregates by identifying suitable locations for the establishment of “urban quarries” (permanent production sites) and by encouraging on-site recycling of materials.

¹⁰ See note 7 above.

- The Black Country Core Strategy will also need to establish an effective mechanism for data collection and monitoring of the production of secondary and recycled aggregates.

Local Output Indicator – Supply of Clay to Brickworks

This was a new local output indicator introduced in 2006/07 in recognition of the fact that Walsall has brickworks whose supplies need to be kept under review, to ensure compliance with UDP policy and the MPS1 requirement to maintain a 25-year supply to each new or existing brick manufacturing plant.

At March 2008, there were three brick manufacturing plants in Walsall:

- Aldridge Works (Ibstock)
- Atlas Works (Ibstock)
- Sandown Works (Wienerberger)

Discussions with brick manufacturers took place during 2007 to establish the current supply situation as part of the evidence-gathering process for the Black Country Core Strategy. These discussions and a subsequent planning application by Wienerberger have established that:

- Atlas Works has a secure 25-year supply of Etruria Marl
- Aldridge Works has less than 15 years' supply of Etruria Marl
- Sandown Works has less than 5 years' supply of Etruria Marl
- There are no local supplies of fireclay other than a stockpile but brick manufacturers would like to source this locally if possible

The Core Strategy will therefore need to set out appropriate and realistic targets for brick clay production and supplies to each brick manufacturing plant in Walsall 2006 – 2026, and identify sites/ locations containing resources which may be extracted to maintain supplies in the long-term.

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- There are currently three brickworks in Walsall, each of which is supplied with Etruria Marl by a local clay pit.
- The evidence gathered for the Joint Core Strategy indicates that at present, only one of the brickworks in Walsall has a 25-year supply of

Etruria Marl, and there are currently no local sources of fireclay available.

- The Black Country Core Strategy will need to address maintaining adequate supplies to brickworks, where it can be demonstrated that suitable resources are available which can be exploited without having unacceptable impacts on the local environment or the amenity of local residents.

Minerals - Conclusions and Proposed Actions:


- The existing UDP minerals policies relating to mineral safeguarding, supply of aggregates and brick clay and safeguarding of facilities for the transport of minerals are not fully consistent with the latest national policy guidance and therefore need to be reviewed.
- The evidence base for minerals is being updated as part of the evidence gathering for the Black Country Core Strategy, and this has identified deficiencies in the supply of aggregates and brick clays, which will need to be addressed in the Core Strategy.
- The Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 3 Revision are expected to replace the existing RSS policies and the strategic UDP minerals policies in due course, and will address the above issues.
- To address the need to safeguard mineral resources, it is proposed that the broad extent of MSAs will be defined in the Core Strategy, and that detailed boundaries will be defined subsequently in other DPDs – these will cover a much wider area than the four MSAs currently defined in the Walsall UDP.
- It is also envisaged that the Black Country Core Strategy will identify Areas of Search (and if possible site allocations) for sand and gravel and clay extraction, so that adequate and steady supplies of materials can be sustained in the long-term.
- The Black Country Core Strategy must also identify significant constraints to mineral working to ensure that the continued provision of supplies of primary mineral resources does not compromise other important spatial planning objectives such as the RSS Phase 1 objective of transforming the Black Country environment.


- There is also a need to establish effective mechanisms for data collection and monitoring of sand and gravel production, production of secondary and recycled aggregates and clay production and usage.


3.10 LDF Implementation: Waste

Aims: An integrated and co-ordinated approach towards waste management, having regard to relevant national and regional guidance and the Council's own Municipal Waste Management Strategy, and seeking to manage waste as close as possible to its source, and to move the management of waste as far as possible up the "waste hierarchy." (UDP paragraphs 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.15).

