

Annual Monitoring Report

Appendix

December 2008

(Monitoring year April 2007 - March 2008)



Walsall Council

Annual Monitoring Report

2008

Appendices

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Appendix A: Environment & Amenity

Green Belt

3.1.1 The UDP includes policies aimed at protecting the Green Belt and controlling development in the Green Belt (Policies ENV 1 – ENV 6), and maintaining the character of the local countryside (Policy ENV 7). The Council has also prepared a series of Countryside Area Profiles covering most of the areas of open countryside in Walsall, which have been adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance. The UDP includes a local output indicator relating to the protection of the Green Belt against inappropriate development (see Table A1 below).

Table A1: Implementation of LDF Green Belt Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/08	Action for the Future
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.”	 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.

Development in the Green Belt

3.1.2 Between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008, 11 applications were submitted for development in the Green Belt, of which 6 were determined by the Council during the same year, 1 was withdrawn during the same year and four were still outstanding. Also determined in the 2007/8 monitoring year were two applications submitted in 2006/7 monitoring year.

Table A2: Planning Permissions Granted for Development in the Green Belt in Walsall, 2007/8

Application Reference	Location	Type of Development
06/2156/FL/E12	ALDRIDGE MOTOR BODIES LTD.,SUNN YSIDE FARM,NOR THGATE,W ALSALL WOOD,WAL SALL,WEST MIDLANDS, WS9 9LE	RETROSPECTIVE CHANGE OF USE TO VEHICLE REPAIRS 0.0504 HECTARES
07/0121/FL/W6	FRANK F. HARRISON ENGINEERING COLLEGE,LEAMORE LANE,BLOXWICH,WALSALL ,WEST MIDLANDS,WS2 7NR	SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL 1.0311 HECTARES
07/0253/FL/E11	LOWER FARM JUNIOR MIDDLE & INFANTS ,BAKEWELL CLOSE,WALSALL,WEST MIDLANDS	ERECTION OF ARTIFICIAL GRASS SPORTS PITCH ON PRESENT UNUSABLE GRASS PITCH/FIELD 0.1265 HECTARES
07/1255/FL/E11	TENACRES INDUSTRIAL SITE, STATION ROAD,RUSHALL,WALSALL.	DEMOLITION OF EXISTING INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND ERECTION OF 106 HOUSES AND FLATS, 1.99 HECTARES
07/1011/FL/E11	STREETLY CEMETERY & CREMATORIUM,LITTLE HARDWICK ROAD,WALSALL,WEST MIDLANDS	EXTENSION TO EXISTING CEMETERY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LAND FOR INTERMENTS AND EXTENSION TO

		EXISTING ACCESS ROAD, WITH LANDSCAPING AND ENHANCEMENT OF HEDGE AND TREE BOUNDARY. 3.611 HECTARES
07/2596/FL/E9	WHITBY RIDING STABLE, ALDRIDGE ROAD, WALSALL,	CHANGE OF USE OF PART OF THE STABLES BUILDING TO SADDLERY AND BRIDLEWORK MANUFACTURING, CREATION OF NEW CAR PARK AND NEW SITE ACCESS OFF ALDRIDGE ROAD. 0.7669 HECTARES
07/0773/OL/E11	GOSCOTE HOSPITAL SITE, GOSCOTE LANE, WALSALL, WS3 1SJ	OUTLINE: DEMOLITION OF EXISTING HOSPITAL BUILDINGS AND REDEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE NEW HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BUILDINGS TO INCLUDE DEMENTIA CARE AND PALLIATIVE CARE UNITS TOGETHER WITH ACCESS, ASSOCIATED HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING 6.95 HECTARES
07/2085/FL/E11	GOSCOTE HOSPITAL SITE, GOSCOTE LANE, WALSALL, WS3 1SJ	40 NO. DEMENTIA CARE APARTMENTS, COMMUNAL FACILITIES, DAY TREATMENT AND DAY CARE CENTRES, PARKING AND ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING. 1.1248 HECTARES

3.1.3 All the applications approved were considered to be appropriate developments in the Green Belt. For application reference 07/0121/FL/W6 a special needs school, it was considered that the very special circumstances of this application outweigh the harm to the Green Belt, as provided for in PPG2. This was the most suitable, accessible site to allow expansion of this school. Walsall Council's Cabinet agreed in December 2004 to change the age of

transfer at schools for pupils with severe and profound learning needs from 14 to 11 years. Such an organisational change for Mary Elliot School would need additional accommodation to cater for a further three year groups - a total of 110 places. In December 2005 the commencement of statutory processes were approved by Cabinet.

Biodiversity

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 Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham & Black Country	None specific to Walsall	? At present it is not possible to establish the extent to which the LBAP targets are being met.	There is a need to review the definition of this indicator and the feasibility of monitoring it 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 core indicator for biodiversity is as follows:-

E2 Change in areas of biodiversity importance

This shows losses or additions to biodiversity habitat, including:

- (i) change in priority habitats and species (by type) and,
- (ii) change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional, sub-regional or local significance.

The guidance defines 'change' as something to be considered in terms of 'impact of completed development, management programmes and planning agreements'.

This indicator is intended to show losses and additions to habitat of importance to biodiversity. This is to be measured through changes to the areas of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs).

Since the first Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) considerable work has been done to establish baseline data to enable annual changes to be reported in the future. The Black Country Boroughs, the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country, EcoRecord and the University of Wolverhampton have met regularly over the last 3 years to establish baseline data relating to priority habitats and species. This report relies heavily on data provided by EcoRecord and the Wildlife Trust. It is the intention that the biodiversity section of the AMR will gradually become more detailed and sophisticated.

Quantitative Change In The Areas Of Designated Sites As A Result Of Development Requiring Planning Permission

Monitoring the extent of quantitative change in the area of designated sites where change is due to development requiring planning permission gives a good indication of the effectiveness of the Council's planning policies and the way in which they are used. This indicator was used for the first time in the 2005/6 AMR when base line data was provided showing designated wildlife sites affected by planning permissions following adoption of the first UDP in 1995 and the adoption of the UDP review in 2005. The result of this analysis showed that losses to the wildlife resource due to development needing planning permission had slowed considerably since the late 1980s. This is due in no small part to more effective planning policies and more specialist officers to advise planning officers.

The following indicator has been adopted.

- Areas (ha/ % of resource) lost to development requiring planning permission since 1 April 2007. This data has been collected for SSSIs, SINCs and SLINCs.

The Council's UDP policies make provision for loss to SINCs and SLINCs in defined circumstances if full mitigation of an equivalent value to the features lost is provided. Where planning permission has been granted resulting in the loss of all or part of a local site, this AMR indicator makes reference to

whether mitigation has been secured in compliance with the relevant UDP policies. A summary of the monitoring of planning permissions granted within the reporting period is shown in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1: REDUCTION OF DESIGNATED WILDLIFE AREAS DUE TO PLANNING PERMISSIONS GRANTED BETWEEN 1 APRIL 2007 AND 31 MARCH 2008

Reduction in area of Special Areas of Conservation due to planning permissions implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Total resource (%)
None	None

Potential reduction in area of Special Areas of Conservation due to planning permissions granted but not implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Reduction in area of Sites of Special Scientific Interest due to permissions implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Potential reduction in area of Sites of Special Scientific Interest due to planning permissions granted but not implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Reduction in area of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation due to planning permissions implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Potential reduction in area of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation due to planning permissions granted but not implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Reduction in area of Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation due to planning permissions implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Potential reduction in area of Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation due to planning permissions granted but not implemented.

Area affected (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

Each of the categories of designated wildlife site is reviewed in turn.

Special Areas of Conservation

Special Areas of Conservation are designated by English Nature in response to European legislation. The borough currently has one such site.

- Cannock Extension Canal candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC). There were no losses to this site between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Sites of Special Scientific Interest are designated by Natural England. The borough has seven Sites of Special Scientific Interest covering 69.2 ha, including the Cannock Extension Canal which is also a SAC.

There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008. There were no additional sites notified within the reporting period.

Local Nature Reserves

The borough has ten Local Nature Reserves covering some 235 ha. These sites are usually also designated as SSSIs or SINC's or occasionally SLINC's.

One new site has been declared since 1 April 2007. This is Mill Lane LNR, Walsall which was declared on 20 December 2007 and is 8.25 hectares in area. There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are local sites designated by the local authorities in collaboration with English Nature and the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country. The borough currently has 38 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation covering some 503 ha. This represents a total of 20.4% of the total Birmingham and Black Country SINC resource. Walsall's total land area is 17% of the Birmingham and Black Country.

In the 06/07 reporting period there were 32 SINC's covering some 406 ha. Following the site review this has increased to 38 sites covering 503 ha. The additional sites are mostly SLINC's which have been reassessed but there are also two sites identified for the first time. In addition, one site was transferred to the SLINC schedule after it was re-assessed. The change in quality of this site was due to factors which did not require planning permission.

Net addition 104 ha. Net loss 7 ha. However, none of these changes is due to factors relating to the planning system.

Between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008 there were no planning permissions resulting in the potential loss of any SINC. The council is not aware of any extant permissions which were implemented in the reporting period.

Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are local sites identified by the local authority in conjunction with the Wildlife Trust. The borough has 71 Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation covering some 456 ha. This represents a total of 20.5% of the total Birmingham and Black Country SLINC resource. Walsall's total land area is 17% of the Birmingham and Black Country.

In the 06/07 reporting period there were 76 SINC's covering some 439 ha. Following the site review this has changed to 70 sites covering 456 ha. The 6 sites were reassessed and transferred to the SINC schedule. One site was transferred from the SINC schedule after it was assessed. While a reduction in site area would be expected, the increase in area is due to the more accurate measuring of linear sites such as canals and hedgerows whose areas were under-estimated previously. Since this change has not been due to any loss or gain to the resource, it has been ignored for the purpose of the figures below.

Net addition 7 ha. Net loss 84 ha. However, none of these changes is due to factors relating to the planning system.

Between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008 there were no planning permissions resulting in the potential loss of any SLINC. The council is not aware of any extant permissions which were implemented in the reporting period.

Qualitative Change To Designated Sites

Special Areas for Conservation and Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Natural England currently monitors the quality of SSSIs for its PSA target which aims to have 95% of all SSSI in favourable or recovering condition by 2010. However, the monitoring frequency is sporadic and few Walsall sites have been monitored since 31 March 2004.

Walsall's SSSIs are in a mixed condition. Only 50.3% of the sites assessed are favourable or recovering. The regional picture is that over 90% of sites are in a favourable/recovering condition. Therefore we are not a high-performing authority. This stark statistic needs some interpretation. The two Council-owned Sites of Special Scientific Interest are in favourable condition but the privately owned ones range from unfavourable: declining to favourable. The unfavourable sites are mismanaged by over-grazing, simple neglect or suffer from polluting run-off. The council has little control over

these activities, certainly not through the planning system. This situation has not changed since the previous year's report. English Nature/ Natural England have carried out no further formal monitoring between 1 April 2007 and 31 March 2008. However, the Council commissioned survey work for a botanical inspection of Clayhanger SSSI which took place within the reporting period and indicated that the botanical interest was still present and that grazing densities were ideal. In addition, as part of the Council's Appropriate Assessment of European sites, work has been undertaken in partnership with other authorities to investigate the source of the pollution in the Cannock Extension Canal. This work is ongoing but will hopefully resolve some of the water quality problems. It is therefore probable that a future reassessment by Natural England will find the condition of this site improved.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Monitoring qualitative change to the SINC's and SLINC's is the responsibility of the local authority and the partnership which designates the sites and is impractical to carry out annually without a considerable increase in capacity. Condition monitoring, even using indicator species or sample areas, is resource intensive.

To assess the quality of the sites it is vital to have up-to-date survey information so that the condition of any site can be accurately assessed. Carrying out a rolling programme of survey work is essential in maintaining up-to-date records. The following two indicators were adopted in the previous AMR:

- Areas of designated wildlife site (ha/ % of resource) where habitat surveys (or geological surveys for earth science sites) were undertaken within last 5 years.
- Areas of designated wildlife site (ha/ % of resource) where habitat surveys (or geological surveys for earth science sites) were undertaken between 5 and 10 years ago.

The analysis also showed that 25.7% of wildlife sites where habitat surveys were undertaken in the last 5 years and a further 18.6% were surveyed between five and ten years ago. More detailed data is provided below.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation				
	No of sites surveyed in last 5 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	11	68.7	28.9	13.7
Previous reporting period.	7	37.92	21.9	9.3

	No of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	9	34.5	23.7	25.4
Previous reporting period.	0	0	0	0

Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation				
	No of sites surveyed in last 5 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	17	115.9	24.3	25.4
Previous reporting period.	50	307.4	65.8	70
	No of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site numbs.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	41	172.5	58.6	37.8
Previous reporting period.	4	18.17	5.3	4.1

Combined totals (SINCs and SLINCs)				
	No of sites surveyed in last 5 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	28	184.6	25.6	19.2
Previous reporting period.	57	345.32	52.8	42.97
	No of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years.	Area of sites surveyed in last 5-10 years. (ha)	Percentage of total site numbs.	Percentage of total site area.
Current	50	207	46	21.6

reporting period.				
Previous reporting period.	4	18.17	3.7	2.15

These results need some interpretation. There was a slightly lower level of habitat survey effort within the period but this needs to be balanced with a number of bird and invertebrate surveys that were carried out which are not recorded in this data. Habitat survey work on designated sites is recorded for this indicator because it has been the basic method of monitoring sites over the last 25 years.

There has been a review of SINC and SLINC sites over in the reporting period which has resulted in a number of sites receiving changes designations and some new sites being identified. This means that the figures are not exactly comparable with those in the previous monitoring report.

In addition the high level of survey work carried out in 2002 is now over 5 years old so it can no longer be counted in the category of survey work carried out in the last 5 years. Similarly some survey work is now too old to be counted in the category of survey work carried out in the last 10 years.

The amount of data available for Council-owned sites is increasing following recent staff changes. The lack of data has a significant effect on the totals because 18 SINC's covering some 341 ha are either wholly or partly Council-owned and managed. While the absence of survey data has implications for site management, the sites are not generally under pressure from development requiring planning permission.

Change To Priority Species And Habitats

In the last AMR it was stated that future monitoring reports would assess one or more priority species or habitat to enable future assessment on the impact that the planning system on such habitats and features.

Species Indicators

No species were assessed during the study period.

Habitat Indicators: Ancient Woodland

Ancient woodland: local indicator 1: Extent of Ancient Woodland

Although this habitat is, inexplicitly, not a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat, these irreplaceable woodlands are of high nature conservation value in Birmingham and the Black Country and therefore a high local conservation priority. The current Inventory of Ancient Woodland in the West Midlands County was published by the Nature Conservancy Council in 1989. Work towards a full review of the ancient woodland resource in Birmingham and

the Black Country was carried out by the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country within the reporting period.

The review identified potential ancient woodland sites in Birmingham & the Black Country through the use of the first edition of the Ordnance Survey County Series mapping (1880s) and modern aerial photography. All areas that were depicted as having woodland/ scrub cover in the 1880s and that still have an extant tree/ shrub cover were identified. Additional sites were then identified from other sources including the Natural England Ancient Woodland Inventory and reports produced by The Wildlife Trust. Each site was then researched and any available information on the site collated. Collated information included historic maps, existing ecological reports and ecological records held by EcoRecord. Sites that were shown not to have existed prior to the 1880s through the analysis of maps that pre-date this period or that are obviously of landscape origin that postdates 1600 AD (e.g. ornamental gardens) were discounted from the study.

Table 2 summarises the final results obtained from the desk based stage of this work for Walsall borough.

Table 2: Summary of current knowledge: Ancient Woodland resource in Walsall

Number of sites on Natural England's current Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI).	13
Area of Ancient Woodland sites on Natural England's current Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) (ha).	53.02
Number of potential Ancient Woodland sites added as a result of the desk based study.	21
Area of potential Ancient Woodland sites added as a result of the desk based study (ha).	37.93
Number of Ancient Woodland sites discarded as a result of the desk based study.	1
Area of Ancient Woodland sites discarded as a result of the desk based study (ha).	5.0
Number of Ancient Woodland sites confirmed as a result of the desk based study.	13
Area of Ancient Woodland sites confirmed as a result of the desk based study (ha).	50.88
Number of Ancient Woodland sites that require further work in order to establish their Ancient Woodland status.	20
Area of Ancient Woodland sites that require further work in order to establish their Ancient Woodland status (ha).	35.07

In Walsall borough an additional 21 potential ancient woodland sites were identified with the total number of potential priority habitat increasing from 13 sites in Natural England's current ancient woodland inventory to 33 sites (1 of the sites included in the original inventory has been excluded as a result of

the desk study), thus increasing the total potential area of ancient woodland habitat to 85.95 ha. A complete schedule of these sites is presented in Appendix 1. The sites were mapped and a GIS layer was compiled and is available to inform planning decisions (a map of the sites identified is shown in Appendix 2).

This work was essentially a desktop based exercise and the limitations below must be understood:

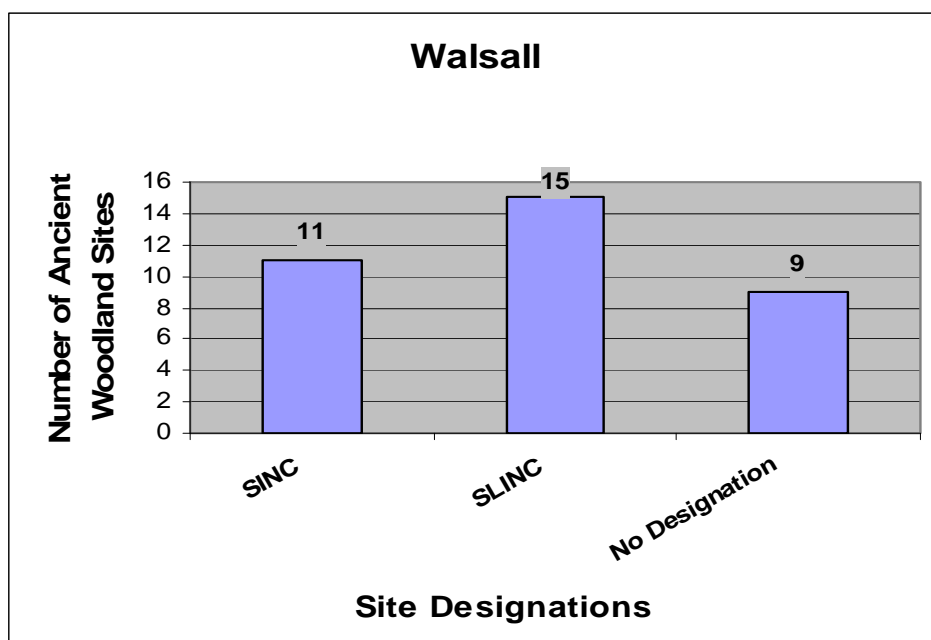
- The total area of ancient woodland might be overestimated to some extent.
- Survey work/ ground truthing will be crucial to identify the actual extent and monitor the condition of the ancient woodland resource. A monitoring program has been devised and will be implemented with particular focus on the sites identified as requiring further work (see Appendix 1).

Progress on this indicator will be the subject of future reporting.

Ancient woodland: local indicator 2: Current level of protection granted by the planning system to the Ancient Woodland resource.

An analysis of the current level of protection granted to ancient woodland sites through the planning system/local wildlife sites system was carried out. The results are shown in Figure 2 and Appendix 1.

Figure 2. Summary of protection currently granted by the planning system to the Ancient Woodland resource in Walsall.



(Please note: Two of the sites identified have areas of ancient woodland which are partially designated as SINC/ SLINC).

Overall the known ancient woodland resource in Walsall is protected to an extent by the planning system. The majority of the resource occurs on non statutory local wildlife sites (SINCs and SLINCs) which means that though protected to a degree by the planning system the habitat resource still remains vulnerable. Furthermore there is a proportion of the resource which has either no current protection or has a relatively low level of protection (see areas designated as SLINCs). Knowing the quality and extent of the resource is important in order to adequately protect the areas of ancient woodland.

As part of a second phase, the full extent and condition of ancient woodlands in Walsall borough will be investigated to ensure an adequate level of protection. This is in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 9 'Biodiversity and Geological Conservation' which states that ancient woodland is valuable and cannot be recreated, once lost. It also states that Local Planning Authorities should identify areas of ancient woodland in their areas that do not have statutory protection (e.g. as a SSSI). Neither should they grant planning permission for any development that would result in the loss or deterioration of ancient woodland unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location outweigh the loss of the woodland. Curiously Ancient Woodland is not on the list of natural habitat types identified in Section 74 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 section as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. Neither is it a national Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat.

Progress on this indicator will be the subject of future reporting.

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITY TO SUPPORT BIODIVERSITY INDICATORS

In previous AMR reports it was proposed to:

- Deal with the borough on a sub-regional basis and agree priority habitats and species with other local authorities, English Nature, EcoRecord and the Wildlife Trust. This has been done and priority habitat and species have been identified and ancient woodlands have been examined in some detail. This report could not have been written without the strong collaboration of these partners.
- Agree monitoring methods across the sub-region which are achievable and which provide useful results. This continues to be a priority task.
- Ensure Walsall's current budget for survey work continues to provide baseline data which can be used for monitoring biodiversity. Survey work continues to be carried out.
- Establish baseline schedules of designated sites, particularly SINCs and SLINCs. This is largely complete.
- Increase capacity to monitor biodiversity indicators. This may be within the authority, or through support to sub-regional bodies such as EcoRecord. A Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Project Officer was employed from 2 January 2007 and a second EcoRecord member of

- Continue to seek resources for a Black Country (and Birmingham?) biodiversity audit. There is little likelihood of success.

Following this current report it is proposed to continue to undertake further work in the next monitoring report in collaboration with the Council's partners. The following work areas are priorities.

- Agree a methodology for assessing condition of sites at a sub-regional level.
- Monitor the condition of a sample number of designated wildlife sites based on the most recent survey data.
- Identify priority species which can be usefully investigated.
- Monitor selected priority habitats.

The need to complete an Annual Monitoring Report has proved a useful catalyst to undertake monitoring at a sub-regional level. It is an enormous task which can only be introduced relatively gradually.

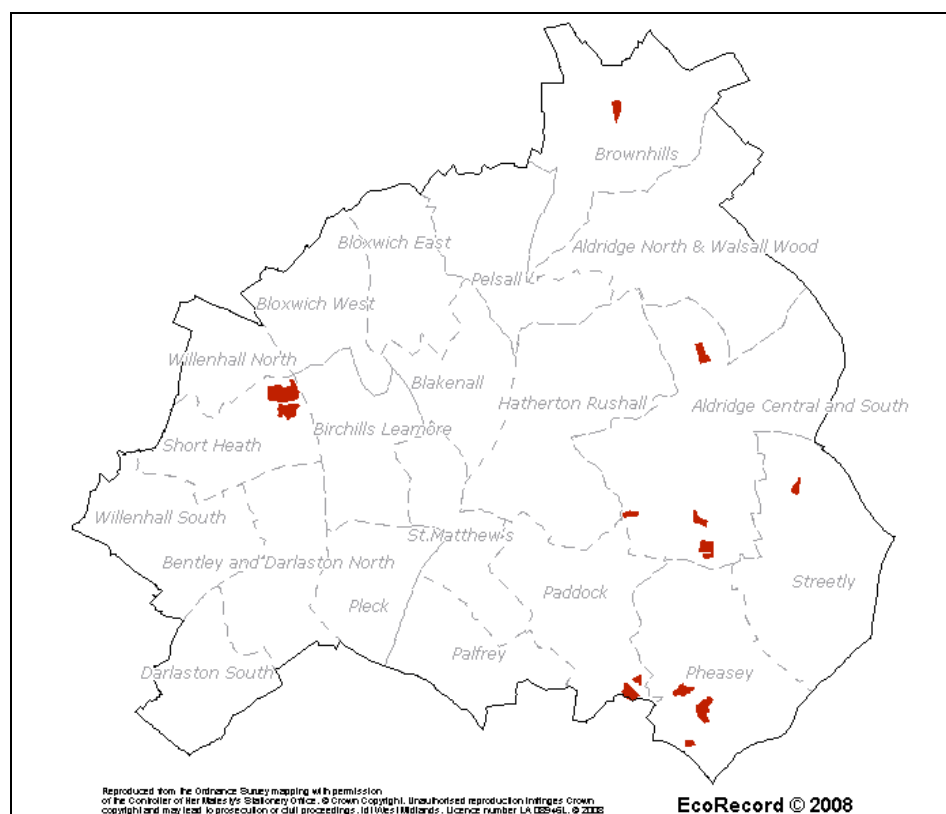
Appendix 1: List of known and potential sites containing Ancient Woodland in Walsall

Site Name	Location	Current site designation	Summary of findings
Coppice Lane Wood	SK035058	SLINC	Remnant of Birch Coppice as depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & Plan of Norton Canes 1827.
Castlebank Plantation	SK062034	SINC	Probable plantation on site of fort/manor house. No tree cover depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Leigh's Wood	SK054016	SLINC	Remnant of Lees Wood as depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Rails Wood	SK025033	SLINC	Remnant of Rails Wood as depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & Plan of Pelsall 1840.
Bosty Lane Hedges	SP05209958	SLINC	Strip of woodland as depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s. Probable shelter belt.
Natsfield Farm Wood	SJ992036	SLINC	Woodland depicted on OS County Series mapping of 1880s. Not depicted on 'old series' mapping of 1830s, however possible omission due to size.
Rough Wood	SJ984008	SINC	Remnants of Bentley Coppice etc. as

			depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s. Four areas of extant woodland remained intact to last addition of OS CS (1938). Requires further work to determine exact extent: historic maps conflict with NE polygons
Hay Head Wood	SP043990	SINC/SLINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & Plan of Rushall 1845 as Long Wood.
The Dingle	SP049989	SSSI	Shown to be secondary woodland following course of long disused lime workings.
Merrion's Wood	SP04259590	SINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on series of maps dating from 1799 & OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Corporation Wood	SP067995	SINC/SLINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Osier Bed	SP06959970	SLINC	Woodland depicted on OS County Series mapping of 1880s, however not depicted on 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Towers Covert	SP070996	SINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s. Desk study suggests may be plantation. Requires further work.
Hingleys Covert	SP079994	SLINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Hardwick Wood	SP080991	SLINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Cuckoo's Nook	SP054987	SINC	Woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Birch Wood	SP056984	SINC	Woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s as Brindley Coppice.
Potter's Wood	SP056982	SLINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Doe Bank Wood	SP067963	SLINC	Woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s as Plantation.
The Duckery	SP051959	SINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s. Older maps suggest site may be plantation. Included in absence of further work.

