

Annual Monitoring Report 2009

(Monitoring Year April 2008 – March 2009)



Walsall Council

This report has been produced by Black Country Consortium Ltd. on
behalf of Walsall Council.
December 2009



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Walsall Council

Annual Monitoring Report

December 2009

**for Monitoring Year April 2008
to March 2009**

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

Bengali

ওয়ার্ডসম্পর্ক অনেক সংবাদ বাঙ্গালিক উপদেশ-সভাবর্নন রিপোর্টটিতে রয়েছে, এক কাউন্সিল বিভাগে নীতিযাচা পুনরনের পরিকল্পনা করে স্থাতীয়, আঞ্চলিক এবং স্থানীয় লক্ষ্যসমূহের বিরুদ্ধে পদক্ষেপ ধরন করিতেছে এই রিপোর্টটি তার ব্যাখ্যা করেছ। যদি এর কোন বিষয় আপনার ব্যুত্রে অসুবিধা হয়, দয়া করে ০১৯২২ ৬৫২৪২৬ নম্বরে ফোন করে আপনার ভাষায় আমাদের টেলিফোন মেসেজ রেকর্ডিং সুবিধায় আপনার কথাগুলি বজতে পারেন। আপনার মেসেজে অবশ্যই আপনার টেলিফোন নম্বর ও ঠিকানা উল্লেখ করবেন যাতে আমরা আপনার সাথে যোগাযোগ করতে পারি।

Gujerati

આ વાર્ષિક દેખરેખ રીપોર્ટ મા ઘણી વોલસોલની જાણકારી છે અને એહી સમજાવે છે કેવી રીતે કાઉનસિલની આમલ કરેલી નીતીઓ આખારાષ્ટીય, પ્રદેશીક અને લોકલ સ્તરે કામ કરે છે.

આ જાણકારી સમજવામા તકલીફ પડતી હોય તો ૦૧૯૨૨ ૬૫૨૪૨૬ (01922 652426) પર ફોન કરી અને તમારી ભાષામા આનસારીય મસીન પર મેસેજ મુકો, તમારા જ્ઞાન નંબર અને એડરેસ સાથે જે થી અમે તમને સમ્પર્ક સાધી શકીએ.

Hindi

वार्षिक मनीटरिंग रिपोर्ट में वासलसाल बारे बहुत सी जानकारी है, और इस का वर्णन है कि कौन्सिल पलैनिंग पौलिसीज किस तरह राष्ट्रीय, प्रदेशिक और स्थानिय लक्ष्यो पर कार्य करती है। अगर दी गई जानकारी को समझने में आपको कोई मुश्किल आ रही हो तो कृपा करके 01922 652426 पर फोन करके अपनी भाषा में हमारी टेलीफोन रिकॉर्डिंग की सुविधा पर सन्देश छोड़ें। कृपया अपना टेलीफोन नम्बर और पता आवश्यक छोड़ियें ताकि हम आपसे सम्पर्क कर सकें।

Kurdish

راپۆرتی ساڵانه ی چاودێری زانیاری زۆر سه باره ته به Walsall له خۆ نه ئێرێ. هه روه ها ته وه ش رۆن نه کاته وه که چۆن پلانه دارێزراوه کانی شماره وانێ له به رامیه ر ناماتیه تاوخلۆی و هه ریمی و نیشتمانیه کان کارنه که ن. گه ر هاتو هه ر جۆره گرافیکت بو له تێگه یشتنی ته و زانیاریانه تکایه به یوه ندی بکه به 01922 652426 و به زمانی خۆت به یام هین بێله .
تکایه هه روه ها ژماره ته له فۆن و نه دره سی خۆت هین بێله بو ته وه ی بتوانین وه لامت بده ینه وه.

Punjabi

ਸਲਾਨਾ ਮਨੀਟਰਿੰਗ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਚ ਵਾਲਸਾਲ ਬਾਰੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਸਾਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਖੁਲਾਸਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਕਾਰੋਨਾਸਿਲ ਪਲੈਨਿੰਗ ਪਾਲਿਸੀਆ ਕਿਸ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਮੁਲਕੀ, ਕੌਮੀ ਅਤੇ ਮਕਾਮੀ ਮੁਦਿੱਆ ਬਾਰੇ ਕੰਮ ਕਰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਅਗਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਕੁਝ ਕੋਈ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਿਲ ਆਈਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਮਿਹਰਬਾਣੀ ਕਰਕੇ 01922 652426 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣੀ ਸੋਲੀ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਡੀ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਰਿਕਾਰਡਿੰਗ ਦੀ ਸਹੂਲਤ ਤੇ ਸੁਨੇਹਾ ਫੋਨ ਮਿਹਰਬਾਣੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣਾ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਅਤੇ ਪਤਾ ਵੀ ਜਰੂਰ ਫੋਨ ਤੇ ਜੋ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਿੰਦੇ।