Table 3.19 Waste – Summary of Progress on LDF Implementation 2007/08

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
UDP Policy WM1-WM3	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator W1 (formerly 6a):</p> <p>Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority (by type).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Applications for commercial waste management facilities have continued to come forward.</p> <p>Significant proposals approved in 2007/08 included details relating to restoration by landfill of Highfields South Quarry and outline permission for an employment development in Leamore including a new resource recovery park.</p> <p>Three major proposals were implemented during 2007/08: a new MRF/ transfer station and a tyre shredding plant in Moxley, and a new construction and demolition waste recycling facility in Aldridge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing UDP waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision. • In the meantime, the UDP policies + national policy guidance are being applied and there is no evidence that they are hindering the development of new waste management infrastructure in Walsall.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
<p>UDP Policies WM1 and WM4, UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.1</p>	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator W2 (formerly 6b):</p> <p>Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>There has been significant improvement in diversion of municipal waste away from landfill and significant overall increase in recovery rate in 2007/08 mainly due to improved performance in energy recovery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing UDP waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision. These will address medium- and long-term requirements for municipal waste infrastructure in Walsall and the wider Black Country. • In the meantime, UDP policy continues to support the Council's Municipal Waste Management Strategy (MWMS), which in fact has few implications for planning policy since in the short-term the Council is not planning to bring forward any new MSW facilities other than a new depot. • UDP Policy WM4 will also continue to be applied so that new housing schemes make adequate provision for waste management, in line with the guidance in PPS10 and proposed changes to household waste collection services.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08	Action
<p>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.4, 10.6</p>	<p>Local Output Indicator:</p> <p>Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>The Council has met all 4 of its BVPI targets for household waste management and has significantly exceeded the statutory performance standard for recycling and composting of household waste.</p> <p>It has continued to make significant reductions in the amount of BMW going to landfill well in excess of the LATS allocation for 2007/08. It has also “banked” a significant surplus of credits which can be used or traded in 2008/09 but not in the target year 2009/10. However, if the Council continues to divert BMW away from landfill at current rates, it is in line to meet the target for 2009/10.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is already in progress on reviewing and replacing UDP waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision. These will address requirements for new facilities required to meet national, regional and local targets. • In the meantime, the Council has improved its bulking and transfer facilities and will shortly be improving household waste collection services, in order to meet short-term targets and objectives.

Waste LDF Policy Performance Summary

This is a summary of progress and performance against LDF waste policy indicators and targets during 2007/08. The underlying data is set out in more detail in the AMR Technical Appendix.

Core Output Indicator W1 (formerly 6a) – New Waste Management Capacity Developed in Walsall 2007/08

In the Update of Core Output Indicators published in July 2008, waste management types are defined as those set out in the standard application form, which are in turn based on the waste management types identified in the Companion Guide to PPS10.

As we have not been collecting data in this format up to now, we have reconfigured the data for planning approvals and implemented schemes since 2004/05 into the specified waste management types. Further checking of the implementation of major schemes has revealed some inaccuracies in the recording of previous years' data and these have now been corrected.

No new waste disposal (landfill) facilities were implemented during 2004/05 – 2007/08. Table W1 below sets out the total capacity of other waste management facilities implemented in Walsall since 2004/05. Further information on new applications and approvals can be found in the Technical Appendices.

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- Although no new Municipal waste management facilities have been developed recently, proposals for new commercial waste management facilities are continuing to come forward in Walsall.
- A wider range of facilities has been coming forward since 2005/06 compared to previous years when proposals were mainly based around waste transfer and metal recycling.
- Two major facilities received planning approval in 2007/08: details of a landfill scheme at Highfields South Quarry and outline permission for a new development in Leamore, which will include a resource recovery park.

- Nine planning applications for waste management related developments were determined by Walsall Council during 2007/08, of which eight were approved and one was withdrawn by the applicant.
- Three approved waste management schemes were implemented in Walsall during 2007/08: a MRF and transfer station in Moxley with a total capacity of 62,400 tonnes (Foreman Recycling), a new tyre shredding facility with a total capacity of 50,000 tonnes in Moxley (Credential), and a major new construction and demolition waste facility in Aldridge with a total capacity of 74,290 tonnes (Bace Groundworks).
- The Greenstar MRF proposal (total capacity around 250,000 tonnes) was implemented after April 2008, as was the Highfields South landfill site. These will appear as implemented schemes in the 2009 AMR.
- Monitoring practice has improved during 2007/08 with the setting up of a new waste planning applications database to monitor facilities by type.
- Monitoring is still hampered by the failure of some applicants to include information about the annual throughput capacity of their facilities, despite this being a national validation requirement.

**Table W1 Core Output Indicator W1: Maximum Annual Throughput Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities (Excluding Landfill)
Implemented in Walsall 2004/05 – 2007/08 (tonnes) (Where Known)**

Year	Energy From Waste Incineration	Other incineration	Landfill gas generation plant	Pyrolysis/ gasification	Metal recycling site	Transfer stations	Material recovery/ recycling facilities (MRFs)	Household civic amenity sites	Open windrow composting	In-vessel composting	Anaerobic digestion	Any combined mechanical, biological and/ or thermal treatment (MBT)	Sewage treatment works	Other treatment	Recycling facilities - construction, demolition and excavation waste	Storage of waste	Other waste management	Other developments	TOTAL
2004/05	0	0	0	0	0	35000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2500	0	0	0	0	37500
2005/06	0	0	0	0	0	5000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5000
2006/07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2500	0	0	0	0	2500
2007/08	0	0	0	0	0	0	62400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	74920	0	50000	0	187320

Source: Walsall Council Planning Register/ Planning Application Files.