Gilberts Wood	SP05259 505	SINC	Woodland extant on site of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & parish plan of c. 1840. Plan of 1799 suggests may be plantation. Included in absence of further work.
High Wood	SP05509 560	SINC	Woodland depicted on maps from 1799. Requires further work to determine exact extent: historic maps conflict with NE polygons
Fox Plantation	SP05809 535	SLINC	Woodland depicted on maps from 1799. Probable plantation however requires further work.
Leylands Farm	SK01203 2	SLINC	Woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & plan of Pelsall, c. 1840. Extant woodland apparently secondary.
Druid's Heath Golf Course North Wood	SK06300 165	None	Area of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Druid's Heath Golf Course South Wood	SK06920 105	None	Area of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Pelsall Common Spinney	SK02150 290	None	Possible remnants of woodland depicted on OS County Series mapping of 1880s & plan of Pelsall, c. 1840.
Long Wood	SP05759 920	None	Possible remnants of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Hortons Covert	SP06999 905	SLINC (p. WA127)	Remnants of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s now in gardens of Vale Avenue.
Foley Wood	SP07459 830 SP07309 795	None None	Possible remnants of woodland depicted as 'plantation' on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Hundred Acre Wood	SP07659 720	None	Possible remnants of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.
Old Park Wood	SP04509 615	None	Possible remnants of 'Old Park Wood' depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s & parish plan of c. 1840. Now in garden of Birch Grove. Requires further work.
Nursery Woodland	SP08169 725	None	Remnants of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s in grounds of nursery.
Sandhills Wood	SK05700 499	None	Remnants of woodland depicted on OS 'old series' mapping of 1830s.



Appendix 2: Distribution and extent of known Ancient Woodland sites





The Historic Environment

3.1.30 UDP Policy ENV27 seeks to protect buildings that are listed because of their historic or architectural interest (and to protect the settings of these buildings) from inappropriate development or alterations. The Council also maintains a 'Local List' of buildings that do not have statutory protection, but are considered to be of historic or architectural interest, and protection of such buildings is sought under UDP Policy ENV28. Policy ENV29 seeks to preserve or enhance Conservation Areas.

Table A8: Implementation of LDF Historic Environment Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	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	 No statutorily listed buildings have been lost and no buildings have	 One statutory listed building was lost (Shannon's Mill, Walsall)	Continue to apply planning and listed building / Conservation Area Policies.

			been added to the statutory list in 2006-2007.	due to a fire and no buildings have been added to the statutory list 2007-2008	
UDP Policy ENV 29	Local Output Indicator – Conservation Area Management: Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies.	5 to be prepared by April 2008	 On target, will be adopted by Cabinet before the end of the financial year.	 Area Appraisals and Management Plans were completed for the Bridge Street, Walsall, Lichfield Street, Walsall, Old Pelsall, Pelsall Common and Willenhall conservation areas. These were all approved by Cabinet.	Maintain programme of management plans and continue to seek funding for improvements.

Protection of Historic Buildings

3.1.31 The information for listed and locally listed buildings for 2007/08 can only cover those buildings that are statutorily protected and local listed buildings in Conservation Areas. It has to be recognised that without statutory protection many changes to Locally Listed buildings, including demolition, are not subject to planning controls.

3.1.32 As at 31st March 2007 there were 151 entries on the Statutory List¹, covering 208 buildings or structures, 113 of which are in conservation areas;

¹ This figure is lower than that in the 2006/7 AMR due to a recount of the statutory list. There was the loss of Shannon's Mill. It is also important to note that the number of listed building are the actual number of 'listings', for example one terrace consisting of four properties will count as one 'listing'.

and 265 entries on the Local List, covering 308 buildings,² 102 of which are in conservation areas.

3.1.33 English Heritage maintains a register of “Buildings at Risk” but this only includes the most important buildings or structures at risk, i.e. buildings of Grade I or II* status and buildings forming part of Scheduled Ancient Monuments. There is only one entry on the Buildings at Risk Register in Walsall, which is Great Barr Hall. The Council has 6 Grade II* buildings and no Grade I therefore this represents 16.7% of our Grade II* buildings. The Council is continuing to work with the owners and English Heritage to achieve the restoration of the Hall and its landscape.

3.1.34 The Council keeps its own “Buildings at Risk Register,” which is not comprehensive but gives an indication of the numbers of statutorily Grade II listed buildings and “local list” buildings that are at risk due to lack of maintenance or for other reasons. The Council seeks to take a proactive approach towards buildings on the Register, and examples are given below of progress on the protection of buildings considered to be “at risk.” A more comprehensive assessment would require survey work to be undertaken, and there are currently no resources to do this.

3.1.35 Due to a reduction in staffing levels during 2007-2008 limited progress has been made on reviewing the statutorily listed and locally listed buildings in the Borough. Limited progress has been made on the following buildings at risk:

- 13-14 High Street, Walsall (Grade II Listed, Church Hill Conservation Area)
Planning permission and Listed Building Consent has been granted for the rebuilding of the front range of these buildings with a contemporary residential development to the rear. Work has not yet started on these buildings as the owners are struggling to finance the project;
- Mellish Road Church, Walsall (Grade II Listed, Arboretum Conservation Area)
The Council is still progressing the serving of a CPO on the owners of. However a difference of opinion on the stability of the existing Church has led both the owners and the Council to commission further investigative works. These are ongoing and it is not possible to report significant progress at the present time.

3.1.36 The condition of The Bell, Willenhall and The Board of Guardians building, Pleck Road, Walsall, continues to give rise to concern and Council officers continue, where possible, to work with owners to improve the condition of these properties as well as working with the Enforcement section.

3.1.37 The Black Country Sites and Monuments record, which is maintained by Wolverhampton Council, includes sites in Walsall.

² As with the statutory list, a recount took place which states that there were two less than that quoted in the 2006/7 AMR.

Management of Conservation Areas

3.1.38 At 31st March 2008, the borough contained 18 conservation areas. The Council has a statutory duty under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to manage conservation areas.

3.1.40 The preparation of character appraisals is no longer a BVPI indicator, though it has become a CPA indicator for 2007/08. The Council has therefore established a rolling programme for producing these documents. The Council is currently preparing a further five Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans. Following public consultation, it is proposed these will be formally adopted by the Council's Development Control Committee before the end of this financial year (2008/9). This will result in 15 Conservation Areas having a written Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.

3.1.41 The reports in preparation are Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans for:

- Aldridge Conservation Area
- Bloxwich High Street Conservation Area
- Bloxwich Park Conservation Area
- Elmore Green (Bloxwich) Conservation Area
- Highgate Conservation Area

3.1.42 The Bridge Street/Ablewell Street Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) was launched in June 2007 after the employment of a project manager in March 2007. The £1.1 million pound scheme is being funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Advantage West Midlands and Walsall Council. It aims to regenerate an area of Walsall through offering grants to improve its historic buildings. Grants are available to carry out repairs, reinstatement of architectural details and to bring vacant floor space back into use. The project so far has delivered the completion of one successful scheme consisting of 73-75 Ablewell Street.

3.1.43 The area the scheme covers includes parts of the Lichfield Street, Bridge Street and Church Hill Conservation Areas. The Bridge Street Conservation Area and the Church Hill Conservation Area were extended in August 2007 to incorporate sections of the Bridge Street/Ablewell Street THI that were not previously covered by a Conservation Area.

3.1.44 The initiative is progressing well. A number of architects and property owners are currently in discussions with the project manager about applying for a grant.

3.1.45 Stage II of a bid to the Heritage Lottery fund for a Willenhall THI was submitted in March 2008.

Registered Parks and Gardens

3.1.46 There are three registered parks and gardens in the Borough all Grade II. They are:

- Walsall Arboretum
- Great Barr Hall
- Memorial Gardens, St Matthew's, Walsall

3.1.47 A Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) bid for the Arboretum, which will see original elements of the park repaired and restored and planting improved. Stage I funding was submitted at the end of September 2007 and was successful with £220,000 of funding given by the HLF in March 2008. It is expected that the outcome of the Stage 2 bid will be known in March 2009, which may release up to £4.2m of funding for this project. The project is anticipated to run from 2009, with completion in 2012.

Historic Landscape Characterisation of the Black Country

3.1.48 This project is funded by English Heritage and began in April 2005. All of the basic data has been gathered and a draft for Walsall was completed in March 2007. Further funding has been obtained to carry out detailed characterisation for the regeneration corridors as defined in the Black Country Core Strategy.

Renewable Energy



3.1.49 UDP Policy ENV 39: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency - encourages proposals for the development of renewable energy sources and for efficient energy use (Policy EN1 of the RSS takes a similar approach). To give encouragement to measuring performance, there is a national Core Output Indicator relating to the installation of new capacity, whilst the Regional Energy provides a target for electricity from renewable sources. See Table A9.

3.1.50 Government policy towards energy has changed significantly since the UDP policy was prepared. A new planning policy statement – Planning Policy Statement 22 (PPS22): Renewable Energy - was issued in August 2004. This encourages local planning authorities to adopt development plan policies that require a percentage of the energy to be used in new residential, commercial and industrial developments to come from on-site renewable energy sources. Unfortunately, the new PPS came out too late to be included in the council's UDP Review.

3.1.51 In the short-term, the Council can only go so far in encouraging developers to incorporate renewable energy technologies in new developments, in line with the existing UDP policy. Policy DW10 of the adopted (March 08) Designing Walsall SPD sets an expectation that new development will contribute to the sustainable use of resources and make prudent and efficient use of finite and non-renewable resources. However, as this is a SPD, it can only advise and encourage and cannot go further than the UDP policy that it supports. In the longer-term, it is anticipated that the UDP

energy policy will be replaced by new energy policies, to be included in other DPDs.

Table A9: Implementation of LDF Energy Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/08	Action for the Future
UDP Policy ENV 39	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 there has been 1 commercial development and 2 householder applications including renewable energy, renewable or low energy technologies have not been taken up to a great extent in Walsall.	 Although 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 development of the joint Core Strategy, through the Designing a Better Walsall SPD (which encourages sustainable design including energy efficiency and onsite generation) - through Development Control using conditions that require developers to secure level 3 sustainability .

Energy Consumption

3.1.52 Nationally, domestic and commercial/ industrial consumption of gas and electricity is rising. Consumption is now outstripping supply, and the UK is now a net importer of fuel (Source: DTI Energy Trends, September 2006). Experimental figures published by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) (<http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/statistics/regional/index.html>) suggest that in 2004, average domestic gas and electricity consumption in the Black Country was lower than the UK average, but industrial/ commercial consumption was

higher. However, average domestic and industrial/ commercial consumption in the Black Country was lower than that for the region as a whole.

Renewable Energy Generation - Targets

3.1.53 Under the European Renewables Directive (2001/77/EEC), the UK “share” of the overall EU renewable energy target is for renewable sources to account for 10% of UK electricity consumption by 2010, and the Government has also set a target for doubling this to 20% by 2020. However, the current regional targets for renewable energy generation are less ambitious. The Regional Energy Strategy, published in 2004, recognised that at the time that it was prepared, only around 1% of the electricity consumed within the region was generated from renewable sources, hence the target for the West Midlands region is for 5% of electricity to be generated from renewable sources by 2010, and 10% by 2020.

Renewable Energy Generation in Walsall

3.1.54 As part of its target-led approach, Government policy has encouraged renewable energy through a “Renewables Obligation” on each electricity supplier in Great Britain to supply a specific proportion of electricity from eligible renewables³. Ofgem is the body that, among other things, tracks and monitors renewable energy capacity. A search of the Ofgem website revealed only one generator in Walsall, the Vigo Utopia Landfill site, a Landfill Gas Utilisation Plant, with a capacity of 2,096Kw, was featured in their April 2008 list of Generators accredited for the Renewables Obligation (RO), Renewables with a DNC (declared net capacity) over 50 kW and so there has been no additional capacity in the monitoring year .

3.1.55 The Council’s development control system (working on categories obtained previously from the Government) is still not capable of identifying developments for renewable energy, and, though a new system has been implemented this year it is still not able to identify renewable energy developments. This issue will continue to be discussed, but it is not anticipated that it will be addressed for the 2008-9 AMR.

3.1.56 . A domestic wind turbine was approved in Willenhall (07/0216/FL/H3) in April 2007 and one has been refused in Great Barr (07/1208/FL/H4) in July 2007.

3.1.57 It should be noted that not all forms of provision for renewable energy require planning permission. Realistically, local planning authorities cannot monitor what is not under their control. Given that the Government is proposing to remove even more Microgeneration projects (e.g. domestic wind turbines) from planning control, in future, it will not be possible for the Council to determine the extent to which Microgeneration has taken off in Walsall unless there is an alternative source of information.

3.1.58 It must be accepted that, given these limitations, local planning authorities will only ever be able to monitor the capacity of installations that require planning permission. Even then, it will only be possible to do this with confidence if the forthcoming Standard Application Form requires applicants

³ The Government also provides tax advantages and grant aid and promotes research and development into renewable energy.

to state the capacity of renewable energy technologies included within schemes. Unless this is addressed, monitoring of renewable energy capacity will remain difficult, and local planning authorities may not necessarily identify all of the new capacity coming forward.

Water Resources, Water Quality and Flood Risk

3.1.59 UDP Policy ENV40 is concerned with conserving and protecting water resources and maintaining water quality as well as preventing flood risk. The policy only permits development in areas where supplies of water are adequate, and where the risk of flooding has been properly assessed. It also requires developments to maintain water quality through pollution control and other measures, and encourages sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS). There is a national Core Output Indicator relating to flood risk and water quality (see Table A10 below).

Table A10: Implementation of LDF Water Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policy ENV 40	<p>New Core Output Indicator E1:</p> <p>(previously LDF Core Output Indicator 7)</p> <p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality.</p>	None	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>No applications were approved by the Council contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency during 2005/06.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>No applications were approved by the Council contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency during 2007/08 on water quality grounds.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☹</p> <p>Two applications were approved by the Council where The Environment Agency had raised objections on flood risk grounds</p>	Continue to apply the policy and to take account of Environment Agency advice.

				during 2007/08.	
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3.1.60 The UDP policy was prepared in the context of Planning Policy Guidance Note 25 (PPG25): Development and Flood Risk, which has now been replaced by Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25): Development and Flood Risk, published in December 2006.

3.1.61 Although the UDP policy already addresses many of the issues covered in the new PPS, no Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) was carried out when the UDP was prepared, as this was not a requirement at the time. However, PPS25 now requires such an assessment to be carried out to inform plans and strategies. A SFRA is being undertaken to inform the Black Country Joint Core Strategy and it will identify areas within the Black Country at high risk of flooding and therefore will be a key consideration in determining the spatial strategy whilst informing policies to mitigate the risk of flooding.

3.1.62 Two applications were approved by the Council where The Environment Agency had raised objections on flood risk grounds during 2007/08. In one case their comments arrived after the application was reported for committee and in the other case we are unable to locate the file to establish what has happened.

Protection of Water Resources

3.1.62 Walsall's water is supplied by South Staffordshire Water Plc and Severn Trent Plc and sewerage services are provided by Severn Trent Plc. Water supplies come from three main sources: Blithfield Reservoir in Staffordshire, boreholes, also mostly in Staffordshire, and the River Severn.

3.1.63 This means that a proportion of the borough's water supply comes from groundwater. The Environment Agency has identified Source Protection Zones within Walsall, which contain important groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs, which are used to supply public drinking water. The main areas affected are Brownhills, Aldridge, Streetly and Caldmere/Palfrey. Within these areas, certain activities are restricted. There are three different zones, reflecting the distance from the source, and the relative risk of contamination from activities that might cause pollution in the area.

3.1.64 The European Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) has established new ways of protecting rivers, lakes and groundwater, with the objectives of reducing pollution, maintaining ecosystems, promoting the sustainable use of water, and helping to reduce the effects of floods and droughts. This involves a single method of managing water, based on river basin planning. The Environment Agency has identified 11 River Basin Districts throughout England and Wales, and is preparing River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) for each District. Walsall lies within the Humber River Basin District (but only just), and is also immediately adjacent to the Severn River Basin District.

3.1.65 RBMP are currently at an early stage, but the characteristics of the water bodies within each District have now been defined. Within Walsall, only the River Tame and Sneyd Brook have been assessed against the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Both are considered to have a small

catchment, and are identified as provisional Heavily Modified Water Bodies.⁴ Both are also considered to be at risk from point source pollution,⁵ diffuse source pollution,⁶ but are probably not at risk from water abstraction or flow regulation. So far, the Council has not been directly involved in the river basin planning process, but there is an opportunity to comment on the Working Together and Plan of Action consultation documents for both the Humber and Severn River Basin Districts, which have recently been published for consultation. It is also anticipated that the preparation of the Black Country Joint Core Strategy will act as a catalyst for future engagement with the river basin planning process.

3.1.66 In order to manage the amount of water removed from natural sources in the area, the Environment Agency has also set up Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS), covering the Staffordshire Trent Valley and Tame, Anker and Mease. Walsall lies on the boundary between the two CAMS. Both CAMS are at very early stages in their development, and it is anticipated that the emerging strategies will inform the forthcoming joint Black Country Core Strategy.

Water Quality

3.1.67 Water quality can be influenced by many factors, many of them outside the scope of planning control. For example, whilst local planning authorities can control the use of land and can require developers to implement measures designed to minimise pollution or contamination, they have no control over management practices. Most pollution incidents result from poor management rather than the land use itself. Many agricultural practices such as the spreading of fertilisers can also affect water quality, and these are also not subject to planning control.

3.1.68 The Council consults the Environment Agency on planning applications that may have implications for water quality. A schedule of applications that the Environment Agency has objected to on the grounds of water quality during 2007/08 may be found on the Agency's website (www.environment-agency.gov.uk). This shows that the Agency has not objected to any applications in Walsall on grounds of water quality during 2007/08. Thus, no application has been granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency in relation to water quality.

Flood Protection

3.1.69 The Environment Agency has identified areas adjacent to rivers and streams in Walsall that are considered to be at risk of flooding. The areas at greatest risk of flooding (i.e. those falling within Zones 2 and 3) are shown in Figure 3.3 of the UDP. The highest risk areas are within the floodplains of the River Tame, Full Brook, Sneyd Brook and Ford Brook, parts of which fall

⁴ Heavily Modified Water Bodies are water bodies that have been subject to physical alterations, such as strengthening of banks or installation of dams and weirs.

⁵ Point source pollution is pollution from a specific source or sources close to the water body.

⁶ Diffuse pollution is pollution from a variety of sources, such as fertiliser and manure from farming, and oils, solvents and metals from car maintenance and industrial run-off.

within Zone 3. The Council consults the Environment Agency on all planning applications for new development within these areas. When objections are received, the Council aims to resolve these through negotiation where possible, in accordance with the advice in PPS25.

3.1.70 Schedules of applications that the Environment Agency has objected to on the grounds of Water Quality and Flood Risk may be found on the Agency's website. This shows that in 2007/08 two applications that were approved were the subject of objections by the Environment Agency. The applications and the outcomes in each case are summarised in the table below.

Table A11: Planning Applications in Walsall 2007/08 - Objections by the Environment Agency on Grounds of Flood Risk

Application Ref	Location	Type of Application	Reason for EA Objection	Outcome
07/1532/FL/E2	MEEKE'S FARM REAR OF 75 PELSALL LANE, RUSHALL, WALSALL,WS4 1NE	Commercial	Request for FRA	Granted 04/03/20 08
07/0639/FL/W2	LAND BETWEEN,WOOD STREET, UPPER LICHFIELD STREET &,LOWER LICHFIELD STREET EXTENDING TO,WALSALL STREET,WILLENH ALL,WEST MIDLANDS	Mixed	Unsatisfactory FRA	Granted 12/03/20 08

3.1.71 In one case the Environment Agency's objection on flood risk grounds was received too late to be considered at the Development Committee Stage and the development was approved and in the other case we are unable to locate the file to provide analysis on this case.

Appendix B: Jobs & Prosperity

3.2.1 Walsall's UDP has the policy 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" (paragraph 4.7).

3.2.2 To this end, Proposal JP1 allocates land for employment, whilst other policies (Policies JP5 and JP6) seek to protect and enhance employment land and employment areas and to reserve them for development with employment uses (i.e. uses within Classes B1 b/c, B2 and B8). Class B1a offices can also be allowed on employment sites, but generally this will be only if a series of tests can be satisfied, which derive from policies to direct office development towards town centres (see the "Strengthening Our Centres" section below, especially Core Output Indicator BD4).

3.2.3 The Core Output Indicators in the Government's Annual Monitoring Report guidance are similar to the three local output indicators identified in the UDP; see Table B1 below), which shows performance against both the local UDP and the national indicators, with information based on the regional monitoring system.

Table B1: 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 Floorspace	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 Floorspace On Previously	gross	500	2,694	3,194	

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

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

Table B2: Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Existing Indicators

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/7	Performance 2007/8	Actions for the future
UDP Policy JP1	Local Output Indicator: Land developed for employment uses.	UDP Target: 13 ha per annum	☹ 7.51ha	☹ 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 2006/7 took place on previously developed land.	☺ 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 allocated in Policy JP1 are successfully protected from loss to other, inappropriate uses.	UDP Target: 95% of the total land area (taking into account flexibility of Policy JP4.1 and JP4.2)	☹ 90.1%	☹ 89.5%	This depends on the extent to which national policy ensures that town centre uses are directed to town centres.

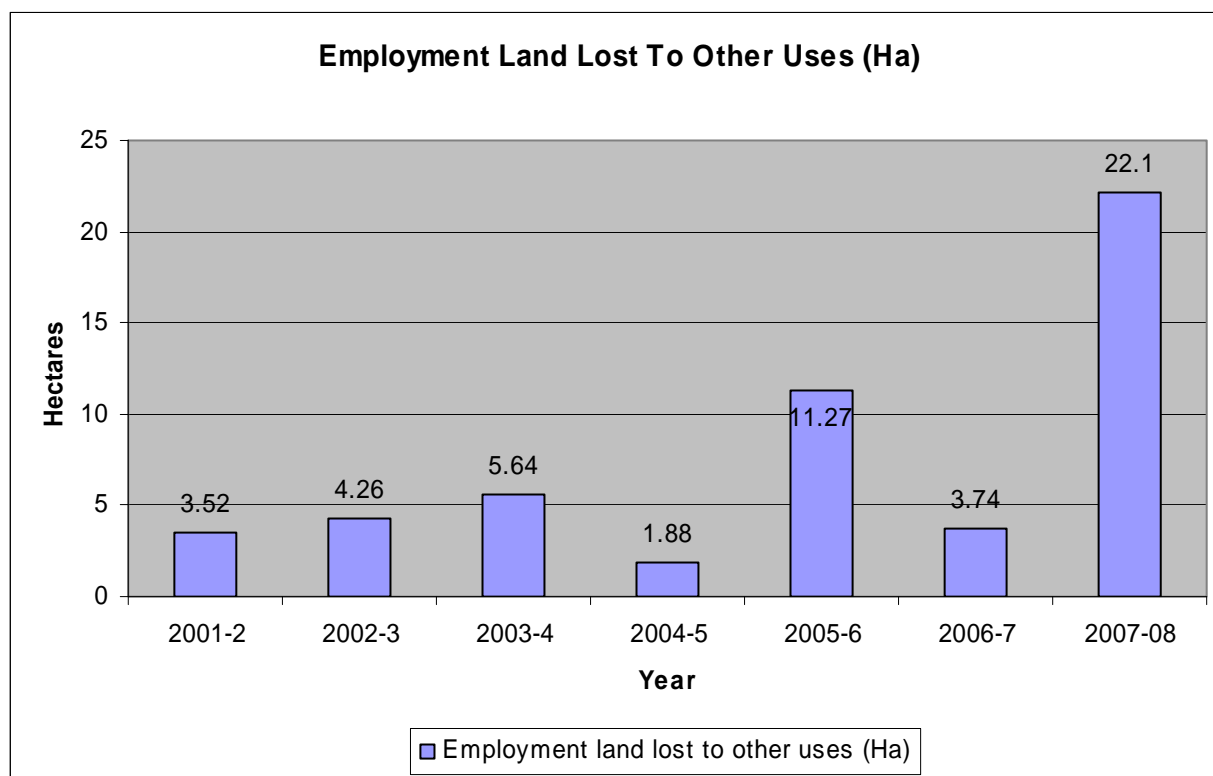
Table B3: Employment Development in Walsall – Progress, 2007/8

Large Sites (Over 0.4ha):	Description	Floorspace, m2	Area (Ha)	Progress
FMR Pleck Gasworks (part), Industrial Units (Site E29)	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	2694	0.79	comp
FMR Corby Windows, Middlemore Lane	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	2013	0.47	u/c
Fleethouse, Anchor Brook (Rossway Business Park)	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	2091	1.46	u/c
FMR Pleck Gasworks Plot 3	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	3330	0.98	u/c
FMR Pleck Gasworks Plot 9	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	1494	0.4	pp
Corner Alma St/Green Lane	B1(b&c)/B2/B8	1672	0.44	pp

	B8			
Central Point, Willenhall Rd	B8	7010	1.67	pp
Land Off Fryers Rd, Bloxwich (outline)	B1 (b&c)/B2/B8	-	3.60	pp
Small Sites (0.1-0.4 ha):				
Trophy Distributors, Tintagel Way	B8	371	0.33	u/c
Dapp Hydraulics, Bentley Mill Close	B1 (b&c)/B2/B8	885	0.23	u/c
Walsall Wood Skips, Collier Close	B1 (b&c), B2	693	0.28	pp
Welded Presswork, Stafford Rd (site intensification)	B2/B8	1050	-	pp
6-12 IDA ROAD, WALSALL, WEST MIDLANDS, WS2 9SR	B1(a)	500	0.07	comp
Total planning permission		11919	6.39	
Total under construction		8690	3.47	
Total completed		3194	0.88	

3.2.4 Table B3 sets out what happened on large sites (part of the Regional Monitoring System) and other smaller sites that the Council monitors for LDF purposes. In 2007/8, only 0.88 Hectares of development was completed with 0.79 Hectares at Walsall Enterprise Park (FMR Pleck Gasworks) and 0.07 Hectares at Ida Road– a dramatic fall over last year's 7.51ha. Yet again, this is well below the average since 1991 of 10.8ha. However, another plot was under construction at Walsall Enterprise Park, and progress was made on developments at Anchor Brook and Middlemore Lane in Aldridge. Permission was given for a further unit at Walsall Enterprise Park, and for developments at Green Lane (Leamore) and Willenhall Road (Darlaston). All development occurred in a defined regeneration area (defined in the UDP as a Core Employment Area, or falling within the Walsall, Wolverhampton and South Staffordshire Regeneration Zone ("Future Foundations") and the Walsall Regeneration Company area.