Turkish

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

Urdu

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

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

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

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

http://www.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/local_development_framework/ldf_annual_monitoring_report.htm

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Monitoring Report has been produced in accordance with the requirements of Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Act requires every local planning authority to report on the implementation of the local development scheme, and the extent to which the policies set out in the local development documents are being achieved. This report also contains information about key indicators including population, the state of the economy and the environment that reflect the quality of life in the borough.

Following previous years of steady decline in the population of the West Midlands Conurbation, recent years, have seen the population in Walsall steadily increase.. Unfortunately, the borough has been badly hit by the recession. Unemployment has risen by 83.9% over the monitoring year which is higher than the regional rise of 74.6%. In addition there have been fewer business start- ups in the area. However significant investment has been seen in Walsall with the completion of a new campus for Walsall College and the Town Centre Transportation Package.

The key statutory adopted development plan document remained Walsall's Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The changes to the legislation governing the production of Local Development and Supplementary Planning Documents necessitated a revision to the Local Development Scheme. These changes combined with the expectation of a revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy led to a delay in the publication of the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). The BCCS was published in November 2009, after the end of the monitoring year which is the subject of this report.

The Sustainable Community Strategy has improving the quality of the environment as a key issue. One new local nature reserve has been declared since April 2008 meaning that Walsall Council has achieved the national target of providing 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve land for every 1000 population. In addition, open spaces, playing fields and sports facilities have all been protected from inappropriate development. The Victorian Arcade has been added to the Listed Building statutory list and the target to prepare five conservation area appraisals and management plans has been met.

This monitoring year has seen a fall in the total amount of retail, office and leisure development within the existing centres. This is a reflection of the difficult economic conditions experienced nationally

The amount of land both developed and granted planning permission for employment uses remained well below the UDP target. However, virtually all the development that took place was on brownfield sites, exceeding the UDP target, and no allocated new employment sites were lost to other uses.

The impact of the recession began to be reflected in the number of housing completions being less than in recent years, although completions in these recent years have been greater than the long term average. A total of 466 dwellings were completed during the year but there was a net loss of 151 dwellings as the result of the demolition of 617 dwellings including several blocks of multi-storey flats owned by Walsall Housing Group.

462 out of the 466 dwellings completed were on windfall sites. The UDP allocates a limited number of sites and it assumes that the majority of developments would be on windfall sites. With all of the completions on previously developed land this demonstrates that the policies relating to the protection of Greenfield sites is proving successful which in turn contributes to the urban renaissance of the area.

There was a continuing fall in the proportion of the borough's dwellings that were vacant. 70% of all new development was flats with 92% of these flats having 2 bedrooms. A large number of these flats were within the town centre.

More work needs to be done to ensure that an increase in bus usage is achieved. This will be addressed by continuing the good work across the metropolitan area through Bus Showcase, Bus Partnership Routes, Bus Network reviews and the wider actions from an Audit Commission report into West Midlands bus use. Furthermore, in Walsall, to complete the Town Centre Transport Package, a Bus Network Reviews is to be carried out in conjunction with Centro.

The target for the capacity of new waste management facilities was met with three major waste management facilities being developed in Walsall during 2008/09.

Some of the targets in the UDP, in particular those relating to house building, are out of date. These targets and the strategic policies of the UDP will be replaced in future years by the policies of the BCCS. The Regional Spatial Strategy will also be replaced by the Integrated Regional Strategy. These changes to the development framework will provide the opportunity to review our monitoring systems in future years.

Throughout this report a "Red, Amber, Green" system is used to indicate whether progress is significantly behind target (red). some progress is being made towards the target but the target is not met (amber) and progress is on-target or the target has been met (green). There is a glossary of terms at the end of the document.

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BACKGROUND

1.1 Monitoring is an essential element of the government's approach to policy making. Within this context the Annual Monitoring Report is seen as the main mechanism for assessing the performance of the Local Development Framework and the "saved" policies of the Walsall Unitary Development Plan (UDP), providing the catalyst for any review or update.

1.2 Section 35 of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires every local authority to make an annual report to the Secretary of State (through the Government Office for the West Midlands) containing information on how the Local Development Scheme is being implemented and the progress made on the "saved" policies from UDP.