Core Output Indicator W2 (formerly 6b) - Municipal Waste Management

The Waste Strategy for England 2007 has set the following national targets for recovery of municipal waste¹¹:

- 53% by 2010
- 67% by 2015
- 75% by 2020

Data on municipal waste management in Walsall 2005/06 is presented in Table W2 below, which is in the format recommended in the Update of Core Output Indicators published in July 2008.

Table W2 Core Output Indicator Table W2: Municipal Waste Management in Walsall 2005/06 – 2007/08

Year	Waste Management Method					Total waste arisings
	Landfill	Incineration with EfW	Incineration without EfW	Recycled/Composted	Other	
2005/06	111423	4457	0	34470	0	150350
2006/07	94702	13372	0	36431	0	144505
2007/08	61841	35878	0	40663	0	138382

Source: Defra Municipal Waste Tables 2007/08, published on Defra website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin08.htm>

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- Walsall's dependence on landfill has reduced significantly since 2005/06. During 2007/08, less than 45% of the municipal waste arising in Walsall was deposited in landfill sites compared to 69% in 2005/06 and nearly 66% in 2006/07.

¹¹ Recovery = waste recycled, composted or recovered for energy.

- There has been a corresponding increase in the proportion of waste recycled, composted or recovered for energy in 2007/08 compared to previous years.
- The increased diversion of waste away from landfill is mainly due to a significant increase in proportion of waste recovered for energy. Although Walsall does not have its own energy from waste facility, the Council has been successful in securing contracts to use energy from waste facilities outside the Borough.
- The Council is now managing municipal waste in line with the overall national target of recovering 53% of total waste arisings by 2010.
- The Council has recently improved its existing bulking and transfer facilities and is proposing to improve its household waste collection service during 2008/09. This will allow the Council to collect a wider range of recyclable wastes with a view to improving its recycling and recovery rates.
- The Council is one of three partners working with Staffordshire County Council to bring forward a new energy from waste proposal at Four Ashes in South Staffordshire – this has recently been granted planning permission and is expected to be operational by 2012/13.
- The Council is also considering partnership arrangements with other authorities and/ or development of new infrastructure within the Black Country to manage organic wastes.

Local output indicator – Performance against National, Regional and Local Targets

National and regional targets are largely covered by Core Output Indicators W1 and W2, therefore monitoring of this indicator still focuses on performance against local performance indicators and targets for managing household waste (currently Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) and statutory performance standard), and statutory targets for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS). However, future AMRs will reflect changes to the way that performance is monitored through the new national indicators for waste management, which are slightly different to the existing BVPI indicators.

The relevant indicators and targets for 2007/08 are as follows:

BVPI Targets for 2007/08 (Household Waste):

BVPI 82a (recycling) - 15.14%

BVPI 82b (composting/ anaerobic digestion) - 13.00%

BVPI 82c (recovery for heat/ energy) – 12.00%

BVPI 82d (landfill) – 59.75%

Statutory Performance Standard for 2007/08 (Household Waste):

24%

LATS allocation for 2007/08 (Biodegradable Municipal Waste):

73444 tonnes

Household waste management performance in 2007/08 shows that the Council met all of its BVPI targets as well as the statutory performance standard. This is an improvement on performance in 2006/07, when only three out of the four BVPI targets were met, and reflects recent success in securing new waste contracts and improvements to the Council's two municipal waste facilities at Fryers Road, Bloxwich and Merchants Way, Aldridge.

The Council also landfilled significantly less biodegradable municipal waste in 2007/08 than its LATS allocation permits, allowing it to "bank" significant credits which can be used or traded in 2008/09 (but not in the target year of 2009/10). The Council expects to meet its LATS allocation for 2008/09 and the statutory target for 2009/10, which is a "target" year.

Key trends and progress during 2007/08:

- In 2007/08, the Council met all of its Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) targets.
- The Council exceeded its statutory performance indicator for recycling and composting household waste for 2007/08 (24%), by recycling and composting more than 31% of its household waste.
- The Council also significantly reduced the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill in 2007/08 beyond its LATS allowance for 2007/08, and if it continues to divert waste away from landfill in line with past performance, it should succeed in hitting the 2009/10 statutory targets.

Waste - Conclusions and Proposed Actions:

- There is no evidence that the existing planning policy framework is hindering the bringing forward of new waste management infrastructure in Walsall.
- The existing policy framework provided by PPS10, the RSS and UDP is considered to provide an adequate basis for determining new waste management applications until such time as new policies are in place.
- Monitoring of LDF waste planning policies will continue to be based on the existing Core Output Indicators and Local Output Indicator until new policies have been drafted and a new monitoring framework has been established.¹²
- The short-term improvements to the Council's existing municipal waste management facilities and waste collection service should enable the Council to continue to improve its performance in terms of recycling, composting and recovery, and to reduce the amount of BMW sent to landfill in line with LATS allocations and targets up to 2009/10.
- The Council has also been successful in securing a contract to manage some of its municipal waste at the new Greenstar facility in Aldridge, which will reduce the distance that the waste has to travel for recycling.
- In the medium-term, the proposed W2R project at Four Ashes in South Staffordshire will give the Council direct access to a new energy from waste facility close to the Borough boundary.
- The Council is also considering options for medium- and long-term management of organic wastes, which may include the development of new facilities within Walsall or the wider Black Country.
- The Black Country Core Strategy will reflect existing/ future proposals for municipal waste management in Walsall and the wider Black Country. Where appropriate, strategic site allocations will be included.
- Any further guidance/ site allocations needed over and above what is or will be included in national policy guidance, the RSS Revision and