Figure B1: Industrial Land transferring to other uses, 2001/2 – 2007/8



Appendix C: Strengthening Our Centres





3.3.1 The main aim of the UDP strategy towards centres is 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*” (paragraph 5.12). Accordingly, UDP Policies S1 – S5 seek to focus ‘town centre’ development (principally retailing, offices and leisure) within Walsall Town Centre, the District Centres of Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston and Willenhall, and the Local Centres defined in Policy S5. More detailed guidance on new development in the individual Town and District Centres is provided in separate UDP chapters (Chapters 12-17).

3.3.2 UDP Policies S6 and S7 provide guidance on the circumstances when edge-of-centre or out-of-centre development will be acceptable, and the tests that will be applied to proposals outside centres. The policy approach reflects national and regional policy, and the recent Phase 1 Revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the Black Country (which was published in January 2008) is seeking to strengthen the approach to support the regeneration of the area. It is intended the focus on the Black Country will be maintained through the current region-wide Phase 2 revision of the RSS, which was published in December 2007 and is due to be subject to public examination in April 2009. The revisions should lead to increased demand for retail, leisure and office development in future, as should the housing growth agenda being promoted by Government. However, Government intervention in the RSS Phase 2 revision could lead to growth being diverted towards the south-east of the region, with the implication there could be less consumer spending and economic activity to support the area’s centres.



3.3.3 The effectiveness of the application of the UDP policies is measured through overlapping local (UDP) and Core Output Indicators, as set out in Table C1 below.

3.3.4 Whilst apparently straightforward, the indicators need to be used with care. The amount of development in any one year will often be relatively limited and can be skewed by individual schemes, whilst vacancies might appear as a result of areas being cleared for new development or completed developments awaiting lettings. It will be important to be able to plot the trends in development and investment over several years.

Table C1: Implementation of LDF Centres Policy

UDP Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/8	Action
S1 – S7	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (4a, amended to BD4ii):</p> <p>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.</p>	No specific targets	 17,280sq.m. gross. This was an increase in development, compared to very limited amounts of development in 2004/05 and 2005/06.	 13,567sq.m. gross. This is a decrease in development, compared to 2006/07 ⁷ . However, see re the amount and proportion of development in centres, below.	<p>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.</p>
S1 – S5	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (4b, amended to BD4i):</p> <p>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.</p>	No specific targets	 988 sq.m. gross.	 12,601 sq.m. gross. This is an increase in development in town centres.	As above.

⁷ 2007/08 figures now include Use Class A2 but no longer include hotels (Class C1).

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%	 6%	 92.9%	As above.
S1 – S5	Local Output Indicator – Shopping Centres: Amount of vacant floorspace in centres.	UDP Target: Vacancies to be at or below the national average (this year 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.	? 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.

Retail, Office and Leisure Completions

3.3.5 When the council's first Annual Monitoring Report was prepared (for 2004-2005) it was not possible to monitor commercial developments below the sizes used for monitoring at the regional level⁸. However, the Government aspires to the monitoring of all types of commercial development at all scales, although the cost and difficulty to the local authority might well outweigh any benefits. There are practical problems in accounting for small-scale developments and for when completions occur⁹. This year Government has redefined the relevant Core Output Indicators so, compared with previous years, they no longer include hotels but do include A2 uses (financial and professional services), potentially making 2007-08 incomparable with previous performance. However, in 2007-08 there was no financial or professional services development recorded in Walsall, although a large hotel development has been completed (see below).

3.3.6 The amount of retail, office and leisure development completed in the borough during 2007-2008 was slightly less than in 2006-2007, but significantly higher than in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. Four retail developments took place in total and these, especially a large store for Asda

⁸ For retailing, developments of 1,000 square metres gross and over, for offices, developments of 500 square metres gross and over, and for leisure, Class D2 developments of 1,000 square metres gross and over and hotels with 5 or more bed-spaces.

⁹ Especially as many commercial developments use building control services not linked to the Council.

in Walsall town centre, accounted for most of the development for town centre uses. During the year only a single office development and one small leisure development were completed, both of which were in out-of-centre locations. The position is summarised in Table C2 below.

Table C2: Completion of Retail, Office and Leisure Development in Walsall, 2007 - 2008 (square metres gross)

Type of Development	Total Floorspace Completed in the Borough (Core Output Indicator 4a / BD4ii)	Floorspace Completed in Town, District or Local Centres (Core Output Indicator 4b / BD4i)	Percentage Completed in Town District or Local Centres (UDP Indicator)
Retailing	12,681	12,601 ¹	99.7%
Offices B1(a)	500	0	0%
Leisure	386	0	0%
Total	13,567	12,601	92.9%

¹12,601sq.m. gross within centres, but also including 1,642 sq.m. gross in edge of centre locations.

Source: Regional monitoring returns, Development Control records and council surveys.

Note: Floorspace is in terms of gross external square metres.

3.3.7 Revised Government guidance (July 2008) has amended indicator and given it the reference BD4 (i & ii). It is now to refer to town centre uses as being those in use classes A1, A2, B1a and D2. The guidance reiterates Government advice that measurements should be given in terms of gross internal floorspace¹⁰ and it seeks also to record net floorspace (the space to which customers have access) for A1 retail developments. Table C3 gives the results using the templates as set out the guidance.

Table C3: Total Amount of Floorspace for 'Town Centre Uses', 2007 - 2008 (square metres gross – internal, plus net for A1 retail)

Completions in the Borough

		A1	A2	B1a	D2	Total
BD4	gross	12,205	0	481	372	13,058
	net	8,185	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Completions in Centres

		A1	A2	B1a	D2	Total
BD4	gross	12,128	0	0	0	12,128
	net	8,108	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Source: Regional monitoring returns, Development Control records and council surveys.

Note: Floorspace has been recalculated to gross internal (see footnote, below).

¹⁰ Which requires the gross floorspace figures to be reduced by 3.75%. As planning deals in gross external floorspace it is the view of officers that such a conversion is neither necessary nor appropriate.

3.3.8 Whilst the out-of-centre developments have generally tended to be the results of specific circumstances, over recent years the principal issue has been the lack of significant completions in existing centres. In 2007-2008 there has been a significant amount of new retail floorspace, primarily as a result of large store developments, but there have been no shopping centre schemes and, as with previous years, there has been a particular lack of office and leisure completions. This is partly a reflection of the health of Walsall's centres (see paragraph 3.3.8, below), but it is also the case that developments does not come forward in an even-flow, in-centre developments will not take place every few years and new investment will take time to come forward: there are in-centre developments in the pipeline for future years. Nevertheless it will be important to continue to use planning policy to direct investment towards the borough's centres and to ensure out-of-centre development is allowed only where fully justified. As referred to above, the planning strategy for the Borough should be strengthened through revisions to the RSS and work on the Local Development Framework, with the Core Strategy being prepared on a joint basis with Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton councils. Within the borough the council is also supporting particular initiatives to promote retail, office and leisure development in Walsall and in other centres.

Retail Development

3.3.9 2007-2008 has seen the proportion of retail development taking place in centres increase from 6% in the previous year to 92.9%, almost 3% above the UDP target. Of the four retail completions, the most significant has been a 10,356sqm (gross) Asda store in Walsall town centre's St Matthews Quarter. A Lidl store (1,642 sq.m. gross) was completed on the edge of the centre of Willenhall and this has been counted with the in-centre floorspace for the purposes of this analysis. The only retail completion outside a town centre was a club shop at Walsall FC's Bescot Stadium.

3.3.10 2007-2008 has also seen a number of other changes relating to retail development, not all of them positive. As reported in last year's AMR, Shannon's Mill, which had been planned for major investment for retailing and other uses, was destroyed in a huge fire at the beginning of August 2007. Elsewhere, the Glynwebb and Tiles R Us stores closed at the Keyway Retail Park in Willenhall. However, Tesco refurbished and occupied a former Kwik Save store on an adjoining site at Owen Road, which opened in August 2007, whilst planning permission has been granted for a large foodstore on the edge of the centre of Willenhall. In Brownhills Wilkinson's occupied floorspace in the High Street that had been completed over a year earlier. More recently, in July 2008 Smyth's Toys took over a unit at Crown Wharf that had previously been occupied by Powerhouse.

3.3.11 There are major retail developments in the pipeline for Walsall's town centre. There is planning permission for a Tesco Extra store on the edge of the centre at the St Paul's Street site occupied presently by Walsall Technical College. Construction has started on a new college as part of a 'business and learning campus' on the northern side of Littleton Street, and work on the existing site has been announced as starting during 2009. Landowners and developers are working with the council and Walsall Regeneration Company

to bring forward plans for the redevelopment of the Shannon's Mill area of Walsall town centre.

Office Development

3.3.12 Previous years have been marked by an almost total lack of B1(a) office development in the borough. During 2007-2008 one office development has been completed, Perseverance House, Ida Road, in an out of centre location. Planning permission for this development was personal to Walsall Primary Care Trust, to provide office space for administrative staff working for Walsall Manor Hospital. Apart from this, there were no other office completions anywhere in the borough¹¹.

3.3.13 It is recognised that it will be important to attract office investment as part of the regeneration strategy to sustain and diversify the Black Country economy. The RSS Phase 1 revision promotes major office development in Walsall town centre as part of a network of strategic centres (with Brierley Hill, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton). The strategy is being carried forward through the current RSS Phase 2 Revision, which is proposing 220,000sq.m gross of office floorspace for Walsall to 2026.

3.3.14 To respond to the challenge, the council has been working with Walsall Regeneration Company and the Technical College to promote a 'business and learning campus' on the northern side of the town centre. In April 2007 the council's cabinet supported a proposal that this should form the basis for a major expansion of the town centre to accommodate office. Outline planning permission was granted in October 2008 for 127,000sqm of office space, with business incubation space, a data centre, and provision for a hotel and live-work units, which will go a long way towards addressing Walsall's RSS Phase 2 Revision target. It is also proposed the planned development at Walsall Waterfront should accommodate some office development.

Leisure Development

3.3.15 Previous years have seen little leisure development overall, whilst what developments there have been (children's play centres) have tended to be developed outside of centres because of requirement for industrial-type buildings. In 2007-2008 there has been only one leisure completion, an extension to Calderfields Golf and Country Club, Aldridge Road. Also of note is the 4,760sqm budget hotel (Holiday Inn Express) at Junction 10 which opened in late 2007; however, the new BD4 indicator does not include C1 uses.

3.3.16 Walsall's UDP recognises that more leisure development is needed in the town centre and has identified a site at Walsall Waterfront where the first phase of development by Urban Splash is due to start. The need for leisure development in the town centre is also recognised in the RSS Phase 1 Revision and the emerging Phase 2 Revision.

The Health of Existing Centres

3.3.17 The UDP recognises centres are important not only for shopping but also as focal points for many aspects of community life. The overall health of

¹¹ Apart from ancillary or temporary uses.

centres is important if they are to continue to fulfil this role. One way of measuring the health of centres and their relative attractiveness to investors is the level of vacant units, and although this indicator needs to be used with care, the UDP identifies this as a monitoring indicator.

3.3.18 In 2005/06 the Council was able to monitor the vacancies in the town and district centres. For the past 2 years it has not been possible to do the necessary surveys because of changes to the organisation of the council's information resource. Similar changes at the metropolitan level have meant the information is not available from other sources. The council is reviewing its monitoring capability for future years.

3.3.19 Commercial information on the district and local centres is limited, as they are not considered (by institutions and the Valuation Office) to be of interest for commercial property investment. However, some other information is available for Walsall town centre. Figures on retail investment confidence showed investment confidence has been fairly consistent over recent years as indicated by retail yields (which improved by 0.25% from 5.75% between 01/01/07 and 01/07/07 before falling back to 5.75% in 01/01/08, according to the Valuation Office Property Market Report July 2008¹²). More recent information on primary retail rents ('In Town Retail Rents' Wall Charts, Colliers CRE, Summer 2008) show that the Zone A retail rent for Walsall is £120sq.ft. (£1,292sq.m), unchanged since 2002.

3.3.20 The Summer 2007 Report from Colliers, referred to in the 2006-7 monitoring report, indicated that Walsall town centre suffered a fall in prime retail rents of 16.7% over 2006-2007 to £100sqft. In fact, Colliers have now acknowledged that this information was not representative and have revised the 2007 to £120sqft.

3.3.21 At the time of publication market conditions in the UK retail sector had begun to deteriorate markedly due to global economic conditions. This is a major cause for concern and poses new challenges of the borough over the 2008-2009 monitoring year.

¹² In simple terms yield is the annual rental as a percentage of capital value. This indicates the length of time for an investment in the property, with a longer term investment (shown by rent being a smaller percentage of capital value) indicating greater confidence. See http://www.voa.gov.uk/publications/property_market_report/pmr-jan-08/shopping-yields.htm#west_midlands00

Appendix D: Housing






3.4.1 Walsall's UDP Policies H2 and H3 seek to ensure that land is available for housing development, both through the allocation of sites and through "windfalls" (sites that come forward for housing development, which have not previously been identified). Policies H1 and H3 also encourage the renewal of existing residential areas and use of previously-developed land for housing. In addition, the UDP includes policies towards affordable and special needs housing (Policies H4 – H6), and the Council has adopted a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Affordable Housing, which provides further detail on how Policy H4 will be applied.



3.4.2 The UDP also sets out specific requirements on housing density and mix (Policies H9 and H10), in line with the guidance in PPG3, which was in force when the UDP was prepared. Most of the national Core Output Indicators correspond to similar local output indicators identified in the UDP, although there are additional local indicators relating to vacancies, windfalls and housing types and sizes (see Table D1 below).

Table D1: Implementation of LDF Housing Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/08	Action for the Future
UDP Policies H2, H3	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (COI)(H1):</p> <p>COI H2): Housing trajectory showing:</p> <p>(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);</p>	<p>UDP (1991-2011) 10,100 dws gross</p> <p>Performance linked to LDF requirements and targets.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>9,362 (up to 2007)</p> <p>2,100</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>9,953 (up to 2008)</p> <p>(i)2,162 (5 years 2002-07)</p>	

	<p>(ii) Net additional dwellings for the current year (COI H2b);</p> <p>(iii) Projected 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>672</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>n/a</p> <p>Trajectory shows that housing completions are currently exceeding the UDP target.</p>	<p>(ii)-211</p> <p>(iii) 5,422</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>768 dwellings completed (479 inc. conversions) 2006/07. Remainder @ 2007 is 185/yr.</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 housing provision.</p>	<p>275 dwellings per annum on windfall sites (gross)</p>	<p>😊</p> <p>768 dwellings came forward as "windfalls" during 2006/07 (5yr average is 478).</p>	<p>😊</p> <p>581 dwellings (98.3%)</p> <p>(5 yr average = 525)</p>	
UDP Policies H1, H3	LDF Core Output Indicator (H3):	<p>PPG3 target: 60%</p> <p>UDP target:</p>	😊	😊	

	Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land.	95%	100% of dwellings completed 2006/07 were on previously developed land, well in excess of national target.	99.3%	
UDP Policy H1	<p>Local Output Indicator – Housing Vacancies:</p> <p>The reduction of vacancy rates in the existing housing stock.</p>	Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011	 <p>The vacancy rate is 4.6% which is a reduction on last years figure. However, a longer time period is required to understand the underlying trend. (Source: 4,918 total vacant homes / total stock, 108,555)</p>	 <p>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)</p>	
UDP Policy H9	<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (2c) :</p> <p>Percentage of new dwellings completed at:</p> <p>(i) Less than 30 dwellings per hectare;</p> <p>(ii) Between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare; and</p> <p>(iii) Above 50 dwellings per hectare.</p>	<p>PPG3 target:</p> <p>At least 30 dwellings per hectare</p>	 <p>(i) 16% (ii) 34% (iii) 50%</p>	 <p>(i) 16% (ii) 19% (iii) 65%</p>	<p>Note: The UDP allows for some lower density developments (policy H9(b)). Average density of commitments = 50.6 dph (50.8 .in 2007-08)</p>
UDP Policy H10	<p>Local Output Indicator – Housing Types and Sizes:</p> <p>The types and sizes of dwellings built – aim to achieve a</p>	None	Data on dwelling type has now been collected for two years, but a longer time series of data will be needed to establish the	 <p>Data on completions indicates a mismatch between needs and recent</p>	Use development control and policy-making processes to redress balance. In practice it is likely that the

	mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances.		extent to which the UDP policy is being implemented.	building of flats and houses. See table D4 below.	market will do this, anyway.
UDP Policy H4 & Affordable Housing SPD	LDF Core Output Indicator (2d): Affordable housing completions.	184 new affordable dwellings per annum	 Only 74 affordable homes were completed during 2006-07 (up from 2 in 2005/06).	 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.

3.4.3 During 2007/8 performance exceeded targets for overall completions and use of previously-developed land (similar to the 2006/7 performance) and the provision of affordable housing more than doubled on the previous year (with further increases programmed for 2008-11).

New Housing Development

3.4.4 The overall provision for housing land was made in the context of RPG11 (April 1998), and the UDP proposed a local output indicator to measure progress against the RPG11 housing requirement, progress which is now being assessed through the “housing trajectory” required by the Government’s AMR guidance in relation to Core Output Indicator 2a.

3.4.5 The UDP made provision for 10,100 additional dwellings during the period 1991-2011, an average of 505 units per year. During the period 1991-2008, 9,953 dwellings were completed in the borough, leaving a requirement of just 147 units to 2011, so the residual UDP housing target is just 49 dwellings per year.

3.4.6 The housing trajectory below (figure D1.1) shows anticipated progress with house building until 2026. Projected completions for the future are based on the assumption that, following the recession build rates will return to 2007 levels by 2012-13 and then grow by approximately 2-4% per year. Because completions in the UDP period have run well above the UDP / RSS requirement a surplus of 919 is brought forward. There is a sudden increase in target at 2011 and completions increase gradually. The trajectory shows no need for further land release to achieve the target up to 2026. In fact the bottom line would always be negative, but as negative houses do not exist, it is shown as a zero requirement.

3.4.6a Walsall Housing Group (WHG) is engaged in an ambitious demolition and renewal programme. WHG demolished 797 homes in 2007-08 and has a further 657 demolitions programmed for 2008-09. Consequently, the net

outturn for 2007-08 was negative and, in view of the current market, this is likely to be repeated in 2008-09.

3.4.6b Beyond 2008-09 it is anticipated that already funded WHG and other Housing Association development will continue, Black Country Growth Point projects will come forward and there will be some growth in the private sector market.

Table D1.1: Plan period and housing targets

	Start of plan period	End of plan period	Total housing required	Source of plan target
H1	01/04/1991	31/03/2021	10,100 gross	UDP policy H2
H1 (b)	01/04/2006	31/03/2026	11,363 net	RSS 2 Preferred Option (1)

(1) From the Regional Spatial Strategy Phase Two Revision Preferred Option as set out at district level in the Black Country Core Strategy Preferred Options Report (table 3).

Table D1.2: Net additional dwellings, recent and forecast

For AMR table D1.2							
COI H2		H2a	H2b	H2c a	H2c b	H2c c	H2d
Year		Net additional dwellings			Hectares	Target (dwellings)	Forecast (dwellings)
2002-03		354					
2003-04		319					
2004-05		580					
2005-06		293					
2006-07		616					
2007-08			-211				- 211
2008-09	Current			- 331	12.58		- 331
2009-10	1			363	5.23	568	363
2010-11	2			568	9.70	568	568
2011-12	3			654	12.94	568	654
2012-13	4			725	11.71	568	725
2013-14	5			842	19.16	568	842
2014-	6 to 10			2,134			2,134

19							
2019-24	11 to 14			3,156			3,156

The anticipated trajectory is shown with respect to the current and emerging RSS in figures D2.1 and 2.2 below.

Figure D1.1: Walsall Housing Trajectory 2001 – 2026 (current RSS)

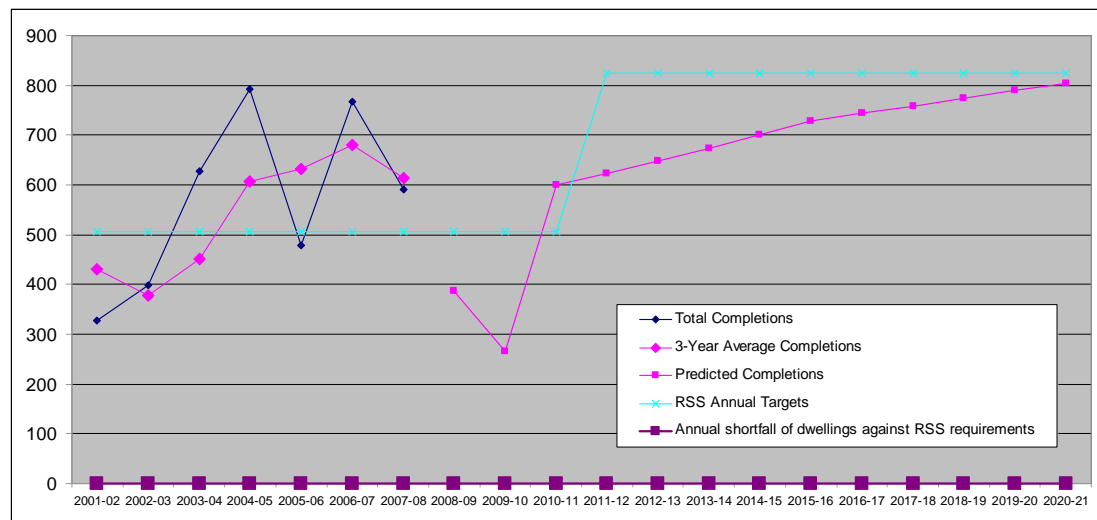
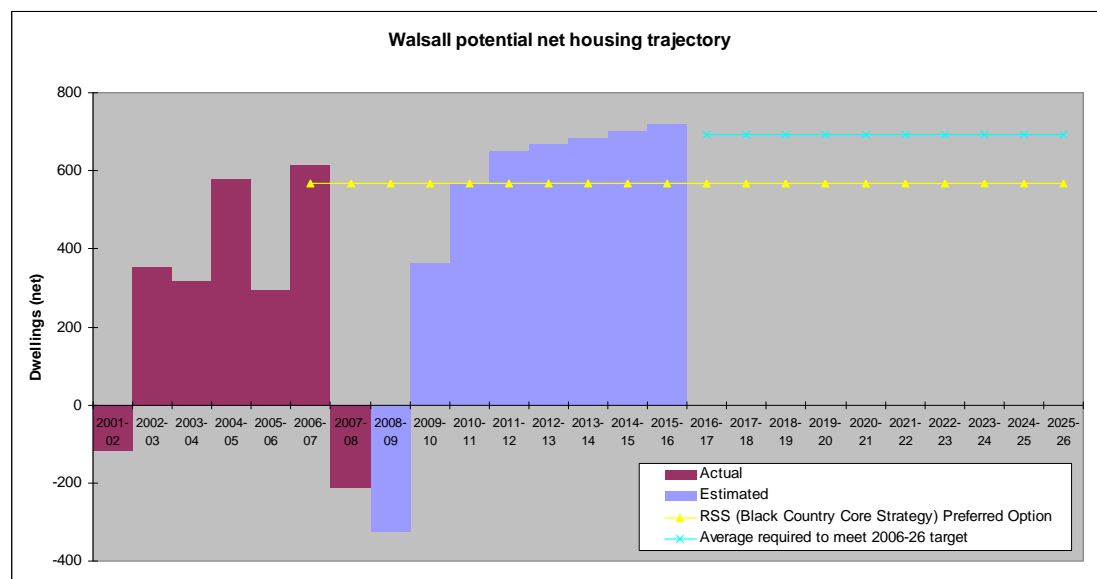


Figure D1.2: Walsall Housing Trajectory 2001 – 2026 (emerging RSS)



PPS 3: Housing - Implications

3.4.7 PPS 3 was published in November 2006. Paragraph 7 says that on publication of this PPS local planning authorities will need to assess and demonstrate the extent to which existing plans already fulfil the requirement to maintain a 5-year rolling supply of deliverable land for housing, particularly in connection with making planning decisions.

3.4.8 Walsall's housing land supply position is summarised in Table D2, below, which also compares the supply with the requirements emerging from

the current RSS Phase 2 Revision. The housing land supply in the borough comfortably exceeds the five-year supply requirement in PPS3.

Table D2: Walsall Borough Housing Land Supply at 31 March 2008

Numbers of dwellings	Unconstrained	Discount	Constrained	Land supply as % of 5-year req't
Commitments	6,295	75%	4,720	
Other known sites	5,470	65%	3,560	
Total constrained capacity			8,280	296%
Total RSS Requirement 2008-2013 (5 years)			3,150	

3.4.9 In addition, over the last six years a very large capacity (7,881 dwellings) has been identified on windfall sites, 1,314 per year have been identified and in the last 5 years (2003-2008) an average of 525 dwellings were built on windfall sites. It is therefore reasonable to assume that windfalls will continue to play an important role in the future. If windfalls were to continue to be identified at just 40% of the recent average rate, then this would provide an additional capacity to accommodate about 2,628 dwellings over the next five years. Table D3 compares the housing land supply position for the borough, without and then with an allowance for windfalls, against the RSS Phase 2 Revision Preferred Option requirements. It can be seen that the requirement is comfortably exceeded.