1.3 Regulation 48(8) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 also requires the council to make the Annual Monitoring Report available to local communities both in hard copy and electronically on the Council's website.

1.4 Planning Policy Statement 12 'Local Spatial Planning' (paragraph 4.47) states that a Core Strategy must have clear arrangements for monitoring and reporting results to the public and civic leaders. Therefore it identifies four key tasks that Annual Monitoring Reports should seek to achieve. These are:

- Report progress on the timetable and milestones for the preparation of documents set out in the local development scheme including reasons where they are not being met.
- Report progress on the policies and related targets in local development documents. This should also include progress against any relevant national and regional targets and highlight any unintended significant effects of the implementation of the policies on social, environmental and economic objectives. Where policies and targets are not being met or on track or are having unintended effects reasons should be provided along with any appropriate actions to redress the matter. Policies may also need to change to reflect changes in national or regional policy.
- Include progress against the core output indicators including information on net additional dwellings (required under Regulation 48(7)7) and an update of the housing trajectory to demonstrate how policies will deliver housing provision in their area.
- Indicate how infrastructure providers have performed against the programmes for infrastructure set out in support of the core strategy. Annual monitoring reports should be used to reprioritise any previous assumptions made regarding infrastructure delivery.

1.5 This is Walsall Council's fifth Annual Monitoring Report and covers the period from 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009. It also comments on significant events up to December 2009.

CONTEXTUAL INDICATORS¹

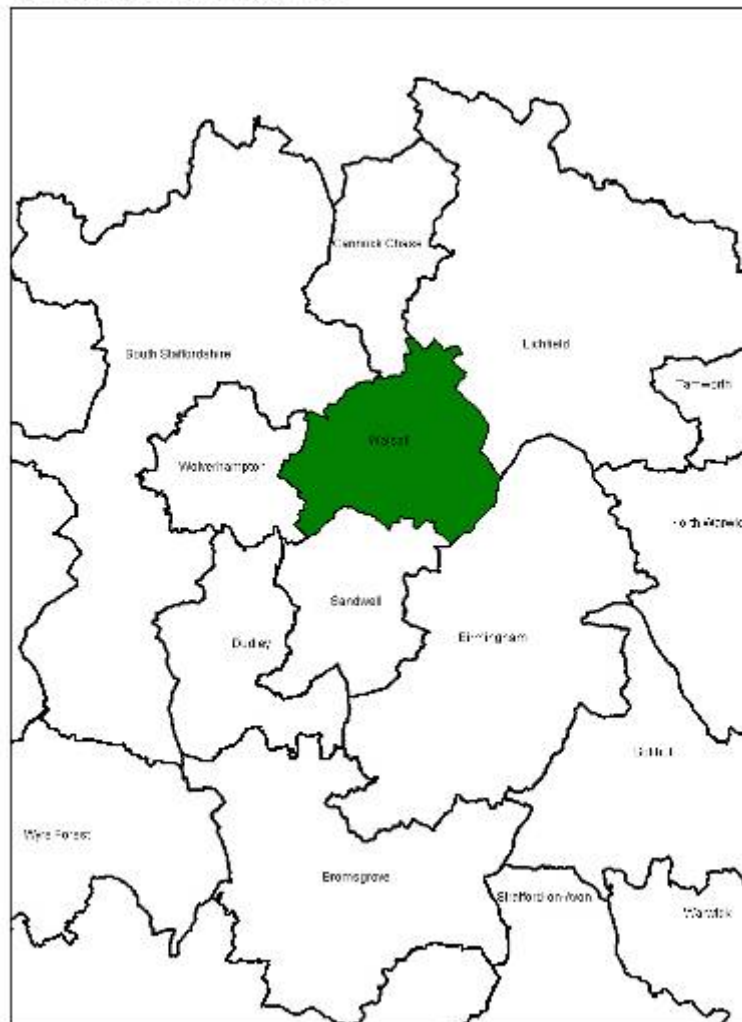
Please note that all data presented in this section is the latest data available at the time of writing this report. There is often a time lag between information being gathered and data being produced and as such data below will often refer to a period outside of the monitoring period