¹² The RSS Phase 2 Revision and Black Country Core Strategy will replace the existing RSS policies and most of the UDP waste policies in due course.

the Core Strategy will be addressed through the preparation of other LDDs as part of the Walsall LDF, such as the Site Allocations DPD and Development Control Policies DPD (already included in the LDS).

4. Glossary

Accessibility. The ability of all people to move around an area and to reach key facilities, opportunities and places of interest or need.

Affordable Housing. Housing designed to meet the needs of households whose incomes are not sufficient to allow them to otherwise purchase decent and appropriate housing for their needs. Affordable housing comprises both social housing and intermediate housing such as shared ownership.

Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) Area where levels of pollutants exceed the national air quality objectives. Local authorities must prepare an action plans showing how it is intended to improve air quality in such an area.

Annual Monitoring Report. A report produced annually by the council that assesses the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved.

Biodiversity. The variety of life on earth or in a specified region or area.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAPs) A process and document which identifies priorities and targets to protect and enhance important habitats and species.

Brownfield Land. Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure and its curtilage (the area of land attached to it).

Core Output Indicator (COI) Indicators which Communities and Local Government require to be in an Annual Monitoring Report.

Core Strategy. Sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority's area and the strategic policies and proposals to deliver that vision. In Walsall it is being produced jointly with the other 3 Black Country authorities and is known as the Black Country Joint Core Strategy.

Density. The term density is used to describe the existing or proposed number of dwellings per hectare.

Department for Communities and Local Government The central government department with responsibility for planning and local government

Development Plan Document (DPD) One of a number of statutory documents that are part of the development plan for an area and which are subject to independent testing.

Green Belt. Areas of open land designated to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open

Local Development Document (LDD) A document that forms part of the Local Development Framework. Can either be a Development Plan Document or a Supplementary Planning Document.

Local Development Framework (LDF) A folder of Local Development Documents which will provide the framework for delivering the planning strategy for the borough. It will replace the Walsall Unitary Development Plan.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) A document containing information about the production of the development plan documents and supplementary planning documents contained in the Local Development Framework, including the timescales for them and arrangements for production.

Primary Care Trust (PCT) Health organisations responsible for making sure patients have access to a wide range of healthcare facilities and follow healthy lifestyles.

Regeneration Zones (RZs) Areas in the West Midlands of concentrated need, but with substantial opportunity for the development of land and property that will regenerate communities and create a diverse and dynamic business base.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) The regional plan, in this case for the West Midlands Region, which has statutory status and will form the basis for local authorities to prepare development plan and other documents.

Renewable Energy. Energy derived from sources that are regenerative and cannot be depleted, e.g. wind, water and solar energy. They do not produce as many greenhouse gases and other pollutants.

Sustainable Resource Management A move away from landfill to more sustainable waste management practices to extract more value from waste materials by recycling, composting and recovering energy.

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) A document which sets out how stakeholders and communities will be involved in the process of producing Local Development Documents and planning applications.

Strategic Centres. Important shopping and service centres defined in the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands. They are especially important for comparison shopping but often have some convenience shopping and are proposed to be the focus for retail and office growth and to provide major leisure and cultural facilities..

Strategic Health Authority (SHA) Strategic organisations set up by the Government in 2002 to manage the NHS on their behalf. They are responsible for developing plans for improving health services in their local area.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) Documents that elaborate on policies within development plan documents. These documents are included within Local Development Frameworks, but do not have development plan status.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. A process to assess the environmental, social and economic effects of the policies and proposals contained in development plan documents and supplementary planning documents.

Unitary Development Plans (UDPs) Development plans prepared for the metropolitan authorities before the introduction of the current Local Development Framework system. As with other development plans, they have been intended to guide how land should be used within a local authority area. The existing UDP will gradually be replaced as different parts of the LDF system are brought forward.

West Midlands Regional Assembly. This is made up of politicians from all local authorities across the region plus representatives from other public bodies and the business and voluntary sectors. It is responsible for developing and co-ordinating a strategic vision for the region, in terms of the environment, the economy, housing and

transport as well as spatial planning. For spatial planning the Regional Assembly is the 'Regional Planning Body', responsible for the Regional Spatial Strategy.