Table D3: Walsall Housing Land Supply 2008 - Comparison with Options set out in the Emerging RSS Phase 2 Revision

Numbers of dwellings	Unconstrained	Discount	Constrained	Land supply as % of 5-year req't
Commitments	6,295	75%	4,720	
Other known sites	5,470	65%	3,560	
Total constrained capacity			8,280	292%
Total RSS Requirement 2008-2013 (5 years)			2,840	
Windfall allowance			6,571	
Total constrained capacity			14,851	523%

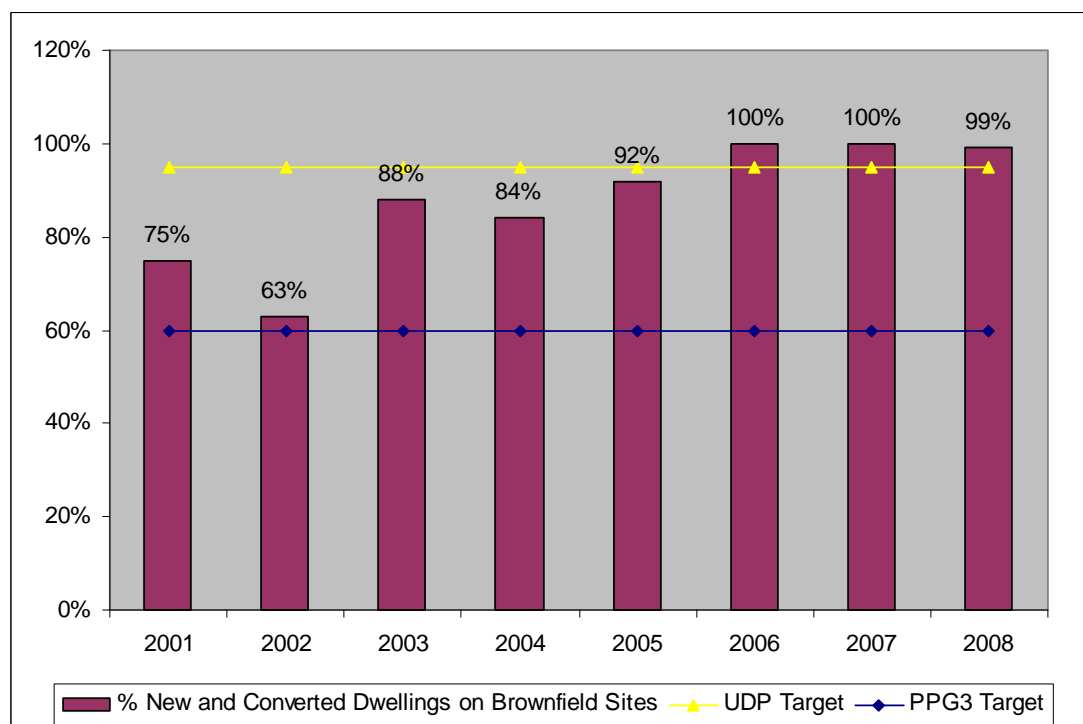
3.4.10 Consequently, there is no immediate concern about the adequacy of Walsall's supply of land for housing. Medium to longer-term concerns are being addressed through the RSS Revision and preparation of the joint Black Country Core Strategy.

Housing Completions on Previously Developed Land

3.4.11 In considering the identified housing land supply and the provision for "windfall" sites in the context of Government guidance in PPG3 (which set a national target for 60% of new dwellings to be on previously-developed land), the UDP set a very ambitious local output indicator target of 95% for the

period 2002-2011. Subsequently, the RSS set a regional target for housing completions on previously-developed sites of 76%, with a specific target of 79% for Walsall 2001-2011. See chart below.

Figure D2: Walsall - Housing Completions on Previously-Developed Land, 2000-01 to 2007-08 (COI H3)



3.4.12 The results show that the Council is exceeding the national and regional targets for housing completions on previously-developed land. In recent years such completions have been consistently above the more ambitious RSS target of 79%, and from 2006 above the UDP target of 95%. There are still some commitments on greenfield sites that may come forward, but the 95% target is attainable up to 2011. However, the Black Country Study has identified capacity that indicates very high proportions of development can be on previously-developed land beyond 2011.

3.4.13 The Council is also seeking to maximise investment in the existing housing stock through the renewal of existing residential areas and by bringing back empty properties into use where possible. The Council's Empty Homes Strategy aims to bring 45 empty homes into use in 2005-06 and 60 in 2006-07. The actual outturn for 2005-06 was 77, and in 2006/7 was 112. In addition Walsall Housing Group is engaged in a programme of renewal including refurbishment and replacement in the New Deal for Communities area, focused on Blakenall, and in Pleck where demolition of the existing tower blocks has been completed.

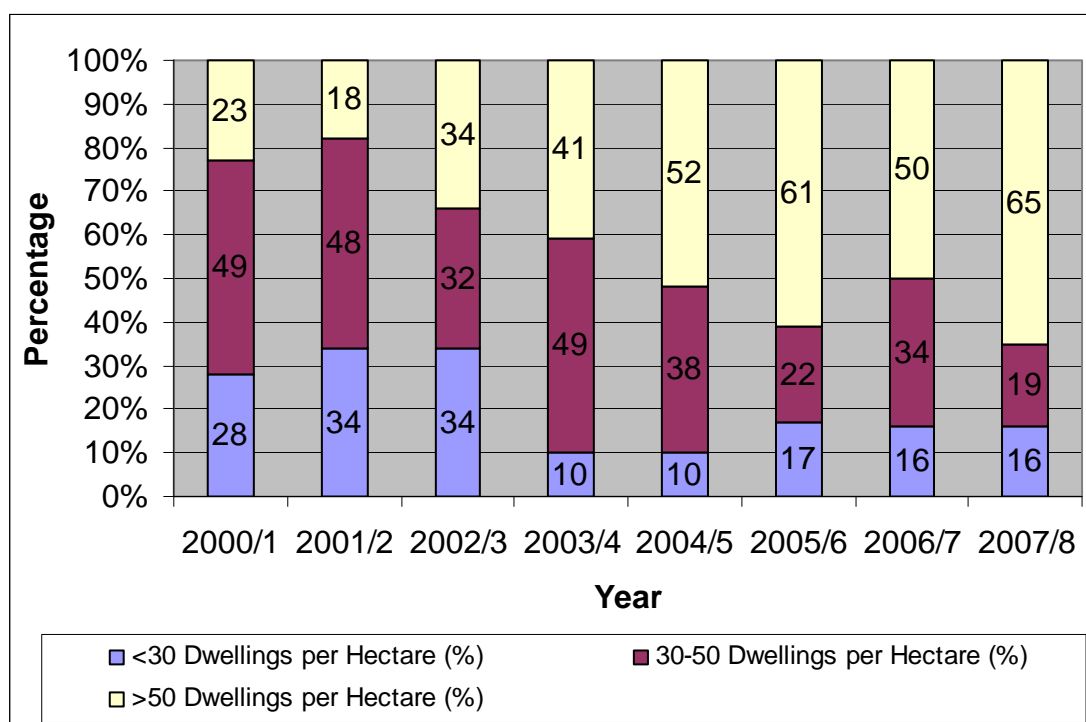
3.4.14 The UDP includes a local output indicator and target to reduce vacancies in the existing housing stock to 3% by 2011. Council Tax figures submitted in the Council's "Local Authority Housing Strategy Statistical

Appendix" showed that, at 1st April 2007 there were 4,918 vacant dwellings (of all kinds, tenures and periods of vacancy) from a total stock of 108,555. This gives a vacancy rate of 4.6%; up from 4.4% in 1995 (though lower than last year's rate of 5.2%). Some vacancies arise from properties vacated in preparation for redevelopment schemes, but this should reduce as demolitions continue. A longer time series is needed to establish the general trend in vacancy levels.

Housing Densities, Sizes and Types

Government policy in PPG3, now PPS3, has sought to increase the density of housing development, to make more efficient use of land. In response to this Walsall's UDP includes a local output indicator with a target to achieve an overall average density of new development of at least 30 dwellings per hectare, which is similar to Core Output Indicator 2d, so these indicators have been combined in this years AMR to simplify the monitoring. The table below shows the densities achieved on housing sites in Walsall since 2001, within the Core Output Indicator bands.

Figure D3: Average Density of Housing Developments in Walsall, 2000/01 – 2007/08



3.4.16 The results show that the densities of new housing developments have been increasing in recent years. There remains a need for some relatively low density development to support the economic development of the borough. The average density of new homes completed in 2007-08 was 48.0 and the average density of commitments at 2008 was 66.7 per hectare, considerably above 30 dwellings per hectare.

3.4.17 The UDP includes a monitoring indicator relating to the achievement of a mix of sizes and types of housing. The context for this is provided by the Housing Needs and Demand Study (HNDS) 2007, which, in broad terms,

indicates a surplus of 1 and 2-bed flats and requirements for 3-bed and larger family houses. Recent data indicates that a large proportion of new development has comprised 1 and 2 bed flats (62% in 2007-08) with a smaller proportion of 3 bed and larger houses (32% in 2007-08). However, changes in the market and the Council's response to the HNDS are likely to lead to a change in emphasis towards larger family houses in the next few years.

Table D4: Sizes and Types of Dwellings Completed in Walsall, 2005/06-2007/8

Dwellings	New build							
	Flats				Houses			
	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+Bed	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+Bed
2005-06	41	195	10	0	1	8	120	77
2006-07	85	298	13	0	2	66	125	116
2007-08	115	255	0	0	3	28	132	58
Dwellings	Conversions							
	Flats				Houses			
	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+Bed	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+Bed
2005-06	14	10	3	0	0	0	0	0
2006-07	0	0	0	0	36	26	1	0
2007-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Affordable Housing

3.4.18 RPG 11 (1998) estimated that the West Midlands region would need around 130,000 additional social-sector homes between 1991 and 2011. This helped to provide the basis for the figure of 3,600 affordable dwellings in Walsall over the period to 2011. By 2002, the UDP base date, some 1,658 had been completed, leaving a residual figure of 184 dwellings per year, which has been proposed as an indicative local output indicator for the purposes of the UDP. Subsequently, the RSS (2008) has not set a target for the provision of affordable housing, although it states that the figure of 6,000-6,500 affordable dwellings across the region each year would be used as a basis for monitoring.

3.4.19 Affordable housing is provided in two main ways:

- (i) Through direct provision by Housing Associations and other social landlords; and/or
- (ii) By private housing developers, usually as a result of planning requirements placed on private sector housing developments through, for example Planning Obligations or Section 106 Agreements.

UDP Affordable Housing Requirement

3.4.20 Taking account of completions to 2002 (a total of 1,658 from all sources), the remaining requirement for the UDP period to 2011 is 1,656, an average of 176 a year, which is close to the UDP target of 184. In Walsall the

number of new dwellings that have been completed by housing associations since 2001 is set out in the table below.

Table D5: Affordable Homes Completed in Walsall 2001 – 2008

Monitoring Year	Social rent	%	Intermediate	%	Total Completions	%
2002 - 2003	65	100	0	0	65	100
2003 - 2004	65	100	0	0	37	100
2004 - 2005	16	100	0	0	14	100
2005 - 2006	2	100	0	0	2	100
2006 - 2007	51	69	23	31	74	100
2007- 2008	93	54	78	46	171	100
TOTAL 2001/- 2008	314	76	101	76	415	100

Source: Annual Regional Planning and Housing monitoring returns

3.4.21 This shows that provision of homes for social rent had been falling. Private developers had not constructed any (intermediate) affordable homes up to March 2006 as the Council had no statutory policy in place that could deliver development by then.

3.4.22 However, due to the adoption of the Affordable Housing SPD in July 2005, Section 106 Agreements have provided for many private units. These began to come forward in 2006-07, and delivery has more than doubled in 2007-08. Further increases are anticipated in 2008-09 on the back of funding from the Housing Corporation / Homes and Communities Agency.

Affordable Housing SPD

3.4.23 Between adoption of the SPD in July 2005 and March 2007 Section 106 Agreements were concluded overwhelmingly to provide intermediate housing in the western part of the borough and this has continued since. The SPD was considered not flexible enough to enable or encourage a better balance between intermediate and social rented homes. A revised SPD was adopted in April 2008.

Table D6 Performance Against Monitoring Indicators in the Council's Affordable Housing SPD

Monitoring Indicators	Performance 2007/08
Number of affordable homes	90
Average % of affordable housing on all developments	12.6%
% of developments where the 25% target was achieved	27%
% of provision by property type	Flats: 69% Houses: 31%

3.4.24 These figures are for affordable housing negotiated in signed Section 106 agreements, not completions. These provided for 90 affordable homes on 7 sites. There were also applicable sites where affordable housing was not achieved, due to abnormal costs.

Accommodation for Travelling People

UDP policy H8: Accommodation for Travelling People was not extended and is therefore no longer in force.

COI H4 requires monitoring of how many net additional pitches for gypsies and travellers have been provided. A refurbishment programme is underway to complete phases 2 and 3 of the Willenhall Lane Gypsy caravan site and, when complete in autumn 2008, this will provide 19 pitches, 2 more than previously existed on the site. However, this was in progress at the end of the monitoring year and table D7 below sets out progress in 2007-08.

Table D7: Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)

COI	Permanent	Transit	Total
H4	0	0	0


A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for the Black Country was published in July 2008. It includes Walsall's requirements for Walsall for sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. This will be monitored from 2009.




Appendix E: Transport





3.5.1 The policies in Chapter 7 of Walsall's UDP seek to improve accessibility for everyone by promoting public transport, walking and cycling whilst continuing to cater for journeys that need to be made by private car; and, by locating facilities in the right places, make journeys shorter and easier. They also seek to manage traffic growth and improve the highway network for all users. The effectiveness of these policies is measured through Local Output Indicators relating to modal share and road traffic, and Core and Local Output Indicators relating to car parking provision and accessibility.

3.5.2 The West Midlands Local Transport Plan (LTP) for 2006/07 – 2010/11 supports the policies in the UDP by setting out specific transport schemes which will enable the integration of transport and land use planning as fully as possible. Because transport movements cross administrative boundaries, collecting some data purely within local authority areas is not meaningful. Therefore, some indicators are currently being monitored for the West Midlands Metropolitan Area as a whole and data is not disaggregated down to individual authority level.

Table E1: Implementation of LDF Transport Policy

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/7	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policy T13	Core Output Indicator 3a: Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards set out in UDP.	UDP Parking Standards: Non-residential development: Range from 1 space per 14m ² to 50m ² of gross floor space	 <u>Industrial</u> : 100% compliant <u>Office</u> : 100% <u>not</u> compliant (a single development), shift patterns are justification <u>Retail</u> : 100% compliant <u>Leisure</u> : 88% compliant (one developer has provided more parking than was proposed)	Deleted	This Core Indicator has been deleted from this years AMR in accordance with the latest published guidance

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/7	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policy 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>	 A very high level of new residential developments are located within 30mins of key public services. The % is also high for new residential developments within 15mins of GP surgeries and schools	 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.
UDP Policy 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 bedroom houses; 3 spaces for housing above this; flats: 1.5/2 spaces per unit	 It has not been possible to monitor provision in housing schemes.	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.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/7	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policy 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 milestone for 2006/7 308m. Actual performance 304.92m. These figures are for the whole conurbation. (different figures because of new methodology, which will be used to retrofit figures from previous years) (Source: CEPOG Support Team)</p> <p>In Walsall, biennial cordon surveys have shown 9% increase in bus trips into Walsall Town Centre during the morning peak between 2001 and 2005.</p>	 <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>	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
UDP Policy 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 to 32.8 million. These figures are for the whole of the conurbation. (Source: Centro Annual Review)</p> <p>43% increase in footfall at Walsall Station between 2001 and 2005/6</p>	 <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.

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/7	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policies 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. Projection is 101.8 based on index of 100 at 2004.	<p style="text-align: center;">?</p> <p>The methodology has changed from a 25 point traffic survey to a 1500 point survey – making comparison between 2005 and 2006 data impossible.</p> <p>06/07 = 215</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <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 improvements.</p>
UDP Policy T9	Local Output Indicator: Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target	Revised LTP Target is 93, based on trajectory of index of 100, to reach 101 by 2010. No proportional figures available.	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>During 2006/7 there was a further increase to 110.8 (Source: CEPOG Support Team) Figures are for the whole conurbation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>Index for the Met Area for 2007/08 is reporting at 109.01, which is significantly above target trend line. (Source: CEPOG Support Team) Figures are for the whole conurbation.</p>	<p>Continue to implement good quality facilities for cyclists as part of the authority's capital works programmes and through developers via planning conditions.</p>

Transport Infrastructure

3.5.3 The Highway Network: UDP Policy T4. Walsall Town Centre Transport Package is a £17million package of highway infrastructure improvements around the northern and north-western side of Walsall Town Centre. Approval for funding was received in April 2006. Works commenced in July 2006, with an anticipated completion date in Spring 2009. Town Hill network improvements were built by the private sector at a cost of £2m to serve Phase 1 of St Matthew's Quarter in Walsall Town Centre. The improvements also serve the 51 Showcase Bus Route between Walsall Town Centre and Birmingham City Centre.

3.5.4 Highway Improvements: UDP Policy T5. Route 51 Bus Showcase was fully completed in August 2008, with consultation and preparatory work done for the Route 301 scheme between Walsall and Bloxwich. Implementation of this scheme will commence in 2009. Additional design work and consultation is also being progressed on the Route 404 between Walsall and West Bromwich and the Route 529 between Walsall and Wolverhampton. Subject to securing funding, both are anticipated to be constructed during 2009. The 51 Route has also received Red Route

treatment during 2008, the aim of which is to reduce congestion impacts by aiding general vehicular movement and providing assistance for buses. The 529 Route will also incorporate Red Route initiatives in 2009.

3.5.5 The Rail and Metro Network: UDP Policy T3. There have been no large rail infrastructure improvements in Walsall in 2007/08. The borough's first Rail Services and Facilities Improvement Plan was unanimously approved by Full Council in November 2007. The Plan brings together into a single document the Council's policies and aspirations for rail in Walsall, together with the proposals of key partners and stakeholders involved in the rail industry. The Plan has impacted on Network Rail's business plan and Centro's proposals, whilst supporting the work done towards the Regional Transport Priorities Challenge. It has also stimulated a study investigating the viability of reintroducing passenger services on the current Walsall to Sutton Freight Line. Three separate studies have also been commissioned by Centro into reintroducing the recently discontinued Wolverhampton to Walsall service. Centro and Walsall Council are also in the process of starting a study to ascertain how to progress the Rapid Transit aspirations identified in the Walsall Rail Services and Facilities Improvement Plan.

Walsall Town Centre Transport Patterns

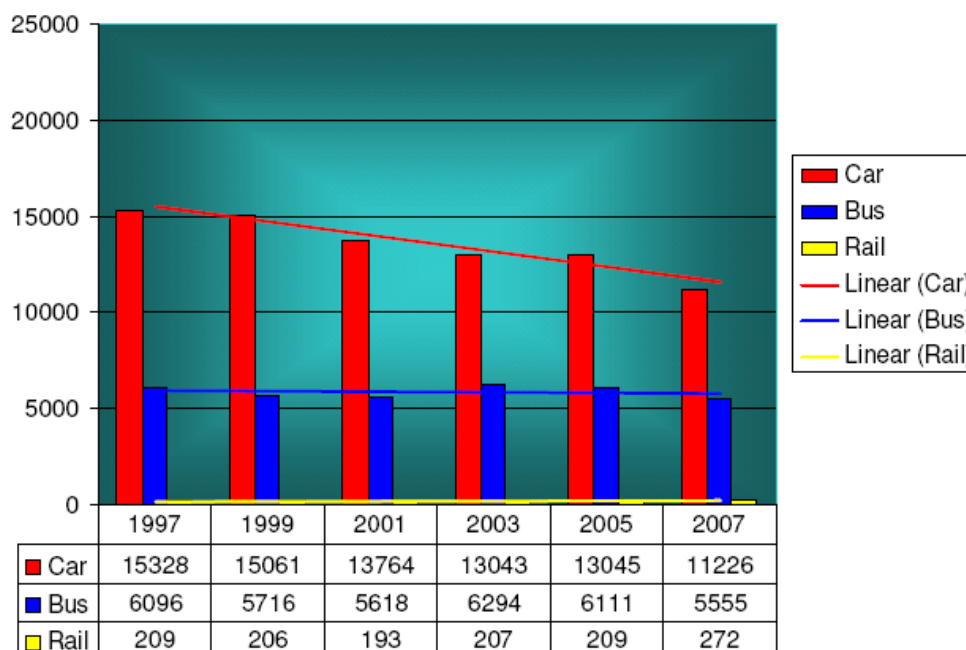
3.5.6 The 2006 West Midlands Local Transport Plan has set the following targets, which are monitored in part by biennial cordon surveys around the 9 centres and a biennial programme of 1500-pt automatic traffic counts done across the whole Met Area:

- Increase a.m. peak trips by public transport into the 9 LTP Centres from 32.73% (2005/06) to 33.8% by 2009/10
- No increase in a.m. peak traffic flows into the 9 LTP Centres between 2005/06 and 2010/11.

Transport – Main Headlines

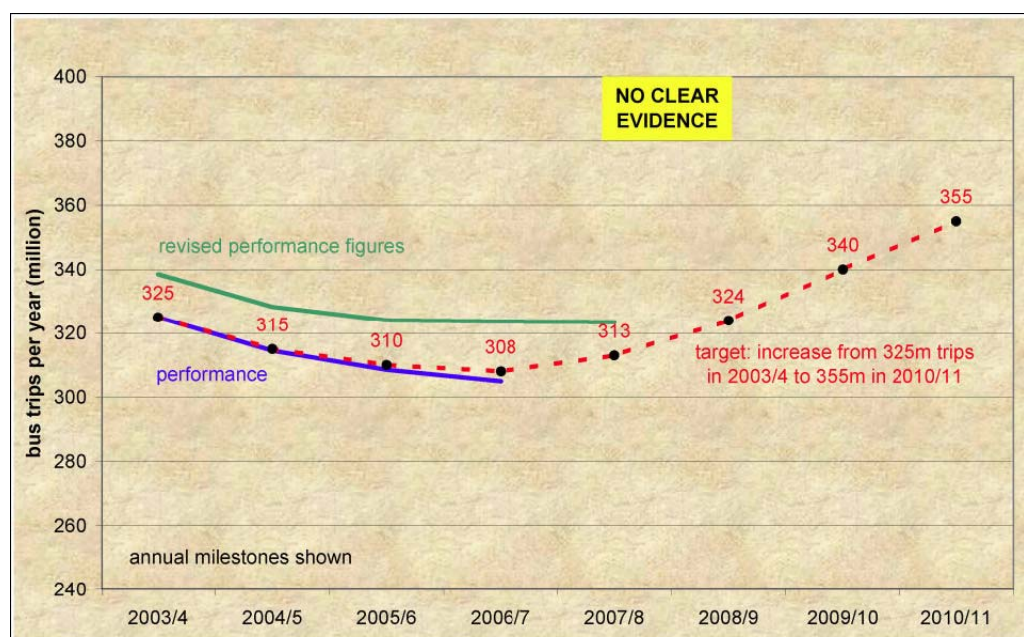
3.5.7 **Road Traffic.** The current Local Transport Plan (LTP) for the West Midlands Metropolitan Area proposes a target of **no more than a 7% increase in traffic mileage between 2004 and 2010**. The methodology for monitoring this indicator has changed from an annual 25-point survey process to a more statistically robust biennial 1500-point survey process. Unfortunately, this change has been so fundamental that comparisons between to different data sets have not been possible. Therefore, there is no historic data set to establish current performance. This will be resolved as the Met Area carries on with the 1500-point approach in future years.

Figure E1: Walsall 2007 Town Centre Cordon Report: Total Inbound Person Trips 07:30 – 09:30



3.5.8 Bus Services: UDP Policy T2. This is supported by the current **Local Transport Plan Target BVPI102 to increase the number of bus journeys from the base of 325 million trips in 2003/04 to 355 million trips by 2010/11.** Figure E2 shows that bus usage across the Met Area is currently on track to meet the LTP Target. However, the details of this target are yet to be agreed with Government Office, as the method of determining the bus usage figures have been changed by Centro, which has increased historic figures by approximately 15 million trips per annum.

Figure E2: West Midlands LTP Target BVPI102 Bus Patronage Target and Trajectory



3.5.9 Centro has been working with National Express West Midlands on the development of six new Partnership Routes, some of which have served parts of Walsall. The first six months of 2008 saw an increase of over 11% in use of these routes compared with the same period in 2007. This is already ahead of the 10% target for this initiative, mainly thanks to frequent marketing. Four further routes are planned for 2008/09. Centro has also adopted a Strategic Bus Action Plan, as an 'umbrella' for the Authorities to develop existing partnership working and pursue new partnership opportunities.

3.5.10 Local biennial cordon surveys around Walsall Ring Road have shown a 9% drop in in-bound bus trips across the cordon in the morning peak (07:30 – 09:30) from 6111 person trips in 2005 to 5555 person trips in 2007. However, this has to be seen in the context of a 12% overall drop in person trips between 2005 and 2007 into Walsall. The main reason for this fall is felt to be the disruption to the highway network around the town centre while the £17million Town Centre Transport Package Major Scheme is being implemented. In actual fact, the proportion of overall trips made by bus into Walsall during the morning peak in 2007 has increased to 32.6% from 31.6% in 2005. These figures are shown in Figure E1.

3.5.11 **The Rail and Metro Network: UDP Proposal T3.** The LTP target for train journeys has been dropped. However it is interesting to note that the number of rail journeys in the metropolitan area is continuing to climb steadily by around 7% a year. In 2000/1 22.8 million journeys were made by train, and in 2007/8 this figure had risen to 35.5 million. The 2007/8 figures represent an increase of 56% on 2000/01, giving an 11.6% rise from 2006/7 (31.8 million). Within Walsall, footfall at Walsall Station continues to increase, with a 21% increase between 2004 and 2008.

3.5.12 Walsall's Rail Service and Facilities Improvement Plan has impacted on Network Rail's business plan and Centro and London Midlands proposals. Partnership studies between Walsall, Centro and Network Rail are now proposed to look at how the aspirations of Walsall's Plan can be implemented.