BACKGROUND

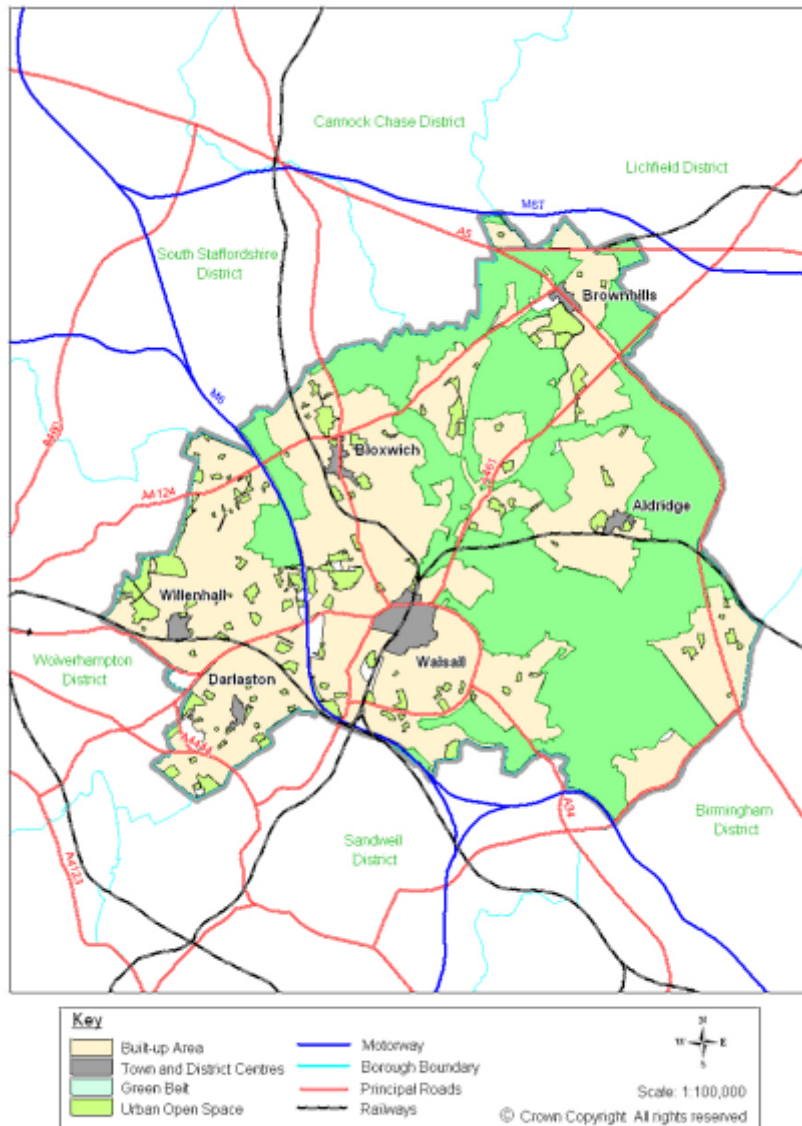
April 2008 to March 2009.

Walsall Metropolitan Borough is in the West Midlands region and lies to the north-west of Birmingham and is one of the four authorities that make up the Black Country (the others being Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton). The borough covers an area of some 41 square mile(104 km²).

Walsall and Surrounding Area



¹ Please note that further data relating to these indicators can be found in the appendix A.



DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

The population in Walsall continues to steadily increase despite 2004 projections to the contrary, growing from 253,499 in the 2001² census to the latest figures which show that the Borough has a population of 255,400³.

The age breakdown of the population is similar to that of England with 7% of the population being aged 75 or over and 19% of the population being

² 2001 Census <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

³ mid- year population estimates 2008, ONS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

16-29 (compared to 20% for England)⁴. According to the 2001 census 13.6%⁵ of Walsall's population were from Black or Ethnic Minority Groups.

ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

According to Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy, improving the quality of the environment is a key issue. This includes a plan to promote the protection and conservation of species, habitats and geological features, creating new habitats and preserving geological features, and managing and providing a network of wildlife areas and sites which assist the movement of wildlife whilst providing attractive places for the communities. Further data relating to biodiversity can be found in appendix C.

In August 2006 Walsall MBC consolidated the whole of its borough as an Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in relation to nitrogen dioxide. By declaring the whole borough an AQMA problems associated with road traffic and transportation can now be dealt with in an integrated fashion across a broader geographical area, which is important for strategic transport planning and the Local Transport Plan. An Updating and Screening Assessment undertaken by Walsall MBC in 2006 identified 32 road junctions where the annual mean concentrations of NO₂ were predicted to be above the 40 µg/m³ objective and are therefore predicted to exceed the NO₂ target.⁶ It should also be noted that reducing impacts of pollutants on the environment also features in Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

As with the rest of the Black Country Walsall has been particularly affected by the recession and global economic downturn. Unemployment has risen considerably over the last 12 months with the borough experiencing an increase of 83.9% between March 2008-March 2009. This is higher than the comparative regional rise of 74.6%⁷.