3.5.13 **Car Parking: UDP Policy T7 and T13.** UDP car parking standards for non-residential development are in line with those set out in PPG13 Annex A. The UDP also includes car parking standards for residential development, which are in line with the guidance in the new PPS3. There is a UDP monitoring indicator relating to compliance with the residential parking standards in Policy T13.

3.5.14 Although the UDP policy includes specific parking standards, it also states that developers must demonstrate that there is adequate parking in all cases so that the development can meet its own needs and that there will be no adverse effects on highway safety and the environment (UDP Policy T13A, 1.). The Council may therefore judge that in some cases the car parking provision may justify being above or indeed below the maximum standards as set out in the UDP for these uses. Such a policy is in line with PPG13 paragraphs 51, 54 and 56. This means that in practice, all developments comply with the local planning framework, even though in some cases the level of parking provision may not be in line with the specified standards.

3.5.15 Monitoring Car Parking provision, as identified in previous AMR's has been difficult. The main problem is that car parking provision is regarded as a matter of detail, and is often subject to amendment either through reserved matters or through minor amendments to approved schemes. This is a particular feature of large, complex town centre and edge-of-centre developments that take time to come to fruition.

3.5.16 At the present time, the Council does not have the resources or monitoring arrangements to easily analyse data on car parking provision within all permitted schemes. This year's guidance for the production of Annual Monitoring Reports has deleted the need to report against Core Indicator: *"Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards set out in UDP"*. In addition, within last years AMR we recommended the deletion of our Local Indicator: *"Percentage of completed new housing development with car parking provision in line with standards in Policy T13"*. We have therefore not reported against these indicators within this report and do not intend on reporting against them in future years.

3.5.17 The Council owned car parks in Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston and Willenhall have the same number of spaces as reported in the 2007 AMR. For Walsall Town Centre, last years AMR reported a total number of car parking spaces of 4636. The table below shows the number of spaces in the town centre as of September 2008:

Figure E3: Parking Provision and Usage in Walsall Town Centre

Off road car park spaces:

Owned by	Long/short stay	Number of Spaces
Council	Short	512
Council	Long	906
Private (but public use)	Short	3218
Private (but public use)	Long	0
Total		4636

Type	Number
Disabled (council owned only)	39
Carer and child	27
All Disabled (as of April 2006)	136

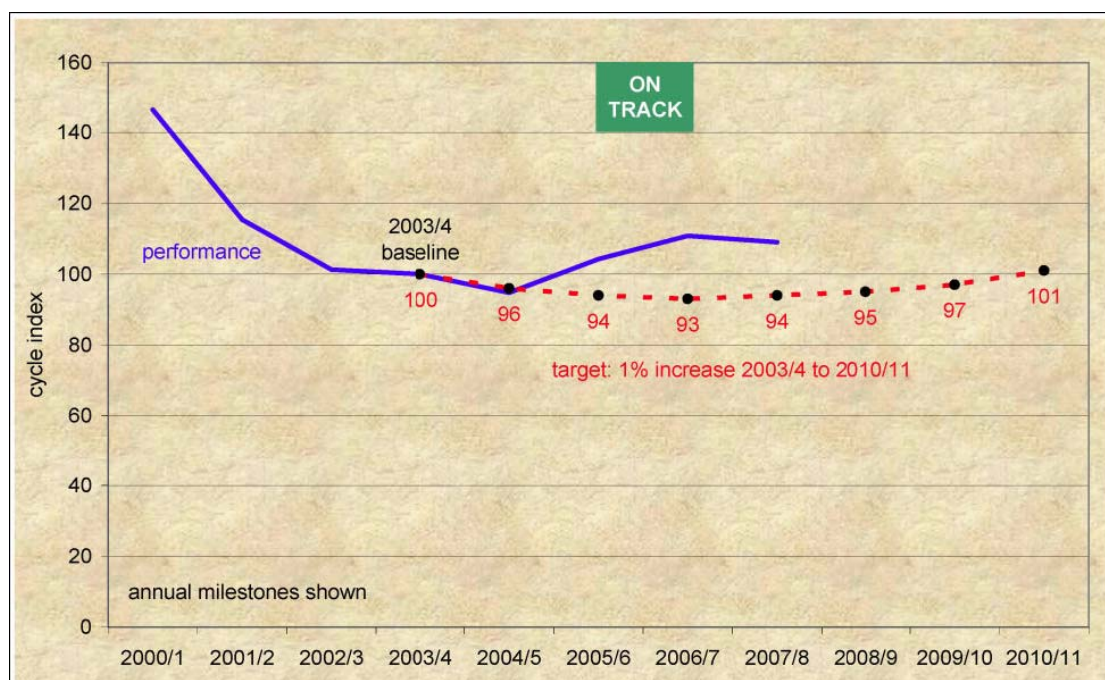
Off road car park Usage (publicly available):

Type	Average for Wed	Average for Fri (Market Day)	Average for Sat (Weekend)
Council Short Stay	67%	68%	46%
Council Long Stay	74%	69%	49%
Private Short Stay	56%	63%	67%
Total Spaces	61%	65%	61%

3.5.18 Walking: UDP Policy T8. Because of the difficulties of measuring this mode of transport, there is no target and performance indicator. However, the 2001 census states that 10% of employees travelled to work on foot. This was the same proportion as nationally. In 2007/08, Walsall has continued with its programme of capital infrastructure schemes to encourage walking through new road crossings, new pedestrian and walking links, including links to schools and a programme of training for children.

3.5.19 Cycling: UDP Policy T9 is supported by **2006 LTP target LTP3 for a 1% increase in the cycling index between 2003/4 and 2010/11.** The trajectory shown in Figure E4 below allowed for a drop below 100 in the early years to reflect the change in direction needed from previous performance.

Figure E4: West Midlands LTP Target LTP3 Cycle Usage Index



3.5.20 Performance against the target trajectory has been positive since 2004/05, showing steady increases in cycle trips. However, the latest figures for the Met Area showed a slight fall from 110.8 in 2006/7 to 109.01 in 2007/8. However, this is still above the LTP target trajectory.

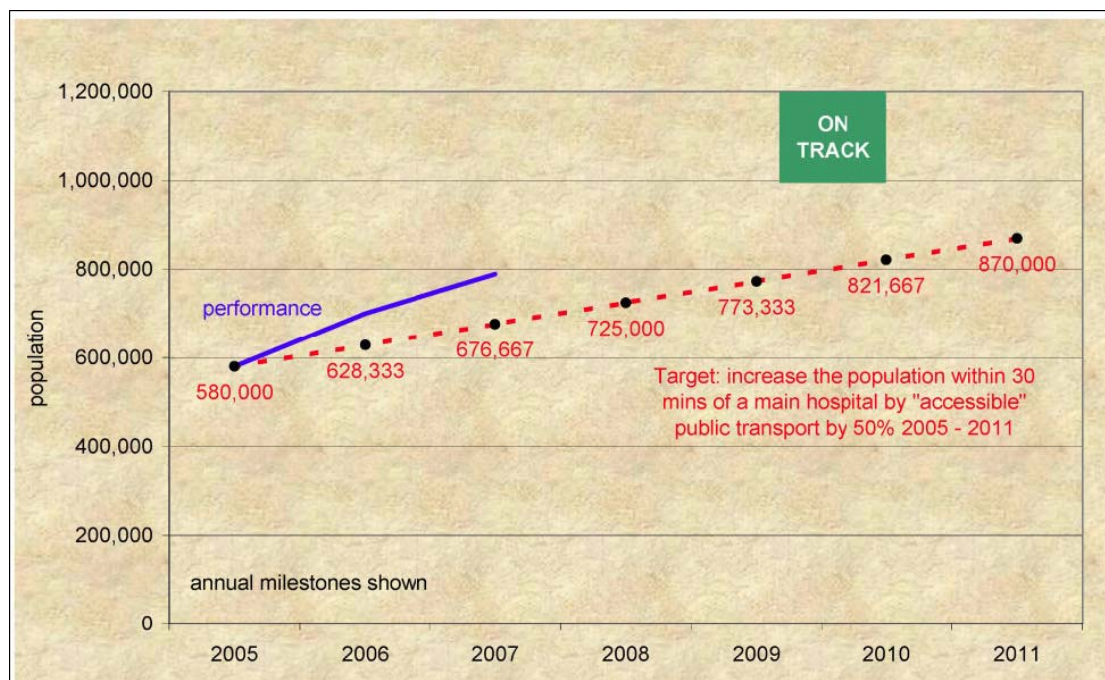
3.5.21 Walsall has supported the aim of increasing levels of cycling by implementing infrastructure and developing safer routes to school, along with cycle training schemes and publicity.

3.5.22 School Travel Plans: target required by **Regional Spatial Strategy: 100% of schools to have travel plans by 2011.** The West Midlands Met Area has been performing well above trajectory for this indicator for many years now (see Figure E5 below). However, Walsall had been falling behind neighbouring authorities in terms of the percentage of overall approved school travel plans in place. Through the LAA process, funding was secured for four additional full time posts. As of March 2008 Walsall is exceeding the LTP

3.5.27 These accessibility policies are supported by Walsall Local Accessibility Action Plan (LAAP). Accessibility planning is a key priority of Walsall's Local Strategic Partnership, who endorsed the LAAP in February 2008. They have tasked themselves with the responsibility for its further development and delivery.

3.5.28 The Core Output Indicator "The amount of new residential development within 30 minutes of key services" has not been reported in this AMR, in accordance with the latest guidance. However, the authority is still monitoring levels of accessibility jointly on a Metropolitan Area level through the West Midlands LTP Indicator LTP1b *"Increase the total population within thirty minutes inter-peak travel time of a main NHS hospital by 'accessible' public transport by 50% by 2011"*. This links in closely with the National Indicator NI175 Access to Services and Facilities. Figure E6 below shows that the Met Area is on track to meet that target.

Figure E6: LTP1b Target for Increased Access to Health Facilities



3.5.29 Within Walsall, the following Bus Showcase schemes have contributed to the improvement in this indicator, as defined in the WMLTP Delivery Report:

- Birmingham to Walsall (51 Route)
- Walsall to Stourbridge (311 Route)
- Walsall to Stourbridge via Darlaston (313 Route)

Appendix F: Leisure and Community Needs







3.6.1 The UDP includes a range of policies aimed at providing a range of sport, recreation, leisure, entertainment, arts, education, health and other community facilities in accessible locations within Walsall. Policies LC1 – LC5 relate to outdoor recreational facilities such as open space, children’s play areas, allotments, and green corridors, referred to as “greenways.” These policies seek to protect existing urban open space from redevelopment, and where appropriate they require new developments to incorporate outdoor recreational facilities or accommodate them where such proposals are allocated in the UDP.

3.6.2 There are similar policies relating to sporting facilities such as sports pitches and indoor sporting facilities (Policies LC6 – LC7), other community facilities (Policy LC8) and development adjacent to or near to canals (Policy LC9). In addition, the strategic policy statement makes it clear that new residential developments will only be permitted where there is adequate provision for healthcare and education.

3.6.3 All of the targets for the leisure and community indicators have been achieved in and up to 2007/8 – showing that the policies are performing well and being properly applied (see Table F1, below).

Table F1: Implementation of LDF Leisure and Community Needs Policies

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/8	Action for the Future
UDP Policy 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) now managed to Green Flag Award Standard (announced July 2007)	☺ 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.
UDP Policy LC1	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development.	UDP Target: 100% protection	☺ 100%	☺ 100%	Continue to apply planning policies.

UDP Policy 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 2006/07 (but 43.62 Ha completed previously – see comment below)	 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).
UDP Policy LC5	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Length of greenways constructed.	UDP Target: At least another 10 miles (16 km) 2002 - 2011	 None in 2005-06 (but 48 km previously).	 None in 2007-08 (but 48 km previously).	Continue to explore opportunities with landowners and developers.
UDP Policy LC6	UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of playing fields / sports pitches.	UDP Target: 100% protection	 100%	 100%	Continue to apply planning policy.

Open Space Provision and Management

3.6.4 The UDP includes two monitoring indicators that relate to open space. One indicator relates to the protection of existing urban open space from inappropriate development in line with UDP Policy LC1, and the other relates to the provision of new urban open space during the plan period, in line with UDP Policies LC1 and LC2.

3.6.5 UDP Policy LC1 seeks to retain and enhance urban open spaces and Policy LC2 proposes an additional 26.44 hectares of open space over the plan period, i.e. up to 2011. In 2005-07 no new space was created, more than 43 hectares of new open space was created earlier in the UDP period.

Greenspace Strategy 2006 - 2011

3.6.6 In 2006 the Council prepared a Greenspace Strategy (GSS) to guide the management of open spaces in the borough. An Audit of existing open space with analysis of quality, value, distribution and proximity to people was completed in October 2005 and this informed preparation and implementation of an Urban Open Space SPD. The key issues identified were:

- The Borough has broadly the right amount of open space, though distribution is variable.
- The quality and value of open spaces is broadly comparable to similar authorities for which information is available, though there is considerable variation within the Borough.
- Some parts of the Borough were relatively well provided for, but some areas had poor or no proximity to unrestricted open spaces.

- In all parts of the Borough improvements were needed in terms of quality and/or value of open spaces.
- Provision for children and young people was considered to be well below the standard required.

3.6.7 The Green Flag scheme, run by the Civic Trust, relates to standards for the management of public open spaces. Unfortunately, as the planning system has little or no influence on the management of existing open spaces, we do not regard this as a very good measure of the performance of LDF policies. Nonetheless, the Greenspace Strategy includes a programme for further Green Flag awards and this has been retained as a local indicator.

3.6.8 Palfrey Park was awarded Green Flag status in 2007 and this standard was retained in 2008. Further, Willenhall Memorial Park also achieved Green Flag status in 2008.

Greenways

3.6.9 UDP proposal LC5 states that the Greenway network will continue to be created, enhanced and safeguarded. The length of greenways constructed is a local output indicator. The total length of greenways completed up to the end of March 2008 had reached 48 km, considerably in excess of the UDP target.

Sports Facilities

3.6.10 UDP Policy LC6 aims to prevent the loss of sports pitches to inappropriate development, and there is a monitoring indicator attached to this. During 2007/08, no developments have occurred or planning permissions been granted that would lead to the loss of any sports pitch.

Canals

3.6.11 There are about 46 kilometres of canals in the borough. All have “remainder” status, but it is hoped that future developments will encourage upgrading to “cruiseway” status.

3.6.12 During the year a new footbridge with ramps was constructed over the Wyrley and Essington Canal at Brownhills providing better access to the canalside and improved pedestrian, cycle and wheelchair access between recent residential development and the district centre.

Urban Open Space SPD

3.6.13 A Supplementary Planning Document for Urban Open Space was prepared following the Audit for the Greenspace Strategy. The purpose of the SPD is to explain how the Council will implement UDP policy LC1, which requires house builders to ensure adequate open space provision; specifically to set out the amount of money they will be asked to contribute towards off-site provision or improvements.

3.6.14 The indicators included in Table F2, below, are listed in the SPD. No specific targets have been agreed. However, a target that could be used in future AMRs for this, and the Healthcare and Education SPDs could be; that there is full contribution on all qualifying developments. As the Urban Open

Space SPD was only adopted in April 2006, the figures cannot be analysed against any trend data.

Urban Open Space SPD

3.6.13 A Supplementary Planning Document for Urban Open Space was prepared following the Audit for the Greenspace Strategy. The purpose of the SPD is to explain how the Council will implement UDP policy LC1, which requires house builders to ensure adequate open space provision; specifically to set out the amount of money they will be asked to contribute towards off-site provision or improvements.

3.6.14 The indicators included in Table F2, below, are listed in the SPD. No specific targets have been agreed. However, a target that could be used in future AMRs for this, and the Healthcare and Education SPDs could be; that there is full contribution on all qualifying developments. As the Urban Open Space SPD was only adopted in April 2006, the figures above cannot be analysed against any trend data.

Table F2: Monitoring the Council's Urban Open Space SPD

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 where we believe money has been spent 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%

3.6.15 Due to the House Price Inflation rise the formula for contributions will need to be adjusted.

Other Community Facilities

3.6.16 Both the Healthcare and Education SPDs have been adopted since 2007. These SPDs expand on the relevant UDP policies 8.9 and 8.8. Their primary aim is to explain the cost of providing for primary healthcare (General Practice) and primary and secondary education to meet the needs of occupiers of new homes.

Healthcare SPD

Table F3: Monitoring the Council's Healthcare SPD

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

3.6.17 No funds have been collected for Healthcare however some Healthcare contributions have been agreed and will be included in next year's AMR.

Education SPD

Table F4: Monitoring the Council's Education SPD

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	We believe that the funds have contributed to projects at the Frank F Harrison Engineering College and the Joseph Leckie Community Technology College
Costs of providing school places ¹ and the Walsall Multiplier	Primary £12,257 Secondary £18,649 Walsall Multiplier is 0.94 Therefore: Primary £11,521.58 Secondary £17,530.06

¹ National average cost, to be multiplied by the relative cost of school provision in Walsall.

3.6.18 There have been more contributions for Education than Healthcare because, based on UDP policy and Education Walsall's formulae, the council had already entered into a number of Section 106 agreements with house builders.

3.6.19 Both of these SPDs were adopted relatively recently and it takes time for the full effect to show. No meaningful analysis can be carried out on the information available at this stage.

Appendix G: Minerals

Policy Context

3.7.1 The UDP minerals policies (in Chapter 9 of the plan) seek to safeguard areas of mineral extraction, whilst ensuring minimal environmental impact and the reclamation and restoration of minerals working sites. The UDP includes policies relating to the extraction of sand and brick clay, the only minerals actively worked at present, and also sets out specific criteria for the working of open cast or deep coal mines.

3.7.2 The UDP does not include any local output indicators relating to minerals. The effectiveness of these policies is currently monitored through the Core Output Indicators for aggregates and the new Local Output Indicator for brick clay identified in 2006/07 (see Table G1, below). The existing UDP minerals policies were prepared in the context of the mineral policy guidance available at the time and are now somewhat out of date as national policy guidance has changed.

3.7.3 It is recognised that the UDP minerals policies need to be reviewed in the light of the new guidance. Most of the UDP policies provide guidance on restoration and extension of existing quarries, and therefore remain relevant. However, there are three main areas where the UDP policies are not entirely consistent with the guidance, and therefore need to be reviewed. These are as follows:



- Mineral safeguarding/ mineral safeguarding areas (MSAs)
- Maintaining adequate and steady supplies of minerals, particularly sand and gravel and brick clay
- Safeguarding of facilities that are or have the potential to be used for the sustainable transport of minerals

3.7.4 The Black Country Core Strategy (currently in preparation) is expected to replace the UDP strategic policy statement on minerals and possibly also some of the specific minerals policies M1 – M9. Together with RSS policy and national policy guidance, the Core Strategy will provide a framework for the safeguarding and supply of minerals up to 2026 and beyond. However, detailed MSA boundaries will need to be defined in another DPD and the Core Strategy will need to explain how and where this will be done.



3.7.5 The existing RSS minerals policies are being reviewed as part of the RSS Phase 3 Revision (draft Project Plan published in November 2007¹³). It is understood that the RSS Phase 3 Revision will cover safeguarding of regionally important mineral resources, future supplies of construction aggregates and future brick clay provision.

¹³ For further information about the RSS Phase 3 Revision see WMRA website:
http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/RSS_Revision/RSS_Revision_Phase_3.aspx

Table G1: Implementation of LDF Minerals Policies

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/08	Action (addressing the underperformance of strategy)
UDP Minerals Strategic Policy Statement, UDP Policies M2, M3	LDF Core Output Indicator M1 (formerly 5a): Production of primary land won aggregates.	Current RSS Policy M2 sets out aggregates apportionments for the West Midlands Met. Area for the period 2001– 2016: 0.506 million tonnes of sand and gravel per annum (up to 2016)* * Walsall currently contributes around 10% of this (50,000 tonnes per annum); Solihull contributes the remaining 90%.	 No information available for Walsall. The latest WMRAWP annual survey shows that in 2005 sand and gravel production in the West Midlands County area was around 0.58 million tonnes . This is slightly higher than the RSS target/ apportionment. However, around 90% of this was probably produced in Solihull. Permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County have been declining since 2002.	 No information available for Walsall. The latest WMRAWP annual survey shows that in 2006 sand and gravel production in the West Midlands County area was around 0.55 million tonnes . Most of this would have been produced in Solihull, and Walsall's contribution may have been even lower than in 2005, given the limited permitted reserves available. Permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County were still declining in 2006. At	<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 and national policy guidance will be applied to any future applications for the extraction of sand and gravel.

			At December 2005, the West Midlands County area had a sand and gravel landbank of only 4 years, which is less than the 7 year landbank required by MPS1. Most of the permitted reserves were in Solihull. Recent survey work carried out for the Black Country Core Strategy suggests that there are less than 150,000 tonnes of permitted sand and gravel reserves remaining in Walsall.	December 2006 the West Midlands County area had permitted reserves of around 1.6 million tonnes, providing a 3.1 year landbank. The position has since improved due to a new permission for an extension to Berkswell Quarry in Solihull, though no new permissions have been granted in Walsall. As a result of this, at December 2007 the West Midlands County had around 4.2 million tonnes of permitted reserves (a landbank of around 8.3 years).	
UDP Minerals Strategic Policy Statement	LDF Core Output Indicator M2 (formerly 5b): Production of secondary/ recycled aggregates.	None specific to Walsall. The following assumption applies to the West Midlands region:*	?	?	<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

		<p>“alternative” sources between 2001 and 2016, i.e. 5.87 million tonnes per annum</p> <p>*This assumption has been built into the regional aggregates apportionment.</p>	<p>only reliable information available is for the West Midlands region as a whole. This indicates that in 2005, the West Midlands region produced around 4.45 million tonnes of recycled aggregate and around 0.42 million tonnes of other material (including secondary aggregate)¹⁴</p>	<p>mechanism for collecting data at a local level on an annual basis. Regional data for 2005 has not been updated although errors in the figures quoted in the 2007 AMR and 2007 AMR Technical Appendix have been corrected.</p>	<p>store, treat and process CD&EW, and promote the use of alternatives to primary aggregates in new developments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>UDP Strategic Policy Statement, 9.10, UDP Policies M4 – M8</p>	<p>Proposed New Local Output Indicator:</p> <p>Supply of clay to brickworks</p>	<p>Targets:</p> <p>MPS1 requires MPAs to make provision for a stock of permitted reserves of clay to brickworks, sufficient to provide for 25 years of production.</p>	<p></p> <p>Evidence gathered for the Black Country Core Strategy indicates that, at March 2007, only one of Walsall’s three brickworks had a 25 year supply of Etruria Marl.</p>	<p></p> <p>No change to position in 2006/07. Further discussions with manufacturers have confirmed this. Discussions will continue during 2008/09 to identify potential new sources of 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

¹⁴ **Erratum:** The 2007 AMR and AMR Technical Appendix said that secondary aggregates were 0.61 million tonnes. This was an error caused by double-counting due to the inclusion of some figures relating to arisings.

					<p>out an effective mechanism for monitoring future supply, production and usage of clays for each works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the meantime, the UDP policies and national policy guidance will be applied to any future applications for the extraction of brick clays.
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3.7.6 In 2008 the regional planning body consulted mineral planning authorities in the West Midlands on the scope of the Phase 3 Revision and Walsall Council contributed to the joint response made by the West Midlands Planning & Transportation Sub-Committee. The Black Country authorities will continue to engage with the RSS process to ensure that the Black Country Core Strategy is consistent with the emerging revisions to the RSS.

3.7.7 The national and regional aggregates guidelines are also under review, and a consultation document was published by CLG in April 2008.¹⁵ Walsall Council responded to this consultation. The final guidance may change the regional aggregates apportionments. Any changes will be reflected in the RSS Phase 3 Revision and the Core Strategy if the final guidance is issued in time.

3.7.8 Until such time as the UDP policies have been replaced by an up-to-date policy framework through the Core Strategy and RSS Phase 3 Revision, the existing UDP policies will continue to be applied alongside national policy guidance and RSS minerals policies, and their effectiveness monitored.

Technical Evidence for Minerals

3.7.9 As with other topics, effective monitoring of minerals policies depends on the availability of up-to-date and reliable technical information relating to primary mineral production, landbanks of permitted reserves and production of alternatives to primary minerals such as secondary and recycled aggregates. Unfortunately, because of the way that it is collected, and because some of it is commercially sensitive, published information about minerals is usually only available at sub-regional or regional level.

3.7.10 Walsall currently has five active quarries extracting sand and gravel and brick clay (Etruria Marl). There is still a current application for an extension to one of the existing sand and gravel quarries. Table G2 below lists all current active mineral workings in Walsall, and in the case of clay extraction sites, the brickworks associated with them. This reflects information submitted by the Council in response to the 2008 Annual Minerals Raised Inquiry (AMRI) Survey, and research undertaken to inform the Black Country Core Strategy.

3.7.11 Walsall also contains coal and fireclay resources. In addition to the active quarries, there is a dormant permission dating back to the 1950s for extraction of coal from Brownhills Common (designated as a SINC in the UDP). This is subject to review under the Environment Act 1995, which means that extraction cannot commence until a schedule of modern conditions has been submitted and agreed by the Council. It has been recorded as a dormant permission in the 2008 AMRI survey.

3.7.12 Surveys of aggregates are carried out every year by the West Midlands Regional Aggregates Working Party (WMRAWP). Every fourth year, the survey is undertaken in conjunction with the BGS Aggregate Minerals Survey. The latest survey for which data is available is the 2006 WMRAWP survey, which will be

¹⁵ Draft Revised National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England 2005 – 2020 (April 2008), CLG:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/mineralsandwaste/mineralpolicystatements/mineralsplanningguidance/aggregatesprovision2020/>

published shortly.¹⁶ The information in the survey relates to the calendar year 2006 (i.e. 1 January – 31 December) rather than to the monitoring year (i.e. 1 April – 31 March).

Table G2: Active Quarries and Brickworks in Walsall, March 2008

Quarry	Quarry Operator	Product	Brickworks/ Manufacturer
Aldridge Quarry, Birch Lane, Stonnall	Cemex	Aggregate (Sand and Gravel)	N/A
Branton Hill Quarry, Branton Hill Lane, Aldridge	Bliss Sand & Gravel	Aggregate (Sand and Gravel)	N/A
Highfields South Quarry, Off Lichfield Road, Shelfield	Cory	Brick Clay (Etruria Marl)	Aldridge Works (Ibstock)
Sandown Quarry Stubbers Green Road, Aldridge	Wienerberger	Brick Clay (Etruria Marl)	Sandown Works (Wienerberger)
Dumblederry Farm (Atlas) Quarry, Stubbers Green Road, Aldridge	Ibstock	Brick Clay (Etruria Marl)	Atlas Works (Ibstock)

3.7.13 Walsall Council has also been undertaking further technical work on minerals as a background to developing the Black Country Core Strategy. A survey of permitted reserves was commissioned from Scott Wilson early in 2007 (this was done concurrently with the regional landfill capacity survey commissioned by WMRA), and a minerals background paper was also published alongside the Issues and Options paper in August 2007. These reports have been published on the Black Country Core Strategy website.¹⁷

3.7.14 The Council has also been meeting with operators active in the area, to check the current position at each site. In 2007 the Black Country authorities also commissioned consultants RPS to undertake a study into the extent of mineral resources and potential for further mineral extraction, to inform the Core Strategy Preferred Options. The study was completed in March 2008 and this is also now published on the Core Strategy website.¹⁸

¹⁶ This will shortly be published on the DCLG website at:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyimplementation/managedaggregatessupply/regionalaggregateworking/westmidlandsrawp/>

¹⁷ For details visit the Black Country Core Strategy website at:
<http://blackcountrycorestrategy.dudley.gov.uk/what-is-the-joint-core-strategy-about/evidence>

¹⁸ See note 11 above.

Core Output Indicator M1 (formerly 5a) - Production of Primary Land Won Aggregates

3.7.15 The UDP states the Council will work with other authorities to maintain sub-regional aggregates apportionments and landbanks of permitted reserves (UDP paragraph 9.9). MPS1 requires mineral planning authorities (MPAs) to make provision for aggregates in line with the RSS sub-regional apportionments. They are expected to maintain a landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves equivalent to at least 7 years' worth of production at the rates assumed in the apportionment. The current sub-regional apportionments for sand and gravel are set out in Policy M2 of the RSS.

3.7.16 The RSS sand and gravel apportionments relate to the West Midlands County area as a whole,¹⁹ and there is no indication as to how much of the apportionment should be met by Walsall. The current sub-regional apportionment for the period 2001 - 2016 equates to 0.506 million tonnes of sand and gravel per annum.

3.7.17 Table G3 below summarises the West Midlands County area's performance 2003 – 2006 with regard to sand and gravel sales (used as a proxy for production), permitted reserves and landbanks. The data is based on the latest WMRAWP surveys, which tend to lag behind the date of the information by 2 – 3 years. The latest survey data available covers the year 2006²⁰ and relates to the four active quarries in Solihull and Walsall. It has to be presented in collated form to protect commercial confidentiality.

Table G3: Sand and Gravel Production and Supplies in the West Midlands County Area 2003 – 2005

Year	Annual Sales for Aggregate Purposes (tonnes)	Permitted Reserves @ December (tonnes)	Landbank @ December (years)
2003	499,000	3,020,000	5.97
2004	520,000	2,500,000	4.94
2005	580,000	2,000,000	4.00
2006	550,000	1,600,000	3.10

Source: WMRAWP Annual Monitoring Reports (2006 data is draft only)

3.7.18 The data in Table G3 suggests that sand and gravel sales have been increasing slightly since 2003 and that they are currently just above the rate assumed in the West Midlands County area apportionment (0.506 million tonnes per annum). Over the same period, permitted reserves decreased by a corresponding amount because no new permissions were granted. At December

¹⁹ The West Midlands County area = the seven Metropolitan authorities of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

²⁰ The 2006 WMRAWP Annual Report had not been published at the time this AMR was prepared, so the 2006 data derives from a draft circulated to MPAs and other RAWP representatives for comment.

2006 permitted reserves stood at only 1.6 million tonnes, well below the levels required to maintain a 7-year landbank.

3.7.19 However, the supply situation in March 2008 was not as bad as the 2006 data suggests, because Solihull MBC granted a new permission for an extension to Berkswell Quarry in 2007. It is estimated that this will yield a further 3.2 million tonnes of sand and gravel, resulting in a significant increase in permitted reserves. Table G4 below provides an estimate of the West Midlands County area sand and gravel supply at December 2007, in the light of this new planning permission and recent trends in production.

Table G4: Sand and Gravel Resources in the West Midlands County Area – Estimate of Supply @ December 2007

Source of Supply	Permitted Reserves (million tonnes)	Source of Evidence
Permitted Reserves identified @ December 2006 likely to remain @ December 2007 ²¹	1.0	WMRAWP Annual Report 2006 (forthcoming)
Additional Permitted Reserves coming forward since December 2006	3.2	Solihull MBC - Planning Permission for Extension to Berkswell Quarry
TOTAL	4.2	

Source: West Midlands Metropolitan Area Section 4 (4) response to the RSS Phase 3 Revision, July 2008.

3.7.20 Assuming that permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County area were around 4.2 million tonnes at the end of December 2007, the area currently has a landbank of around **8.3 years** (4.2 million tonnes ÷ 0.506 tonnes requirement = 8.3 years), which is in line with the minimum 7-year requirement. However, this is only a snapshot of the position @ December 2007, based on the best information available at present. Solihull provides almost all of the current supplies identified. Walsall has less than 150,000 tonnes of permitted reserves remaining according to a survey carried out in March 2007.²²

3.7.21 Although the West Midlands County area appears to have a 7-year landbank at the moment, this does not in itself provide the kind of steady, long-term supply of sand and gravel required by national policy guidance. Long-term supplies of aggregates can only be secured through provision made in LDFs. At

²¹ Around 1 million tonnes of the 1.6 million tonnes supply identified @ December 2006 is likely to remain @ December 2007, assuming sales/ production were around 0.6 million tonnes in 2008 in line with performance 2003 – 2006 (see Table G3).

²² A Survey of Current Mineral Reserves in the Black Country: Published Report (March 2007), Scott Wilson for the Black Country Authorities, available on Black Country Core Strategy website: <http://blackcountrycorestrategy.dudley.gov.uk/what-is-the-joint-core-strategy-about/evidence>

the present time, Solihull MBC and Walsall Council are the only authorities contributing to the West Midlands County area sand and gravel apportionment and both authorities have made provision for future supplies up to 2011 in their existing “saved” UDPs.

3.7.22 The Solihull UDP 2006 provides for around 91% of the Metropolitan area’s current sand and gravel supply through a combination of identified permitted reserves and allocations. The Walsall UDP 2005 seeks to provide the balance by identifying mineral safeguarding areas around the existing quarries at Branton Hill Lane and Birch Lane (Aldridge), where extraction may take place, subject to compliance with UDP Policies M2 and M3.

3.7.23 In the short-term, national policy guidance and the “saved” UDP policies will continue to provide a basis for determining new applications for sand and gravel extraction in Solihull and Walsall. At March 2008 there were two current applications for sand and gravel extraction:

- Proposed Extension to Branton Hill Quarry (Walsall)
- Proposed Extension to Meriden Quarry (Solihull).

If both applications are approved, they would provide a further 2.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel, increasing the level of permitted reserves to 6.7 million tonnes. This would extend the landbank to 13.2 years.

3.7.24 However, the UDPs do not address sand and gravel supplies much beyond 2011. The Core Strategies for the Black Country and Solihull will plan for a longer time-frame, and will set annual production targets for sand and gravel up to 2026 and beyond. These targets will need to be set at levels that are consistent with the RSS apportionment.

3.7.25 The evidence available at present suggests that the West Midlands County cannot demonstrate a 7-year landbank of sand and gravel reserves up to and beyond 2026, based on the current RSS apportionment. The Core Strategies will therefore need to identify locations where future sand and gravel extraction can take place to address the identified shortfalls.

3.7.26 It cannot be assumed that the RSS apportionment will stay the same as it is now as the national and regional aggregates guidelines and the RSS minerals policies are both under review.²³ Nor can it be assumed that Solihull can continue to provide 90% of the West Midlands County’s total supplies. Although Solihull will probably still provide most of the sub-regional supply, Walsall may be expected to contribute a greater proportion than is currently assumed in the UDPs.

3.7.27 Solihull and Walsall are expected to press on with their Core Strategies in advance of the RSS Phase 3 Revision, and to plan for future supplies of sand and gravel against a background of uncertainty over future requirements. Future production targets for Solihull and Walsall will therefore have to be flexible enough to accommodate any changes to the regional and sub-regional apportionments.

²³ For details see CLG website and WMRA website:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/mineralsandwaste/mineralpolicystatements/mineralsplanningguidance/aggregatesprovision2020/>

http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/RSS_Revision/RSS_Revision_Phase_3.aspx

For the sake of consistency, they must also be a matter for negotiation between the authorities themselves, neighbouring MPAs, the regional planning body and other relevant stakeholders.

3.7.28 Further stakeholder engagement will continue during 2008/09 in relation to the Black Country Core Strategy, with a view to establishing realistic and deliverable targets for sand and gravel production in Walsall up to 2026 and beyond. The Black Country authorities will also continue to engage with the RSS Phase 3 Revision process to ensure there is a consistent approach towards technical evidence on aggregates. It will also be important to achieve as much consensus as possible on the production targets to be included in Core Strategies.

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

3.7.29 The UDP seeks to encourage the sustainable use of minerals (UDP Strategic Policy Statement 9.4), whilst MPS1 seeks to encourage the greatest possible use of alternatives to primary aggregates, in line with current targets. Secondary and recycled aggregates are also expected to make a significant contribution towards mineral supplies within the West Midlands region.

3.7.30 The current national and regional aggregates guidelines²⁴ assume 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 to primary aggregates. This equates to around 5.87 million tonnes per annum. These assumptions have been carried forward into the current West Midlands RSS.

3.7.31 The main sources of “alternatives” to virgin aggregates are as follows:

- CD&EW processed by Mobile Recycling Crushers – these process most of the CD&EW arising nationally (around 52%). They are used for on-site processing and treatment of CD&EW resulting from the demolition of buildings and site remediation to produce recycled aggregates.
- Secondary Aggregates - produced by Mines and Quarries, e.g. spoil, clay waste, etc. arising as by-products from the extraction of other minerals.
- Other Materials - arising from industrial and engineering processes such as slag and bottom ash, which can also be used as aggregates.

The “other” materials referred to above have been treated as secondary aggregates in the absence of any clear definition in the Update of Core Output Indicators published in July 2008.

3.7.32 At present there is no up-to-date, reliable source of information on secondary and recycled aggregates production in Walsall. The main sources of information currently available are as follows:

- National surveys commissioned by CLG;
- Regional surveys carried out from time to time by WMRAWP;

²⁴ National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England 2001 – 2016 (2003), available on CLG website:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/mineralsandwaste/mineralpolicystatements/mineralsplanningguidance/guidelinesaggregates2016/>

- Potential local sources – the only realistic source of data likely to be available in the foreseeable future is Site Waste Management Plans (SWMP).

Below we have summarised the current state of the information available from these sources, and its limitations.

National Surveys

3.7.33 At present, the only published sources of information on production of aggregates from secondary and recycled sources are national surveys of CD&EW arisings and use of alternatives to primary aggregates. These surveys have been carried out every two years since 1999 and give a broad indication of production of secondary and recycled aggregates nationally and regionally. However, they do not provide information at individual local authority level. The latest published survey is for 2005.²⁵ Data for the West Midlands region 2001 – 2005 is summarised in Table G5 below.

3.7.34 The 2005 survey estimated that there were around 96 mobile crushers operating in the West Midlands region. During 2005, the region was estimated to have produced around 4.45 million tonnes of secondary/ recycled aggregate, 0.47 million tonnes of recycled soil and around 0.42 million tonnes of aggregates from other (secondary) sources – **a total of around 5.34 million tonnes**. This is less than the 5.87 million tonnes per annum of “alternative” materials assumed in the RSS.

3.7.35 Although sub-regional estimates for Birmingham and the Black Country are included in the 2005 survey, they are not considered reliable and should be treated with caution. Bearing this in mind, the survey estimated that in 2005, Birmingham and the Black Country produced around 1.51 million tonnes of recycled aggregates and around 0.18 million tonnes of recycled soil, and around 0.19 million tonnes of other materials, a total of around 1.88 million tonnes of alternatives to primary aggregates.²⁶

²⁵ Survey of Arisings and Use of Alternatives to Primary Aggregates in England, 2005: Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste and Other Materials (February 2007), Capita Symonds/ WRC for DCLG, available on DCLG website:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningbuilding/planningresearch/researchreports/mineralswasteresearch/constructionwastesurveys/>

²⁶ **Erratum:** The 2007 AMR Technical Appendix quoted a figure of 0.81 million tonnes of recycled soils in error. For source of sub-regional data see 2005 Survey CD&EW Report, Table A11.12.

Table G5: Estimated Production of Secondary and Recycled Aggregate in the West Midlands Region, 2001 - 2005

Year	Secondary Aggregate & Other Materials (tonnes) ²⁷	CD&EW Recycled for Use as Aggregate (tonnes)	CD&EW Screened for Use as Recycled Soil (tonnes)
2001	550,000	3,710,000	570,000
2003	-	4,290,000	647,000
2005	420,000	4,447,000	470,000

Source: Published Surveys of Arisings of CD&EW in England and Wales, 2001 – 2005, Capita Symonds/ WRc for CLG²⁸

3.7.36 If the sub-regional data is in any way indicative (and it should be treated with extreme caution as indicated above), it suggests that the West Midlands County is producing at least 35% of the regional supply of secondary/ recycled aggregates. This is probably an under-estimate given the amount of housing and other demolitions which have taken place in recent years. The data also suggests that at least three-quarters of the aggregates produced in the West Midlands County are likely to be from secondary/ recycled sources (around 1.88 million tonnes, compared to around 0.6 million tonnes of primary sand and gravel - see Table G3 above).

3.7.37 This suggests that recycled CD&EW is making a significant contribution towards the supply of aggregates in Birmingham and the Black Country. This general conclusion is supported by another recent study by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), which focuses on the West Midlands County area.²⁹ Indeed, the WRAP survey assumes that the recovery and recycling of CD&EW for aggregates is already occurring at the optimum rate that is economically viable, and that recovery rates are unlikely to improve much in the future, other than in the case of soils.

Regional Surveys

²⁷ 2001 figure is a sum of the tonnages of different materials **available for use as aggregate** rather than a sum of the tonnages used as aggregate.

²⁸ Available on CLG website – see note 13 above for link.

²⁹ The Sustainable Use of Resources for the Production of Aggregates in England (2006), WRAP, published on Aggregating website:
http://www.aggregain.org.uk/templates/temp_agg_publication_details.rm?id=2298&publication=3337

3.7.38 The most recent WMRAWP Annual Report (2006, forthcoming) does not provide any estimates of secondary or recycled aggregates production for Walsall. Although a survey of recycled/ secondary aggregates was undertaken in 2006, the results were patchy and did not provide any information on production rates within the West Midlands County area.

3.7.39 The WMRAWP Annual Report also includes details of “urban quarry” type facilities operating within the region at December 2006. As this provides only a snapshot of the situation at December 2006, it does not include a new facility developed in Walsall at the end of the 2007/08 monitoring year. At March 2008 the following facilities in Walsall were producing secondary/ recycled aggregate from CD&EW³⁰:

- Bliss Aggregates, Branton Hill Quarry, Aldridge
- Bace Groundworks, Coppice Lane, Aldridge.

3.7.40 There are two other facilities located close to the Borough boundary: Midland Quarry Products at Bescot Sidings in Sandwell, and Coleman & Co. at Great Barr in Birmingham. The Bace Groundworks site is a new facility established early in 2008, which is operated by a local demolition contractor. In addition to these permanent facilities, mobile plant operate within the Borough whenever there is a need for on-site processing of CD&EW arising from demolition or site remediation.

Potential Local Sources of Information

3.7.41 Site waste management plans (SWMP), which became mandatory for all development projects costing more than £300,000 from April 2008, have the potential to provide information on the quantities of materials that are recycled on-site, but only if systems are put into place to collect and collate the data. At the present time there are no such systems in place in Walsall, although steps are being taken to publicise the requirement via the Council’s website. During 2008/09 the Council will also consider whether SWMP should be included on the local validation checklist. However, even if this happens, data is unlikely to be available from this source until 2009/10 at the earliest.

3.7.42 The Black Country Authorities will also need to consider whether the Black Country Core Strategy should include specific requirements for on-site recycling of CD&EW and/ or use of recycled materials in new development projects. If such requirements are included, a mechanism will have to be put into place to collect data from planning applications. This could include requiring applicants to provide SWMP or waste audits as supporting information.

Local Output Indicator – Supply of Clay to Brickworks

3.7.43 The UDP states that the Council will seek to ensure a continuing supply of clay for the local brick industry, subject to there being no overriding environmental constraints that preclude this (UDP Strategic Policy Statement, paragraph 9.10 and UDP Policy M4). MPS1 also requires MPAs to maintain a 25 year supply of clay to brickworks. This suggests that the supply of brick clay should be monitored,

³⁰ A third site in Walsall which is believed to be producing recycled aggregates from CD&EW may not be operating lawfully. Investigations are currently underway.

and that this should be a local output indicator for the Walsall LDF. We have therefore begun to monitor this.

3.7.44 Table G2 above lists the three brick manufacturing plants in Walsall and the quarries that currently supply them. 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 established that at December 2007:

- Atlas Works had a 25-year supply of Etruria Marl
- Aldridge Works had less than 15 years' supply of Etruria Marl
- Sandown Works had less than 15 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.

3.7.45 A planning application and a minor amendment to an existing permission (both submitted in 2008) have further clarified the supply situation at Highfields South Quarry and Sandown Quarry, as follows:

- Landfilling of waste at Highfields South Quarry commenced during the 2008/09 monitoring year;
- Production of clay at Highfields South Quarry will probably cease some time during 2009;
- Sandown Quarry now has less than 5 years' supply remaining;
- During 2008/09 Wienerberger obtained permission to increase imports of clay to Sandown Works.

3.7.46 The evidence shows that **only one out of Walsall's three brickworks currently has a secure 25-year supply of Etruria Marl**. As there is no formal mechanism in place for monitoring supply of clay to brickworks, regular contact with quarry operators and brick manufacturers is crucial to ensure that the evidence base remains up-to-date. Engagement with manufacturers will continue during 2008/09 to establish whether there is scope to identify an area of search and/ or site allocations for brick clay extraction within the Borough.

3.7.47 The outcome of these discussions will then need to be reflected in the Core Strategy, which will need to set out appropriate and realistic targets for brick clay production and supplies to each brick manufacturing plant in Walsall 2006 – 2026, and an effective mechanism for future monitoring. It will also need to identify broad locations containing resources which may be extracted to maintain supplies in the long-term. However, it may not be possible to allocate specific sites.

Appendix H: Waste Management

Policy Context

3.8.1 The waste management policies in Chapter 10 of Walsall's UDP (Strategic Policy Statement and Policy Policies WM1 – WM4) seek an integrated and co-ordinated approach towards waste management, whilst seeking to minimise environmental impacts.

3.8.2 These policies were prepared in the context of:

- PPG10 on Planning and Waste Management, and the Government's "Waste Strategy 2000," which introduced the concepts of the "waste hierarchy," "proximity principle" and Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO), and sought to curb growth in waste production and sets targets for the recycling of municipal waste and the reduction of waste going to landfill³¹;
- RPG11 (April 1998), which explained the principle of the "waste hierarchy" (giving preference to waste reduction, re-use and recovery before safe disposal) and the "proximity principle," under which waste should be handled close to the point where it is generated; and
- Walsall Council's own Integrated Waste Management Strategy, which aimed to provide "a high quality waste management service to all sections of the community which is both effective and progressively more sustainable in environmental terms."

3.8.3 It is acknowledged that the UDP waste policy does not fully reflect the latest national policy guidance. Over time, they will be replaced by policies in the WMRSS Phase 2 Revision and Black Country Core Strategy, both of which are currently in preparation. By the time the next AMR (2009) is prepared, there should be a new framework in place for monitoring waste planning policies in the RSS Phase 2 Revision and the Black Country Core Strategy.



3.8.4 However, until such time as there is clearly defined new policy guidance for waste, which can be regarded as a "material consideration" outweighing the UDP policies, the Council will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the current UDP policies and national policy guidance. Table H1 overleaf summarises performance of policies in 2007/08 against current indicators and targets, compared to last year, and the actions proposed to address underperformance.

³¹ National policy reflects EU policy, notably the Landfill Directive (Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the Landfill of Waste), which sets ambitious targets for the reduction of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill.

Table H1: Implementation of LDF Waste Management Policies

LDF Policy	Monitoring Indicators	Targets	Performance 2006/07	Performance 2007/08	Action (addressing the underperformance of strategy)
UDP Policies 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>RSS Targets for West Midlands Metropolitan Area (not just Walsall), 1998/99 – 2020/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional MSW Recycling/ composting facilities with annual throughput capacity of 781,000 tonnes Additional MSW Recovery (EfW/MRF) facilities with annual throughput capacity of 382,000 tonnes Additional MSW and C&I waste landfill void capacity of 16.65 million tonnes 	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>Several applications for commercial waste management facilities have come forward and there has been an increase in the size and range of facilities. Two new facilities were implemented.</p> <p>New capacity implemented 2006/07:</p> <p>Recycling/ Recovery/ Treatment: 2,500 tonnes + 40,000 litres</p> <p>Transfer: None</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">☺</p> <p>Applications for commercial waste management facilities have continued to come forward. Three new facilities were implemented.</p> <p>New capacity implemented 2007/08:</p> <p>Recycling/ Recovery/ Treatment: 187,320 tonnes</p> <p>Transfer: None</p>	<p>Continue review of UDP waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision and development of monitoring indicators relating to emerging policies.</p> <p>In the meantime, continue to apply UDP policies & national policy guidance. Performance of UDP policy in supporting the development of new waste management infrastructure which would not have detrimental impacts on the environment or on local communities will continue to be monitored through COI W1.</p>



³² **Erratum:** In the 2007 AMR this was reported as having been implemented. This was an error – the facility did not become fully operational until 2008/09.

			<p>Landfill: None</p> <p>Proposals approved in 2006/07 included an oil recycling facility in Brownhills (Green Biodiesel), a new MRF in Aldridge (Greenstar)³² and housing for a tyre shredding facility in Moxley (Credential).</p>	<p>Landfill: None.</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 which will include a new resource recovery park.</p>	
<p>UDP Policies WM1 and W4, 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>National Target - revised target set out in Waste Strategy for England 2007:</p> <p>National Municipal Waste Recovery Target = 53% by 2010*</p>	<p></p> <p>Walsall Performance 2006/07:</p> <p>Total municipal waste arising = 144,505 tonnes³³</p>	<p></p> <p>Walsall Performance 2007/08:</p> <p>Total municipal waste arising = 138,382 tonnes³⁴</p>	<p>Continue review of UDP waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision and development of monitoring indicators relating to emerging policies.</p> <p>In the meantime, apply UDP policy and national policy guidance in support of the Council's current Municipal</p>

³³ Source: Defra Municipal Waste data for 2006/07, Tables 1 and 2.

³⁴ Source: Defra Municipal Waste data for 2007/08, Tables 1 and 2.

			<p>Municipal waste recycled/ composted = 25.21%</p> <p>Municipal waste incinerated or recovered for energy = 9.25%</p> <p>Municipal waste sent to landfill = 65.54%</p> <p>Total municipal waste recovery rate (waste recycled, composted or recovered for energy) = 34.5%</p> <p>Although Walsall's municipal waste recovery rate is continuing to improve the national targets have been revised since 2005/06 and are now more challenging. Recovery rate therefore needs to show significant improvements over the next few years to</p>	<p>Municipal waste recycled/ composted = 29.38%</p> <p>Municipal waste incinerated or recovered for energy = 25.93%</p> <p>Municipal waste sent to landfill = 44.69%</p> <p>Total municipal waste recovery rate (waste recycled, composted or recovered for energy) = 55.3%</p> <p>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>	<p>Waste Management Strategy (MWMS) and emerging proposals to improve household waste collection and manage municipal waste more locally. Performance of UDP policy in supporting Municipal Waste Management Strategy will continue to be monitored through COI W2.</p>
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			achieve the new targets.		
UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.4, 10.6	<p>Local Output Indicator – Waste Management:</p> <p>Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets.</p>	<p>Local Targets:</p> <p>BVPI Targets for 2007/08 (Household Waste):</p> <p>BVPI 82a (recycling) - 15.14%</p> <p>BVPI 82b (composting/ anaerobic digestion) - 13.00%</p> <p>BVPI 82c (recovery for heat/ energy) – 12.00%</p> <p>BVPI 82d (landfill) – 59.75%</p> <p>Statutory Performance Standard for 2007/08 (Household Waste): 24%</p> <p>LATS allocation for 2007/08 (BMW): 73444 tonnes</p>	<p></p> <p>Walsall Performance 2006/07:</p> <p>BVPI 82a (recycling) – 14.17%</p> <p>BVPI 82b (composting/ anaerobic digestion) – 12.20%</p> <p>BVPI 82c (recovery for heat/ energy) – 10.67%</p> <p>BVPI 82d (landfill) – 62.83%</p> <p>Household waste recycling and composting rate: 26.4%</p> <p>BMW sent to landfill: 61800 tonnes</p> <p>The Council has met 3 out of its 4 BVPI targets for household waste management and has exceeded</p>	<p></p> <p>Walsall Performance 2007/08:</p> <p>BVPI 82a (recycling) – 17.47%</p> <p>BVPI 82b (composting/ anaerobic digestion) – 13.62%</p> <p>BVPI 82c (recovery for heat/ energy) – 29.82%</p> <p>BVPI 82d (landfill) – 38.91%</p> <p>Household waste recycling and composting rate: 31.1%</p> <p>BMW sent to landfill: 41194 tonnes</p> <p>The Council has met all 4 of its BVPI targets for household waste management and has significantly</p>	<p>Continue review of waste policies via Black Country Core Strategy and RSS Phase 2 Revision.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Council is proposing to improve its household waste collection services in order to meet short-term targets and objectives. Local performance monitoring may be reviewed in the light of the new set of national indicators, which differ from BVPI in some respects.</p>

			<p>the statutory performance standard for recycling and composting of household waste.</p> <p>It has reduced the amount of BMW going to landfill, exceeding the LATS allocation for 2006/07. It has also "banked" a surplus of credits. However, it will need to do even better during the next three years if it is to meet the target for 2009/10.</p>	<p>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>	
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3.8.5 In July 2008 the CLG published an update on AMR Core Output Indicators³⁵ (COIs). The main changes to the Waste COIs are as follows:

- The COI references have changed from 6a and 6b to W1 and W2
- Clarification to COI W1 (formerly 6a) - there is now a standard list of waste management facility types, linked to those used in the 1-APP standard application form (SAP)
- Clarification to COI W2 (formerly 6b) - municipal waste management types are defined as the categories currently defined by Defra in their waste collection data.