Earnings are higher for those living in Walsall than they are for those working in the area (£22,537 for those living in the borough compared with £21,154 for those working in the borough)⁸. Whilst not a large gap, this difference does suggest that higher earners are more likely to be commuting to work in neighbouring local authorities such as Birmingham.

The percentage of small businesses in Walsall, showing growth, mirrors the regional and national average of 13%⁹, in 2007. However, the rate of

⁴ mid- year population estimates 2008, ONS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

⁵ 2001 Census <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

⁶ Source: Walsall MBC Air Quality Action Plan 2009
http://www.walsall.gov.uk/air_quality_action_plan_2009.pdf

⁷ Claimant Count, Department for Work and Pensions <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

⁸ Annual Surveys of Hours and Earnings, 2008 <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

⁹ ONS, 2007 http://stats.berr.gov.uk/ed/national_indicators/ED_AU_National_Indicator_NI_172.XLS

new VAT registered businesses¹⁰ is considerably lower than the national average, demonstrating that there are less businesses starting in the borough than was seen nationally.

SKILLS AND EDUCATION INDICATORS

The Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy¹¹ has identified educational attainment as one of the key issues affecting the borough's long-term economic prospects, therefore skills and education indicators are of particular significance to the borough.

Generally speaking educational attainment at all levels has increased over the last year but it should be noted that Walsall lags behind the national average in the majority of skills and education indicators and has some way to go before the national rates are met.

The percentage of pupils achieving 5 A-C* GCSEs has been steadily increasing year on year. Since 2002 results have increased at an average rate of 5.9%. This is higher than the national average of 3.8%¹². If these rates continue Walsall schools could be performing above the national average by 2013.

The percentage of people with degrees has also been rising. Over the last 12 months the increase was 11.3% compared with a national average of only 1.4%. However, there is still a big gap in performance as it would require approximately 15,000 extra people with NVQ level4+ for Walsall to be above the national average. In addition to this the proportion of people with no qualifications has decreased substantially over the last two years from 28% of the working age population in 2006 to 19% in 2008¹³.

TRANSPORTATION

Walsall has a major advantage in being close to the hubs of both the national motorway and rail networks. However, many of the local connections into these networks need to be improved so that the borough can benefit from this potentially advantageous geographical position.

Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership prepared a Local Accessibility Action Plan which was approved in 2008. This report identified the main barriers to accessibility in Walsall as:

- *The availability and physical accessibility of transport* – nearly one in three households does not have access to a car for reasons that include cost, age, disability and, in some instances, choice.
- *Cost of transport* - The cost of travelling by public transport has risen at a greater rate than by private car. Between 1990 and 2003

¹⁰ ONS 2007 <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

¹¹ http://www.walsallpartnership.org.uk/wp-index/wp_scs.htm

¹² Department for Children Schools and Families 2009 <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk>

¹³ Annual Population Survey <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

bus fares rose by 26% in real terms compared with a 4% increase in cost of car travel.

- *Services and activities located in inaccessible places* – Historically, nobody has been responsible for ensuring that people can get to key services. As a result, services have been developed with insufficient attention to accessibility. Too often, accessibility has been seen as a problem for transport planners to solve, rather than one that concerns and can be influenced by the promoters or providers of services.
- *Safer streets* - Consultation has shown that crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour can be a major deterrent to travelling by public transport

According to the census¹⁴, 34% of the population in Walsall travel to work by car, only 7% of people use the bus to go to work whilst 6% travel to work by foot. In addition it was found that 17% of all Walsall employees travelled less than 2km to work and 80% travelled less than 20km.

Morning peak trips by public transport into Walsall represented a 34.2% share of all trips (bus 32.6% and rail 1.6%) with cars representing the remaining 65.8%. Overall, morning peak inbound trips into Walsall have decreased by 11.9%, in the last year. The share of public transport has increased from 32.6% last year due to a fall in car trips. Bus passenger trips have decreased by 9.1% whilst rail passenger trips have increased by 30.1%. The amount of trips made by car has decreased by 13.9% in the last year but is still the dominant mode of transport with a 65.8% modal share¹⁵.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS

The English Indices of Deprivation 2007¹⁶ are the Government's official measure of multiple deprivation at small area level. This provides an update to the Indices of Deprivation in 2004. Walsall was ranked 45th most deprived local authority in 2007, a worse position than in 2004 when it was ranked 51st¹⁷. It should be noted that this change in rank does not necessarily mean that the borough has become more deprived in absolute terms, rather it could mean that Walsall has become more deprived relative to other areas of the country.