Technical Evidence for Waste

3.8.6 Successful monitoring depends on the availability of up-to-date and reliable technical information. Municipal and household waste management data for each waste planning authority is published annually by Defra on their website.³⁶ This is based on information submitted to Defra by waste disposal authorities. The Environment Agency also publishes information on waste management across all waste streams, based on periodic surveys and returns submitted by operators of licensed waste management facilities.³⁷ However, the Environment Agency does not publish data at individual waste planning authority level, apart from data on hazardous waste.

3.8.7 The local regional office of the Environment Agency is now able to provide more detailed information on inputs of waste at licensed sites. This information has been distributed to waste planning authorities through the West Midlands Technical Advisory Body for Waste (WMRTAB), which has developed the technical evidence on which the emerging WMRSS Phase 2 Revision waste policies are based. This data has been used in the technical reports and background papers for the WMRSS Phase 2 Revision and the Black Country Core Strategy, which are available on the WMRA website and on the Black Country Core Strategy website.³⁸

3.8.8 To develop the evidence base for waste for the joint Black Country Core Strategy, the Black Country authorities commissioned a Waste Planning Study from Atkins in April 2008. The study using readily available data from a variety of sources to establish existing waste management capacity across all waste streams, significant “capacity gaps,” and projected waste arisings up to 2026. The

³⁵ For details see: Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators – Update 2/2008 (July 2008), CLG
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/coreoutputindicators2>

³⁶ See Defra website at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/waste/index.htm>

³⁷ See Environment Agency website at: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/waste/1031954/315439/?version=1&lang=_e

³⁸ See WMRA website:
http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/Technical_Work.aspx and Black Country Core Strategy website: <http://blackcountrycorestrategy.dudley.gov.uk/what-is-the-joint-core-strategy-about/evidence>

study is well underway, and should be completed early in 2009, in time to inform the next AMR.

3.8.9 To assist with future monitoring, the Council has also set up a new waste application database has been set up covering applications received since 2002/03. It is envisaged that this will be further developed and refined during 2008/09, to reflect changes to the way that RSS monitoring data is collected.

Existing Waste Management Capacity

3.8.10 The main source of information on the capacity of waste facilities is the Environment Agency's Regis Assisted Tonnage System (RATS), which records waste management licences and IPPC permits by type/ code, the capacity permitted under each licence or permit, and annual inputs of waste into facilities covered by each licence or permit. However, as this database was designed for the purpose of regulating licences and permits, it does not provide a full picture of waste management capacity or management practices across the Borough. For example:

- RATS does not record total waste arisings, i.e. how much waste was actually produced by households and businesses operating within a particular waste planning authority area;
- RATS does not tell us how much of the waste managed at sites within a particular waste planning authority area was imported into the area from elsewhere;
- RATS does not tell us how much waste arising in a particular waste planning authority area was exported out of the area to be managed elsewhere;
- RATS does not tell us how much of the waste managed in a particular waste planning authority area was managed under exemptions, either at licensed facilities, or at registered "exempt" sites;
- The RATS data for 2006 and 2007 is based on calendar years (January – December) rather than monitoring years (April – March).

3.8.11 As the RATS data doesn't provide a full picture of waste management across Walsall, a direct comparison cannot be made between this data and the Defra WasteDataFlow data on municipal and household waste.

3.8.12 Environment Agency licences are coded into 24 types, which can be split into three broad categories, as follows:

- Landfill (Licence Codes A01 – A08)
- Waste transfer (Licence Codes A09 – A14)
- Recycling, recovery and treatment (Licence Codes A15 – A24).

However, the type of licence does not necessarily reflect the full range of waste management operations carried on at a particular facility. For example, a facility with a licence for a waste transfer station may also be recovering or recycling significant amounts of waste. Similarly, inputs into a landfill facility may not all be entering the landfill site, as if there are pre-treatment facilities in situ significant amounts of reusable or recyclable waste may be recovered. Double-counting may also occur where waste undergoes more than one stage of treatment or

processing at different facilities. The data on inputs can therefore only give us a **very broad indication** of how waste is managed at licensed facilities in Walsall.

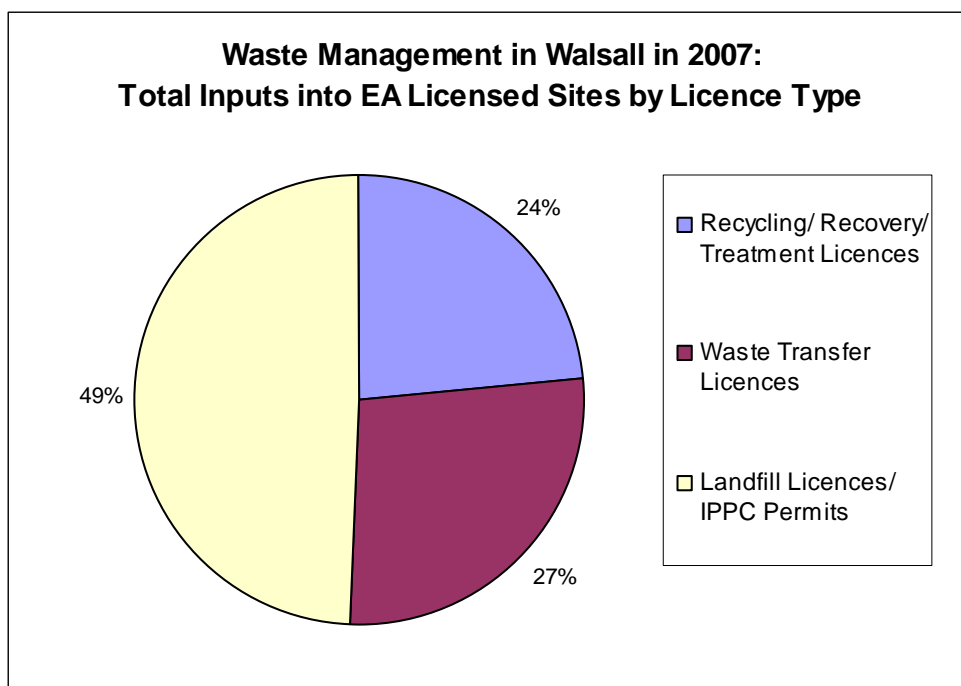
3.8.13 At December 2007 there were more than 60 facilities with operational EA waste management licences in Walsall,³⁹ including:

- 2 municipal waste transfer/ civic amenity sites
- 39 commercial recycling, recovery and treatment facilities
- 20 commercial waste transfer facilities
- 3 landfill sites.

3.8.14 Figure H1 below summarises the proportion of waste managed under EA waste management licences falling within each of the three broad categories, based on the latest Environment Agency RATS dataset (2007). The data shows that during 2007, licensed waste management facilities in Walsall received around 0.92 million tonnes of waste, of which:

- 49% (around 456,000 tonnes) was input into facilities with licences or permits for landfill
- 24% (around 218,000 tonnes) was input into facilities with licences for recycling, recovery or treatment
- 27% (around 246,000 tonnes) was input into facilities with licences for waste transfer.

Figure H1: Waste Management in Walsall in 2007 by Method



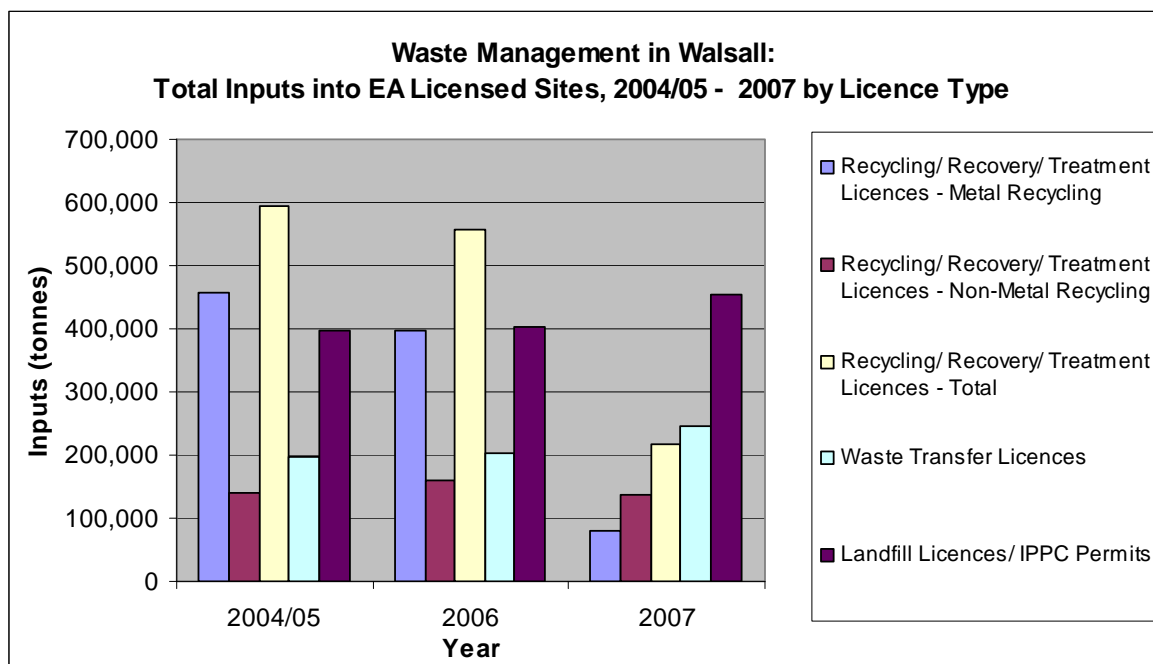
Source: Environment Agency Regis Attached Tonnage System (RATS) 2007 dataset

³⁹ This excludes former/ proposed facilities with “orphaned,” “non-operational” and “pre-operational” EA licences. Where there is more than one EA licence **with the same coding** attached to a particular facility, this has been counted as a single licensed facility.

3.8.15 At first sight, this suggests that a significant proportion of the waste managed in Walsall is sent to landfill. However, this is unlikely to be a true picture because there are a lot of cross-boundary movements of waste which are not reflected in the RATS data. Furthermore, the recycling/ recovery and treatment capacity available in Walsall is probably significantly higher than the RATS data suggests, as the licence categories do not always reflect the full range of operations carried out at a particular site. The input data also does not include waste managed under “exemptions,” and could include some double-counting for the reasons stated above.

3.8.16 The other thing to bear in mind is that one year’s worth of data may not be representative. In Figure H2 below we have therefore compared inputs in 2007 with inputs in 2004/05 and 2006 to see if there is a difference. This shows that in 2006, inputs into facilities operating under recycling/ recovery/ treatment licences were significantly higher, suggesting that they were not operating at their maximum capacity in 2007. It also shows a particularly marked decrease in inputs into sites licensed for metal recycling between 2006 and 2007.

Figure H2: Waste Management in Walsall 2004/05 - 2007



Source: Environment Agency Regis Assisted Tonnage System (RATS) 2004/05 – 2007 datasets

3.8.17 We do not know why inputs into facilities operating under recycling/ recovery/ treatment licences declined between 2006 and 2007. Although the “credit crunch” would have begun to bite by the end of 2007, the data covers the whole of 2007 so this is unlikely to have been the only reason.⁴⁰ Decisions about

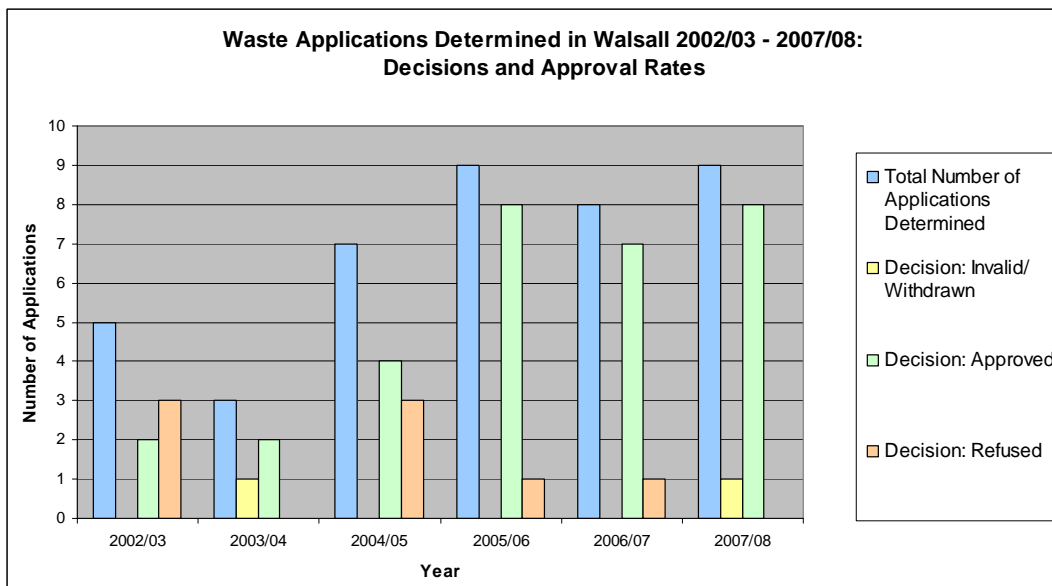
⁴⁰ See article in The Telegraph dated 14 November 2008 for report on recent slump in demand for recyclables: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/businessandecology/recycling/3460785/Recycling-industry-in-a-slump.html>

where and how waste is managed are usually based on the relative cost and convenience of the options available, so if it cost more to manage waste at recycling/ recovery/ treatment facilities in Walsall in 2007 than to send it to landfill or to manage it elsewhere, this could have been a factor. Another possible explanation could be an increase in waste management methods that are exempt from licensing, which would not show up in the RATS data as it only records inputs at licensed facilities.

Core Output Indicator W1 (formerly 6a) – Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities

3.8.18 As was mentioned above, a new waste monitoring database has now been set up which records applications by type, in accordance with the revised COI W1. Figure H3 below summarises the waste applications coming forward in Walsall since 2002/03 and approval rates. The main thing to note is the increase in total applications after 2003/04. Up to April 2008, new applications were continuing to come forward at a steady rate. The approval rate has also increased since 2002/03, and the Council now approves nearly all submitted schemes.

Figure H3: Waste Application Decisions in Walsall 2002/03 – 2007/08



Source: Walsall Council Planning Register/ RSS Monitoring Schedules

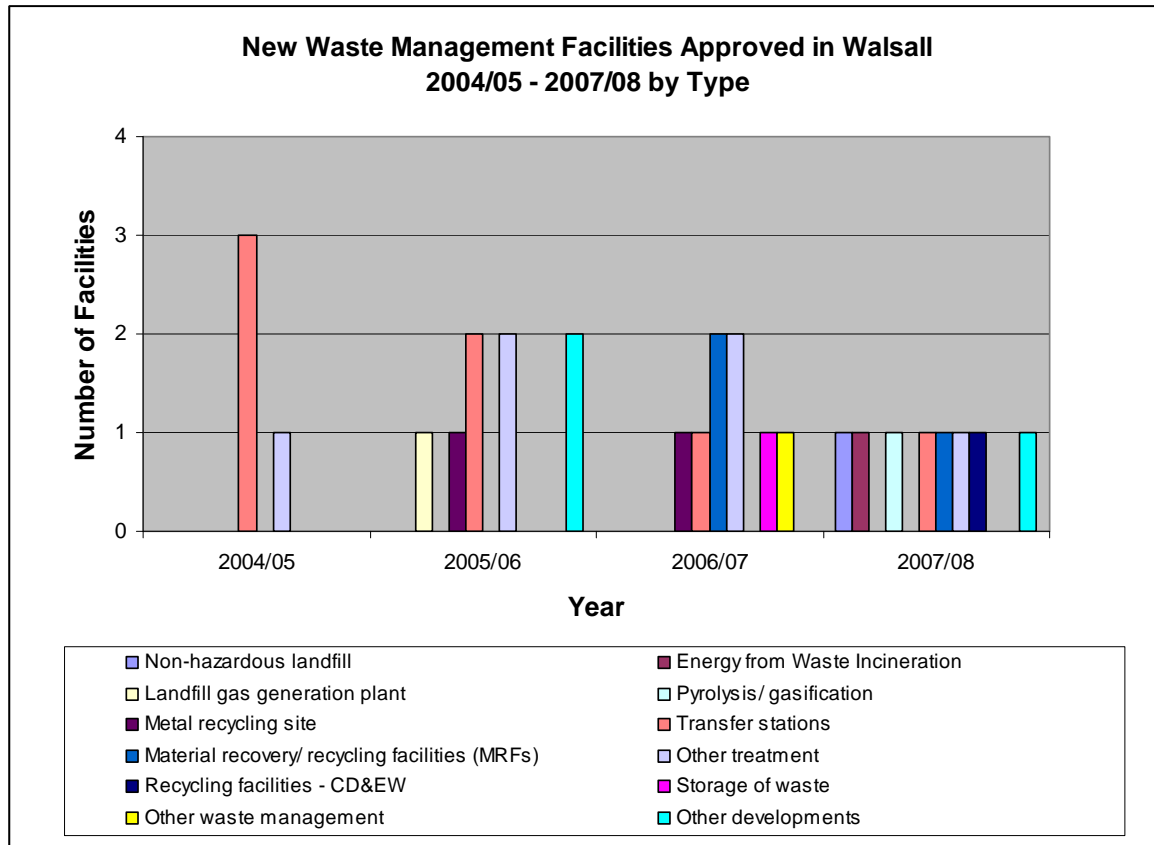
3.8.19 During the development of the new waste applications database, decisions and dates of decisions of all applications received since 2002/03 were checked, and some inaccuracies were corrected, hence there may be differences between the data in Figure H3 and the corresponding data in the 2007 AMR.

3.8.20 Permissions granted since 2004/05 have also been reviewed to establish which of them fall within the defined waste management facility types. This has taken a considerable amount of time, so less time has been available for checking implementation of schemes, hence some of the smaller implemented schemes may not have been recorded in the main AMR.

3.8.21 Figure H4 below shows how many waste management facilities have been approved through planning permissions in Walsall since 2004/05. This provides a fuller picture than the capacity figures alone, as not all applications include

information on annual throughput capacity. The range of waste management facilities has broadened since monitoring began, with a decrease in the number of waste transfer stations and a corresponding increase in the number of other types of facilities, such as material recovery.

Figure H4: Waste Facilities Approved in Walsall 2004/05 – 2007/08



Source: Walsall Council Planning Register/ RSS Monitoring Schedules

3.8.22 In some cases, it has not been easy to decide which waste management type facilities are meant to fall into. In the absence of clearer guidance, the following assumptions have been made:

- ELV facilities have been classified as "other treatment"
- A facility for recycling waste oils has been classified as "other treatment"
- A tyre shredding facility has been classified as "other waste management."

3.8.23 Table W1 of the main AMR summarises the total annual throughput capacity of **waste planning permissions implemented** since 2004/05, where known. Table H2 below summarises the capacity of new waste **planning permissions** granted since 2004/05, where known. This shows a dramatic increase in the overall capacity coming forward in 2006/07 and 2007/08 compared to previous years. The capacity of recycling/ recovery proposals and other treatment facilities now exceeds the capacity of waste transfer proposals.⁴¹

⁴¹ However, waste transfer capacity is probably under-represented, since MRFs include an element of waste transfer and we do not have details of the capacity of all waste transfer proposals.

Table H2: Maximum Annual Throughput Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities Approved in Walsall 2004/05 – 2007/08

Year	Maximum Annual Throughput Capacity of Facilities by Type (tonnes unless otherwise specified) ^{1, 2}												
	Non-hazardous landfill (cubic metres)	Energy from Waste Incineration	Landfill gas generation plant	Pyrolysis/ gasification	Metal recycling site	Transfer stations	Material recovery/ recycling facilities (MRFs)	Other treatment	Recycling facilities - construction, demolition and	Storage of waste	Other waste management	Other developments	TOTAL
2004/05	0	0	0	0	0	35000	0	2500	0	0	0	0	37500
2005/06	0	0	0	0	0	17000	0	7500	0	0	0	0	24500
2006/07	0	0	0	0	0	25000	312400	0 ⁴	0	0	50000	0	387400
2007/08 ³	2160000 ³	300	0	30000 ⁵	0	44000	250000 ⁵	5720	74920	0	0	0	404940 ³

Source: Walsall Council Planning Register/ RSS Monitoring Schedules

Notes on Table W2:

- Throughput capacity of some facilities is not known – where this is the case capacity is recorded as 0.
- Capacity figures are **net increases**, taking into account other proposals affecting existing sites which would result in a net loss in capacity.
- Non-hazardous landfill capacity is in cubic metres** not tonnes therefore **2007/08 total figure excludes this**.
- A facility for recycling waste oils into biodiesel with a capacity of 40,000 litres is not included here as no tonnage figure is available.
- These figures relate an outline approval for a resource recovery park comprising a MRF and CHP plant – capacity is split accordingly.

Table H3: Waste Planning Applications Approved by Walsall Council, 2007/08

Application Reference	Location	Development Description	Wastes Handled	Waste Management Type (SAP Definitions)	Maximum Annual Throughput Capacity			Decision	Decision Date
					Treatment/ Recovery Capacity (tonnes/ litres)	Transfer Capacity (tonnes/ litres)	Landfill Capacity (cubic metres)		
07/0046/WA/E1 (registered 10/01/07)	Highfields South Quarry, Lichfield Road, Shelfield	Landfill - variation of conditions on mineral permission/ details of landfilling and restoration scheme.	Inert and non-hazardous wastes, including MSW and C & I wastes.	Non-hazardous landfill	0	0	2160000	Approved	26/04/2007
07/0449/OL/W7 (registered 09/03/07)	Land off Fryers Road, Bloxwich WS3 2XJ	Development of industrial units - to include resource recovery park comprising material recovery facility (MRF), aggregates washing plant and CHP plant.	Various dry commercial and industrial wastes (skip waste).	Material recovery/ recycling facility (MRF)	250000	0	0	Approved (Outline)	06/06/2007
				Pyrolysis/ gasification	30000				
07/0136/WA/E9 (registered 24/01/07)	Former JB Patterns Ltd, Collier Close, Brownhills	Change of use of part of building to hazardous waste transfer station.	Various types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.	Transfer station	0	49000	0	Approved	26/06/2007
07/1333/WA/W6 (registered 15/06/07)	Land at Junction Works, Cemetery Road, Darlaston	Change of use to recycling facility	Building and demolition materials, green garden/ parks waste, etc.	Recycling facility - construction, demolition and excavation waste	0	0	0	Withdrawn	23/07/2007

Continued.....

Application Reference	Location	Development Description	Wastes Handled	Waste Management Type (SAP Definitions)	Maximum Annual Throughput Capacity			Decision	Decision Date
					Treatment/ Recovery Capacity (tonnes/ litres)	Transfer Capacity (tonnes/ litres)	Landfill Capacity (cubic metres)		
07/1241/OL/E9 (registered 15/06/07)	Walsall Wood Skip Hire, Collier Close, Brownhills WS8 7EU	OUTLINE for Erection of B1/B2 Industrial/Office Units, Layout & Means of Access only to be considered	Skip waste	Other development	0	-5000	0	Approved (Outline)	01/08/2007
06/2106/FL/E9 (registered 18/12/06)	Unit 2, Croxstalls Road, Bloxwich	Change of use from car repairs to End of Life Vehicle site for depolluting of end of life vehicles and for storage and sale of used tyres.	Engine/ and gear box oils, brake fluids, tyres.	Other treatment	5720	0	0	Approved	08/11/2007
07/2477/FL/E6 (registered 22/11/07)	Bace Groundworks Ltd, Coppice Lane, Aldridge, WS9 9AA	Recycle inert materials for resale as aggregates.	Inert materials (non-biodegradable demolition and construction material)	Recycling facility - construction, demolition and excavation waste	74920	0	0	Approved	20/02/2008
07/2642/FL/W7 (registered 04/01/08)	Stairways Group, Brankbrook, Bescot Crescent, WS1 4ND	Wood waste incinerator (waste wood burning boiler).	Waste wood	Energy from waste incineration	300	0	0	Approved	28/02/2008

3.8.24 Unfortunately, the Council is still receiving waste applications that do not include details of the annual throughput capacity. In most cases, the missing data relates to small-scale facilities, so it is unlikely to distort the overall capacity figure by much. Although waste operators are required to include this information in the 1-APP form, they still do not always do so, and occasionally applications without this information have been validated. Table H3 above lists the waste applications approved by Walsall Council during 2007/08. The type of facility proposed and the status of each application at 31 March 2008 is also given.

3.8.25 As was noted in previous AMRs, not all waste management facilities actually require planning permission. For example, material recovery facilities that mainly involve operations falling within Use Class B2 may lawfully occupy an existing industrial unit with a lawful B2 use without permission. However, it cannot be assumed that all material recovery operations fall within Class B2, so whether or not a material change of use is involved can only be determined on a case by case basis.

3.8.26 Two examples of lawful development were reported in the 2007 AMR, and a further possible example has come to light during 2007/08 during a site visit. This revealed that a new recycling facility has been established within an existing industrial unit in Moxley. A telephone call to the company confirmed that this facility was involved in recovering paper, card and plastics, but details of annual throughput capacity were not available. No planning application or Lawful Development Certificate application has been submitted for this facility, and it does not appear in the 2007 RATS dataset. In the absence of further details of the operations involved, no further information can be provided on this facility.