In addition to borough profile, 32,482 small areas known as super output areas (SOAs) are ranked on seven different themes including income, employment and health. Areas ranked between 1 and 3,428 are in the 10% most deprived areas in England, areas between 1 and 6,496 are in the 20% most deprived areas in England.

¹⁴ 2001 Census <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

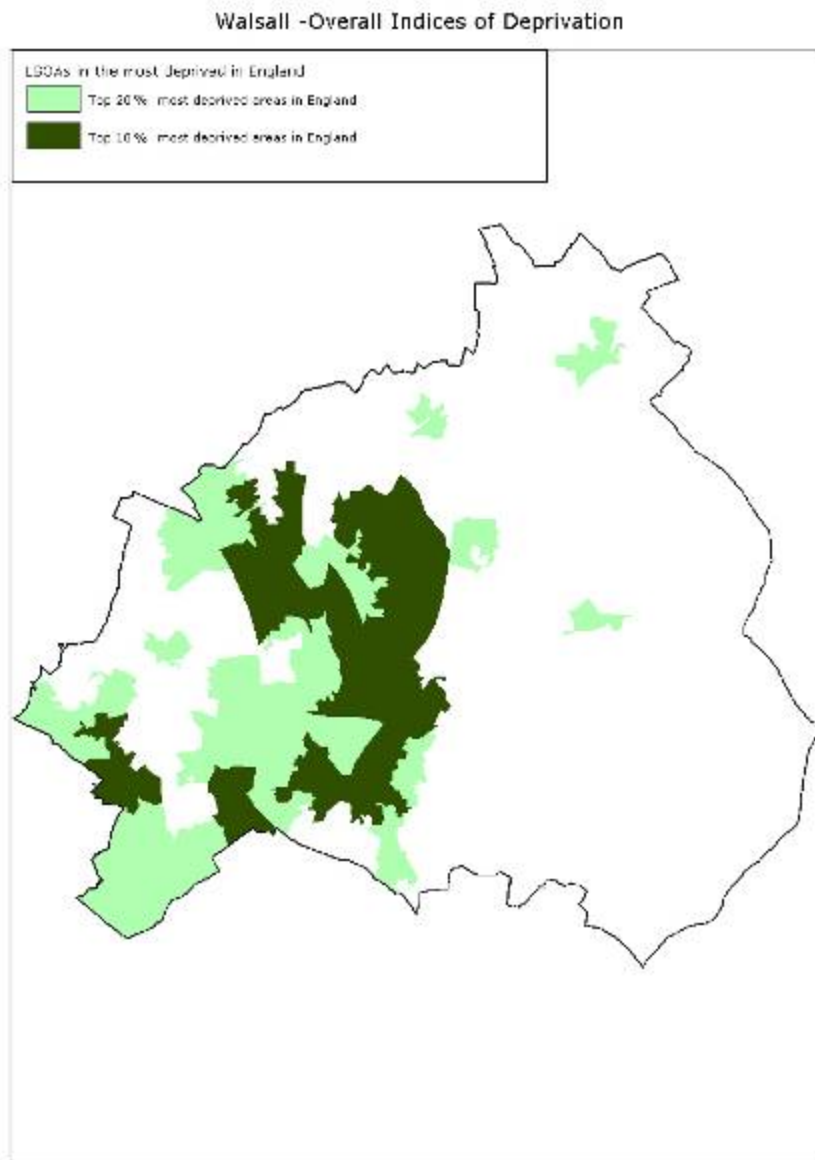
¹⁵ Centro (2008/2009) <http://www.centro.org.uk/corporateinformation/home.aspx>

¹⁶ Department for Communities and Local Government

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/>

¹⁷ 1 being the most deprived and 354 being the least deprived.

In terms of overall deprivation 20% of Walsall's SOAs are in the 10% most deprived areas in the country and 42% are in the 20% most deprived. Similarly in the Income theme 21% of Walsall's SOAs are in the 10% most deprived areas in England whilst 46% are in the 20% most deprived areas in the Country. The highest levels of deprivation are recorded in the Education, Skills and Training theme where 36% of areas in the borough are in the 10% most deprived areas in England and 55% of the areas in Walsall are in the 20% most deprived areas in the country.



The Place Survey 2008/2009¹⁸ is the new biennial statutory survey which all lower and upper tier local authorities in England are required to carry out. The findings from the Place Survey are important because they help the Council and its local partners on the local strategic partnership (including the police, fire and health services, and the voluntary and

¹⁸ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/xls/1326148.xls>

community sector) understand how they are performing in relation to each of the new citizen perspective indicators prioritised by the government, and how residents' views have changed over time in relation to key local public service and quality of life issues.