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

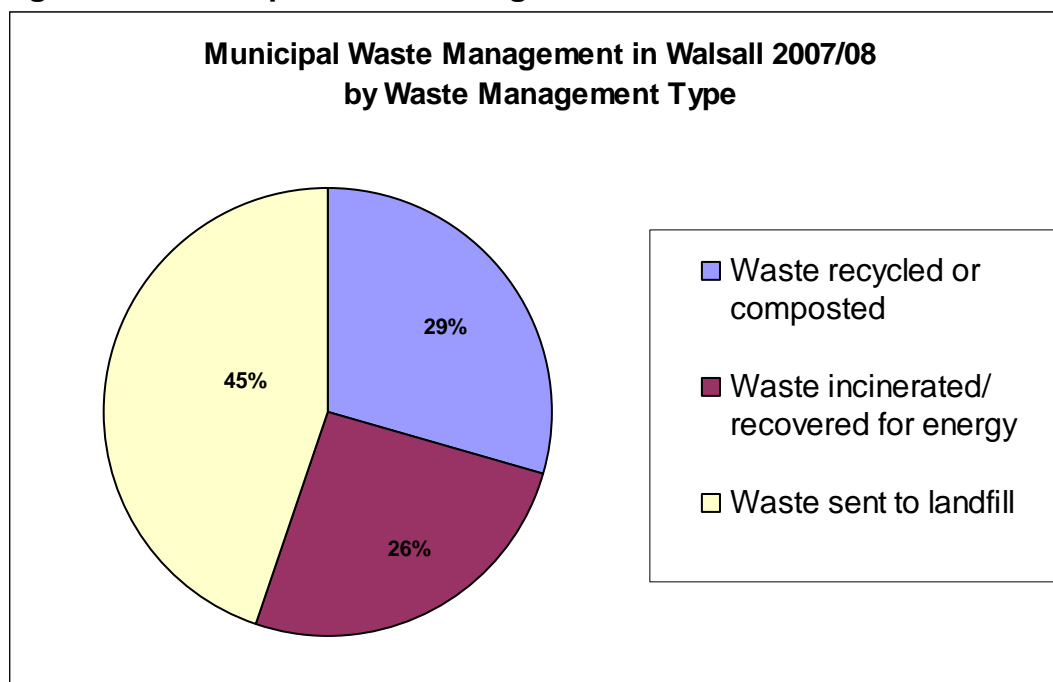
3.8.27 Table W2 in the main AMR sets out performance against Core Output Indicator W2 for 2007/08. The split is illustrated by Figure H5 below. Altogether in 2007/08 more than 55% of Walsall's Municipal waste was recovered (i.e. recycled, composted or recovered for energy). This was a significant improvement on last year's (2006/07) municipal waste recovery rate of 34.5%. Walsall is now managing its municipal waste in line with the current national target for municipal waste recovery (i.e. 53% by 2010).⁴²

3.8.28 The availability of existing facilities locally inevitably affects the way that Municipal waste is managed. In Walsall's case, the only facilities directly accessible to the Council are its depot, transfer station and two household recycling centres at Fryers Road, Bloxwich and Merchants Way, Aldridge. The Fryers Road and Merchants Way sites are managed by ECT Recycling under contract to the Council. The waste handled by these facilities is taken elsewhere for management by various operators, mainly under short-term contracts.

⁴² Current national waste targets are set out in the Waste Strategy for England 2007: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/strategy/index.htm>

3.8.29 The bulking and transfer facilities at Fryers Road and Merchants Way have recently been improved. The RATS data shows that as a result of these improvements, inputs of waste into both facilities have increased between 2006 and 2007. Early in 2009, there will be further changes to the household waste collection service, which should increase the amount of recyclable waste collected in Walsall. The range of recyclables will be expanded to include card and plastics, in addition to the paper, glass and cans currently collected.

Figure H5: Municipal Waste Management in Walsall 2007/08



Source: Defra Municipal Waste Statistics 2007/08

3.8.30 Until very recently, the lack of local facilities meant that much of Walsall's municipal waste was managed outside the Borough. However, the new Greenstar MRF in Aldridge provides an opportunity to manage waste locally. Under a new contract, the Aldridge facility has been receiving municipal waste from Walsall since November 2008. As this facility is able to accept a wide range of dry recyclable wastes, the new arrangement will support the forthcoming improvements to the waste collection service and should enable the Council to improve its municipal recycling rates.

3.8.31 As Walsall Council does not have its own energy from waste facility, it is still dependent on securing access to other facilities to manage waste by this method. Energy recovery rates have increased significantly since 2006/07 as a result of new short-term contracts with other authorities. This has enabled the Council to send more of its municipal waste to energy from waste facilities outside the Borough, including those in Dudley and Wolverhampton.

3.8.32 In the longer-term, the Council is anticipating that more of its waste will be managed closer to home, at a new energy from waste facility called W2R⁴³

⁴³ For details of this new proposal see the W2R website: <http://www.staffsprojectw2r.info/>

at Four Ashes in South Staffordshire. This proposal is being led by Staffordshire County Council, in partnership with Warwickshire County Council, Sandwell MBC and Walsall Council. Planning permission was granted in November 2008, and it is expected to be operational from 2012/13. The Council is also considering partnerships with other authorities to develop new composting infrastructure within the Black Country to manage organic wastes.

Local Output Indicator – Performance against National, Regional and Local Targets

3.8.33 There is some overlap between this indicator and Core Output Indicators W1 and W2, given that these relate to the targets in the RSS and national waste strategy. For 2007/08 we are continuing to focus on performance against local Best Value performance indicators and targets and performance against the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) allocation for Walsall, although this will change in 2008/09 with the introduction of new national indicators.

Local Performance Indicators

3.8.34 The Government has recently reviewed the framework for monitoring local authority performance and Local Area Agreements (LAAs). In October 2007 it published a single national set of 198 indicators covering a range of local authority functions, including waste management and in April 2008 it published a Handbook of Definitions. There are three national indicators relating to waste management:

- NI 191 Residual household waste per head (new indicator)
- NI 192 Percentage of household waste sent for re-use, recycling and composting (corresponds to BV 82a and BV 82b)
- NI 193 Percentage of municipal waste landfilled (new indicator)

3.8.35 The new indicators differ from the existing Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) in the following ways. Although NI191 is similar to BV84, it measures only residual waste (i.e. waste not re-used, recycled or composted) rather than total waste, and is measured against the number of households not population. Similarly, whilst NI192 appears to relate to BV82a and BV82b/ the statutory performance indicator, it includes waste re-used as well as waste recycled and composted.

3.8.36 Up to now the Council has continued to monitor its performance against the BVPI for waste management so we have reflected this in the 2008 AMR. The forthcoming changes to local performance monitoring (which come into effect in 2008/09) will be reflected in future AMRs. Performance data for 2007/08 is published on the Council's website.⁴⁴ The indicators and targets relating to household waste management (BV 82a-d) are set out in Table H4 below. This shows that all targets were met in 2007/08, with significant

⁴⁴ See: http://www.walsall.gov.uk/index/council_and_democracy/council_performance.htm

improvements in energy recovery from waste and a corresponding decrease in the amount of waste sent to landfill.⁴⁵

3.8.37 BV82a + BV82b (highlighted in blue) are also a **statutory performance indicator** linked to the “statutory performance standard” for the recycling and composting of household waste. A standard has been set for each local authority in England. Walsall’s statutory performance standard for 2007/08 remains set at **24%** (the same as in 2005/06 and 2006/07). Table H6 below shows that in 2007/08, the Council recycled or composted 31.14% of its household waste, exceeding the standard and continuing to improve on its performance in previous years (24.1% in 2005/06 and 26.4% in 2006/07).

Table H4: Household Waste Management in Walsall 2007/08 – Performance against BVPI Targets

Waste Management Type	BVPI Target 07/08 (%)	Out-turn 07/08 (%)	Tonnage of Household Waste Managed
Waste sent for recycling (BV 82a)	15.14	17.47	21020
Waste sent for composting or for treatment by anaerobic digestion (BV 82b)	13.00	13.62	16379
Waste used to recover heat, power and other energy sources (BV 82c)	12.00	29.82	35878
Waste sent to landfill (BV 82d)	59.75	38.91	46809
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	120086

Source: Walsall Council Performance Data 2007/08, Defra Municipal Waste Statistics, 2007/08

Table H5: Household Waste Management in Walsall 2007/08: Performance against Statutory Performance Indicator

Waste Management Type	Statutory Performance Indicator 07/08	Out-turn 07/08	Tonnage of Household Waste Managed
Waste recycled or composted (BV82a + BV82b)	24.00%	31.14%	37299

⁴⁵ The landfill target is meant to be a reduction, therefore as the Council sent less waste to landfill than was proposed in the target, the target has been exceeded.

TOTAL WASTE MANAGED	100.00%		120086
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Source: Walsall Council Performance Data 2007/08, Defra Municipal Waste Statistics, 2007/08

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) Allocations and Targets

3.8.38 To meet the overall national targets for the reduction in biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill (established under the Landfill Directive), the Government has set specific targets for each waste disposal authority. Each authority has an allowance or “allocation” each year, which limits the amount of BMW that can be sent to landfill. The amount permitted reduces gradually every year, and 2010, 2013 and 2020 have been designated as “target” years. The Council will be subject to financial penalties if it does not meet its LATS allowances in the “target” years.

3.8.39 Table H6 below sets out the allowances for Walsall up to the next target year (2009/10), and performance up to 2007/08. This information is based on the latest data from the LATS register, which is published on the Defra website. The LATS allocations have been calculated from the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill in the baseline year (1995/96). So far, all waste disposal authorities – including Walsall Council - have managed to reduce the amount of BMW landfilled in line with their annual allocations. Walsall Council expects to meet its statutory target in 2009/10.

Table H6: Walsall LATS Allocations and Targets and Performance to 2010

Year	Initial Allocation/Target	Transferred		Borrowed		Banked		Cancelled	Permitted Landfill	Walsall BMW Landfilled
		In	Out	In	Out	In	Out			
Base Year	87538	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87538	87836
2005/06	84406	0	0	0	0	0	9829	0	74577	74577
2006/07	79708	0	0	0	0	9829	26198	0	63339	61800
2007/08	73444	0	0	0	0	26198	58448	0	41194	41194
2008/09	65614								124062	
Target 2009/10	56218								56218	

Source: LATS Waste Disposal Authority Register @ November 2008

3.8.40 The LATS scheme allows authorities to “trade” in credits in non-target years, by “banking” credits built up in previous years when they have performed well, or by purchasing credits from other authorities who have built up a surplus. Table H7 shows Walsall has “banked” significant amounts of credits between 2005/06 and 2007/08, giving it the flexibility to send more waste to landfill in 2008/09, or to “sell” surplus credits to other authorities. However, it will not be able to trade any of its credits in the “target” year 2009/10.

APPENDIX I

Core and Local Output Indicators - Progress on Data Collection, Monitoring and LDF policies

The Good Practice Guidance on LDF monitoring (October 2005) lists the *Core Output Indicators* that the Government expects authorities to include in Annual Monitoring Reports to which there was a further update in July 2008. Walsall's UDP also includes a number of local output indicators relating to particular policies.

This Appendix provides an update on the situation with regard to data collection and monitoring in Walsall for each of the indicators referred to in Chapter 3. As can be seen in the table below data collection has improved on previous years, but unfortunately it is still not possible to collect data on a regular basis for all of the core and local output indicators.

The table below also includes the LDF policy objectives that the indicators monitor. The main document refers to only the policy numbers, but this table expands upon these. The policy objectives listed in the table below are summaries; for a full explanation of the policies see the Walsall UDP 2005.

Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators (‘Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators Update 2/2008 – Communities and Local Government, July 2008)			
Indicator	Monitored 2006/7	Monitored 2007/8	LDF Policy Objective
BIODIVERSITY			
New Core Output Indicator E2 Change in areas of biodiversity importance	N/A	Monitored	<u>UDP ENV 19-24</u> : not to permit development that will directly or indirectly damage SACs, SSSIs, SINCs, SLINCs and LNRs. Development on sites used by protected species will also not be permitted. New development expected to take account of existing features of value for wildlife or geology and to protect

			Wildlife Corridors.
RENEWABLE ENERGY			
<p>New Core Output Indicator E3: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 9)</p> <p>Renewable Energy capacity installed by type.</p>	<p>Monitored to the extent that data and resources allow. Although it is possible to identify major new renewable energy projects, there is currently no mechanism in place to record renewable energy capacity installed as part of major development schemes.</p>	<p>Monitored to the extent that data and resources allow – see 2006/07.</p>	<p><u>UDP ENV 39: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</u> Not Extended by Direction 6th December</p>
FLOOD PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY			
<p>New Core Output Indicator E1: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 7)</p> <p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood risk or water quality.</p>	<p>Monitored. Since 2004/05 Environment Agency has published data on applications objected to on grounds of flood risk, and since 2005/06 they have also published data on applications objected to on grounds of water quality.</p>	<p>Monitored – see 2006/07</p>	<p><u>UDP ENV 40: New development required to address water supply, water quality and flood risk issues, and encouraged to include provision for water conservation and on-site recycling of water.</u></p>

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT			
<p>New Core Output Indicator BD1-Total Amount of Additional Employment Floorspace</p> <p>(similar to LDF Core Output Indicator 1a Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type)</p>	Monitored as 1a	Monitored	<p><u>UDP JP1, 2, 4:</u> protect and encourage development on employment sites, including the safeguarding of sites for high quality employment</p>
<p>1b Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type, in employment or regeneration areas.</p>	Monitored	Monitored- although not completely clear if still a Core Output Indicator	<p><u>UDP JP1, 2, 4:</u></p>
<p>BD2- Total Amount of Employment Floorspace On Previously Developed Land</p> <p>(was LDF Core Output Indicator 1c Amount of floorspace by employment type, which is on previously developed land)</p>	Monitored as 1c	Monitored	<p><u>UDP JP1, 2, 4:</u></p>
<p>BD3 Employment Land Available by Type</p> <p>(was LDF Core Output Indicator 1d Employment land available by type)</p>	Monitored as 1d	Monitored	<p><u>UDP JP1, 2, 4:</u></p>
<p>1e Losses of employment land in (i) employment/regeneration areas and (ii) local authority area.</p>	Monitored	Removed indicator but much of the data will be included in indicator BD3	<p><u>UDP JP1, 5, 6:</u> protection of Core Employment Areas and Best Quality sites</p>

1f Amount of employment land lost to residential development.	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP JP1, 5, 6:</u>
LOCAL SERVICES (1)			
<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (4a, amended to BD4ii):</p> <p>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.</p>	Monitored	Monitored	<p><u>UDP S1-7:</u> Safeguard, sustain and enhance town centre uses. Ensure integration of developments in or on the edge of centres. Meet local needs outside centres without impacting on the vitality and viability of existing centres.</p>
<p>LDF Core Output Indicator (4b, amended to BD4i):</p> <p>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.</p>	Monitored	Monitored	<p><u>UDP S1-S5</u></p>

HOUSING			
New Core Output Indicators H1 and H2 (similar to previous COI 2a Housing trajectory)	Monitored. Housing trajectory to 2026. This is the time period for the Joint Core strategy.	Monitored.	<u>UDP H2, 3</u> : encourage the use of proposed housing sites and previously developed land
LDF Core Output Indicator (H3): (previously 2b Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land)	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H2, 3</u>
2c Percentage of new dwellings completed at: (i) less than 30 dwellings per hectare; (ii) between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare; and (iii) above 50 dwellings per hectare	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H2, 3</u>
New Core Output Indicator H5 Gross Affordable Housing Completions (previously 2d Affordable housing completions)	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H2, 3</u>
New Core Output Indicator H4 Net Additional Pitches (Gypsy and Travellers)	N/A	Monitored	<u>UDP H8</u>
New Core Output Indicator H6 Housing Quality-Building For Life Assessments Design	N/A	See Main AMR for commentary	

TRANSPORT			
3a Amount of completed non-residential development within UCO's A, B and D complying with car-parking standards set out in the local development framework.	Monitored	Deleted as no longer a Core Output Indicator (COI)	<u>UDP T13</u> : all development satisfy car parking standards
3b Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP; a hospital; a primary school; a secondary school; areas of employment; and a major retail centre(s).	Not monitored due to lack of skills/ resources – the Council currently has no capacity in-house to undertake this kind of analysis.	Now monitored, although no longer a Core Output Indicator (COI)	<u>UDP T12</u> : residential developments within an appropriate distance of public transport
LOCAL SERVICES (2)			
4c Amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard.	Monitored. Details of open spaces which have achieved "Green Flag" status are published annually by CabeSpace.	Monitored, although no longer a Core Output Indicator – see 2007/08.	<u>UDP LC1</u> : retain and enhance existing urban open spaces
MINERALS (FOR MINERALS PLANNING AUTHORITY ONLY)			
LDF Core Output Indicator M1 (formerly 5a): Production of primary land won	Latest data available is for 2005 and derives from BGS 2005 Aggregate Minerals Survey. This data	Monitored	<u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 9.9</u> : commitment towards working with other Metropolitan authorities to maintain the Metropolitan area's contribution

aggregates by mineral planning authority	relates to West Midlands Metropolitan area as a whole, and will be published in 2005 RAWP Annual Report shortly.		towards the regional aggregates apportionment and landbank of permitted reserves. <u>UDP M1 – M3:</u> identifies minerals safeguarding areas (MSAs) on Proposals Map (including those around sand and gravel quarries) and sets out guidance for proposals for further extensions to sand and gravel quarries (i.e. Aldridge Quarry and Branton Hill Quarry).
LDF Core Output Indicator W2 (formerly 5b): Production of secondary/ recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority.	Still not regularly monitored. Latest data available is from a 2005 survey by Capita Symonds for DCLG, which provides an estimate of production for Birmingham and the Black Country but <u>this is not regarded as reliable</u> as it derives from a sample survey.	Monitored	<u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 9.4:</u> supports use of recycled materials, development of aggregates recycling facilities and recovery/ use of “secondary” materials found during primary mineral extraction.
WASTE (FOR WASTE PLANNING AUTHORITY ONLY)			
LDF Core Output Indicator W1 (formerly 6a): Capacity of new waste management	Monitored	Monitored.	<u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.3 – 10.6:</u> supports diversion of waste away from landfill/ moving

facilities by waste planning authority (by type).			waste up the “waste hierarchy.” <u>UDP WM1 - 3</u> : permits development or extension of waste management and waste disposal facilities, subject to satisfying criteria aimed at protecting the environment and amenity of local residents.
LDF Core Output Indicator W2 (formerly 6b): Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority..	Monitored. Since 2005/06, data for individual WPAs has been published by Defra (based on Waste Data Flow returns).	Monitored.	<u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.1</u> : integrated approach towards waste management in support of the Council’s Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Local Output Indicators - Walsall UDP 2005			
Indicator	Monitored 2006/7	Monitored 2007/8	LDF Policy Objective
ENVIRONMENT & AMENITY			
Protection of Green Belt - target 100%	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP ENV 2</u> : presumption against construction of new buildings in the Green Belt, other than limited redevelopment/ infilling, or for purposes “appropriate” to a Green Belt location.
Tree planting - related to targets in	Not monitored	Not monitored and this	<u>UDP ENV 15-19</u> : creation and

forest plans/ strategies		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. Not monitored – suggested deletion	management of the Forest of Mercia, Black Country Urban Forest,
Progress towards targets in Biodiversity Action Plan	Not currently monitored due to feasibility issues but action being taken to address this	Not currently monitored At present it is not possible to establish the extent to which the BLAP targets are being met.	<u>UDP ENV 19-24</u>
Protection of nature conservation sites - target 100%	Monitored	Monitored – not included as repetition of COI	See above
Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest	Monitored insofar as feasible	Monitored insofar as feasible	<u>UDP ENV 27-29</u> ; development to a listed building will only be permitted if the appearance/character/value will not be adversely affected
Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP ENV 29</u> determine if a development enhances the character and appearance of a Conservation Area
JOBS & PROSPERITY			
Land developed for employment uses -	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP JP1</u>

target annual average of 13 hectares			
Share of all development on previously developed sites - target 95%	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP JP1</u>
Protection of employment allocations from loss to other uses - target 95%	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP JP5, JP7</u>
STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES			
Proportion of all development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses which takes place in established centres - target at least 90%	Covered by core indicator 4b	Monitored	<u>UDP S1-5</u>
Amount of vacant floorspace in centres - target to be at or below the national average	Monitored using available data	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.	<u>UDP S1-5</u>
HOUSING			
Reduction of vacancies - to a level of 3% by 2011	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H1</u> : promote and encourage the renewal of existing residential areas
Progress towards RPG11 dwelling requirement – residual annual average target of 422 dwellings	Monitored – not included as repetition of COI	Monitored	See above

Proportion of all development on previously developed land - target of 95% for 2002-11	Monitored – not included as repetition of COI	Monitored	See above
Number of dwellings provided on windfall sites – annual average target of 275 windfall completions	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H2, 3</u>
Extent of provision for affordable housing - residual annual average target of 184 dwellings	Monitored – not included as repetition of COI. Also see SPD indicators	Monitored	See above <u>UDP H4:</u> provide 3,600 additional affordable homes between 1991-2011 <u>Affordable Housing SPD</u>
Types and sizes of housing provided - a mix appropriate to local circumstances	Monitored, though greater time series required before analysis	Monitored, though greater time series required before analysis	<u>UDP H10:</u> provide an appropriate mix of housing types, sizes and tenures with a variety of design
Density of new housing - target annual average density of at least 30 dwellings per hectare	Monitored – not included as repetition of COI	Monitored	<u>UDP H9:</u>
TRANSPORT			
Use of buses - increase in line with West Midlands Local Transport Plan (WMLTP) target	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP T2:</u> work with partners to improve bus services and ensure access to public transport
Use of rail - increase in line with WMLTP target	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP T3:</u> promote, with partners, the improvement of existing and establishment of new rail services and ensure access to public transport

Road traffic - keep growth in line with WMLTP target	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP T4,5</u> : improve access to facilities and ensure access to public transport
Cycle use - increase in line with WMLTP target	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP T9</u> : improve the cycling routes and infrastructure
Car parking provision for new housing development – in line with the standards in Policy T13	Not monitored as feasibility and resource issues. Repetition of COI.	Deleted, Repetition of COI.	<u>UDP T13</u> : all development satisfy car parking standards
LEISURE & COMMUNITY NEEDS			
Protection of urban open spaces - target 100%	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP LC1</u>
Provision of new urban open spaces - at least 24 hectares over the rest of the Plan period	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP LC2</u> : progress sites which are proposed as additional areas of open space
Protection of playing fields/ sports pitches - target 100%	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP LC6</u> : only permit proposals that would result in the loss of playing fields/sports pitches if certain measures are taken
Length of Greenways constructed - target at least 10 miles over the rest of the Plan period	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP LC5</u> : continue to create, enhance and safeguard greenways
MINERALS			
None.	N/A	N/A	<u>N/A</u>

However, MPS1 (November 2006) requires MPAS to maintain a 25-year supply of clay to brickworks, and this suggests there should be a local output indicator in future.			If a local output indicator is monitored in future it will be relevant to consider <u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 9.10 and Policy MP4, 10.6</u> : seek to ensure a continuing supply of clay to brickworks, subject to there being no over-riding environmental constraints.
WASTE MANAGEMENT			
Progress towards targets set out in national guidance, regional guidance, Walsall's Integrated Waste Management Strategy and Best Value Indicators	Monitored – New national targets have now been established through the revised national waste strategy: Waste Strategy for England 2007. Future AMRs will also need to monitor performance against RSS apportionments which are being developed as part of RSS Phase 2 Revision.	Monitored	<u>UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.4, 10.6</u> : to work towards national and regional targets for waste minimisation, re-use, recycling and composting and to reduce waste going to landfill in line with national and regional targets.

Adopted SPD Monitoring Indicators			
Indicator	Monitored 2006/7	Monitored 2007/8	LDF Policy Objective
Affordable Housing SPD (adopted July 2005)			
Number of affordable homes	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H4</u> : provide 3,600 additional affordable homes between 1991-2011. <u>Affordable Housing SPD</u>
Average % of affordable housing on all developments	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H4</u> <u>Affordable Housing SPD</u>
% of developments where the 25% target was achieved	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H4</u> <u>Affordable Housing SPD</u>
% of provision by property type	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP H4</u> <u>Affordable Housing SPD</u>
Urban Open Space SPD (adopted April 2006)			
Total Funds collected in the year	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3</u> : secure the provision of any on or off-site infrastructure, facilities, services or mitigating measures made necessary by the development <u>UDP LC1-6, particularly LC1d</u> : residential developments will be

			required to make financial or other contributions to enable the provision of new/improved urban open space <u>Urban Open Space SPD</u>
Total funds outstanding	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3</u> <u>UDP LC1</u> <u>Urban Open Space SPD</u>
How funds have been used	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3</u> <u>UDP LC1</u> <u>Urban Open Space SPD</u>
House price inflation as published in the Council's private sector report	N/A	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3</u> <u>UDP LC1</u> <u>Urban Open Space SPD</u>
Healthcare SPD (adopted Jan 2007)			
Total Funds collected in the year	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3, 8.9</u> <u>Healthcare SPD</u>
Total funds outstanding	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3, 8.9</u> <u>Healthcare SPD</u>
How funds have been used	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3, 8.9</u> <u>Healthcare SPD</u>
Cost of providing primary healthcare	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3, 8.9</u>

facilities			<u>Healthcare SPD</u>
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Education SPD (adopted Feb 2007)			
Total Funds collected in the year	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3.8.8</u> <u>Education SPD</u>
Total funds outstanding	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3.8.8</u> <u>Education SPD</u>
How funds have been used	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3.8.8</u> <u>Education SPD</u>
Costs of providing school places and the Walsall Multiplier	Monitored	Monitored	<u>UDP GP3.8.8</u> <u>Education SPD</u>

Designing a Better Walsall SPD (adopted Feb 2008)			
Appropriate monitoring indicators are in the process of being agreed which will be included in subsequent AMRs.	N/A	Appropriate monitoring indicators are in the process of being agreed which will be included in subsequent AMRs.	

See LDS section in the main document for comments on the monitoring of the Waterfront SPD and SCI.