The Place Survey asked residents about their satisfaction with the local area – i.e. the area within a 15 – 20 minutes walk from their home. In Walsall older residents are more satisfied with the local area than younger residents. There is a large gap in satisfaction of 17 percentage points between the youngest and oldest age groups. In terms of tenure, people who own their own homes are the most satisfied residents (73%). The least satisfied are those who live in social housing (63%).

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING THE YEAR

The borough was badly hit by the recession. As well as a significant rise in unemployment, there was a fall in completions of all types of new development, including new dwellings, employment land and retail. Initial results suggest that this fall has continued during the rest of 2009, which will be reflected in next year's annual monitoring report.

On the positive side, some significant developments were completed during the year, in particular the new campus for Walsall College and the Town Centre Transport Package. These investments will contribute to ensuring that Walsall is well-positioned to benefit from the recovery.

Walsall College new Wisemore Campus

- £64 million campus which is part of Walsall First, an initiative between Tesco, Walsall College, Walsall Council, Learning and Schools Council, and Walsall Regeneration Company.
- Opened September 2009
- 100+ teaching rooms
- Specially designed curriculum - prepared around identified growth areas for Walsall and the West Midlands
- Principal and chief executive, Amarjit Basi said: "We truly believe it is not 'our college', it is 'Walsall's College'. We want to work with the local community to build a Walsall to be proud of, with a range of opportunities to develop skills and achieve career success".

The new campus will form the centrepiece of Gigaport, which was granted outline planning permission during the year. Gigaport is intended to comprise Walsall Hub' data centre, a Business Centre comprising offices and incubator units, the 'One Gigaport' office complex, and intervening public spaces. A key feature will be the use of 'next generation broadband' and fibre optic technology to encourage the development of innovative start-up companies, and provide national and international connectivity to IT-based industries, through the Walsall Hub. There will also be a 'green' data centre and incubator units.

It is anticipated that Phase One will create 635 jobs and that the data and business centres will be operational by 2011.

Town Centre Transport Package (TCTP)

TCTP is a £17 million package of highways improvements and associated measures aimed at:

- reducing congestion and more effective road traffic management
- improving safety for all road users
- boosting regeneration

- improving image and attracting further inward and external investment
- improving air quality

This scheme will enhance access to the town centre as a place to live work or visit. The town centre will attract investment and sites that have fallen vacant through the closure of traditional industries will be redeveloped.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the documents that the Council intends to prepare for the Local Development Framework. It serves as a project plan establishing the programming, status and inter-connections between the various documents being prepared. In doing so, it also provides the local community and organisations with essential information on the Council's planning policies, both now and as intended to be prepared in the future.








As a result of revisions to legislation governing the preparation and production of Local Development and Supplementary Planning Documents all local authorities were required to update their Local Development Schemes.

For the purpose of this AMR the Local Development Scheme approved by the Council in February 2008 will be used to assess the progress against the milestones contained in the Local Development Scheme for the 2008/2009 monitoring year. It must be noted however that the LDS was further amended in February 2009 primarily as a result of legislative changes introduced to the plan-making process. This revised LDS however did not come into effect until after April 2009; hence it is not being used for this monitoring year.

Walsall updated its LDS in February 2009 and submitted it to the Government Office for the West Midlands for their endorsement. The core revisions to the LDS are detailed below:

- Amendments to the timetable for producing the Black Country Core Strategy Development Plan Document. The timetable has been delayed due to a number of reasons, including uncertainty over the Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 2 Review over regional growth, the need to commission further technical studies and to be able to incorporate emerging best practice and experience from other Core Strategy Examinations into the BCCS. However work is ongoing: the Core Strategy was published in November 2009 and adoption is programmed for 2011.
- The inclusion of Development Management Policies, which were proposed previously as a separate Development Plan Document (DPD) in the site allocations DPD.
- Amendments to the timetable for the Central Willenhall Area Action Plan.

The table below details the development plan and supplementary planning documents to be developed in this monitoring year and their progress against the timetable in the February 2008 LDS.

Document	LDS Milestone	Target	Actual	Achievement	Comments
Core Strategy	Submission to Secretary of State	October 2008	-		New date for Publication November 2009 Submission to Secretary of State February 2010
Central Willenhall: Area Action Plan	Start	January 2008	-		Revised date Consultation February 2009
	Options consultation	September 2008	Consultation carried out		As a result of work on the BCCS AAP to be reviewed
	Preferred option consultation	April 2009	-		
Design Guide SPD	Adoption	March 2008	February 2008		
Natural Environment SPD	Adoption	April 2008	April 2008		
Affordable Housing Refresh	Adoption	April 2008	April 2008		

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

As a result of work to progress the Black Country Core Strategy refinement and changes to existing land use patterns proposed as part of this process will have a direct impact on the existing land use patterns within the Central Willenhall area which is to be subject to its own area action plan. As a consequence of this it has been decided to focus attention on the BCCS before detailed work progresses on the AAP. This will necessitate a further revision to the LDS in the near future.

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY

Greenbelt¹⁹

UDP Policy ENV2

Local Output Indicator- Green Belt: Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.

A²⁰

Target

100% protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.

ACHIEVEMENTS

A small number of planning applications that were considered inappropriate in the Green Belt have been allowed for a variety of reasons. Some of the applications have been allowed as they have no greater footprint than buildings they are replacing and some applications have had no greater impact on the Green Belt. One application has been granted on the grounds of special circumstances for the provision of a school to cater for specialist education needs, the only facility of its kind in Walsall.

Biodiversity²¹

UDP Policy ENV19-24

New Core Output Indicator E2- Change in areas of biodiversity importance.

G

Target

Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, 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.

Areas (ha/ % of resource) lost to development requiring planning permission since 1 April 2007.

¹⁹ Please note that further data relating to greenbelt can be found in the appendix B.

²⁰ Each indicator has been given a RAG rating. R= Red (Significantly behind target), A= Amber (Some progress towards target but target not met) and G= Green (on-target or target met)

²¹ Please note that further data relating to biodiversity can be found in the appendix C.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

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 2008 and 31 March 2009.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

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 eleven Local Nature Reserves covering some 262 ha. These sites are usually also designated as SSSIs or SINCs or occasionally SLINCs.

One new site has been declared since 1 April 2008. This is Barr Beacon and Pinfold Lane Quarry LNR, Walsall declared on 1 September 2008 and is 26.7 hectares in area. This means that Walsall Council has achieved the national target of providing 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve land for every 1000 population.

There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009.

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 current reporting period there are 38 SINCs covering some 503 ha. This has not changed since the previous report.

Between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 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 70 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.

Local Output Indicator- Progress in relation to targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and the Black Country.

G

Target

Appendix C provides further detailed information on this indicator

ACHIEVEMENT

Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and The Black Country is being met.

UDP Policy ENV15-19

Local Output Indicator- Tree Planting

A

Target

Progress in relation to targets in forest plans/strategies.

ACHIEVEMENT

64 street trees were planted in this monitoring year against a target of 1000 set out in the Urban Forestry Strategy.

This number is low. However, many more trees were planted as part of the landscaping for major developments such as the Town Centre Transport Package and those carried out by private developers. Such planting is not monitored.

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

UDP Policy ENV27-29

Local Output Indicator: Historic Environment: Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest.

G

Target

100% protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest.

ACHIEVEMENT

One statutory listed building (Victorian Arcade) has been added to the statutory list 2008 –2009.

There has also been the loss of one historic building (locally listed) which was the Samuel Parkes building, New Road, Willenhall.

UDP Policy ENV29

Local Output Indicator: Conservation Area Management: Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies.

G

Target

5 to be prepared by April 2009

ACHIEVEMENT

Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans have been completed for the Aldridge, Bloxwich Park, Bloxwich High Street, Elmore Green, Bloxwich and Highgate, Walsall conservation areas. Three documents have been produced where the three Bloxwich Conservation Areas have been dealt within one document with the view that the conservation areas will be merged.

Renewable Energy

UDP Policy ENV39

LDF Core Output Indicator E3: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 9) Renewable Energy capacity installed by type.

R

Target

Regional Energy Strategy Target: 5% of electricity to be from renewable sources by 2010.

ACHIEVEMENT

No renewable energy schemes were installed or granted planning permission during the monitoring year. However, the criteria for this indicator do not require small scale capacity that does not require planning permission to be recorded.

Water Resources, Water Quality and Flood Risk

UDP Policy ENV40

There were no planning applications approved by the Council that were contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on water quality grounds during this monitoring period. Only one application was approved where the Environment Agency had raised objections on flood risk grounds, suggesting that there is little possibility that planning applications have been granted in areas of flood risk.

JOBS AND PROSPERITY

COMMENTARY

The recession and the long-term decline in manufacturing in the region resulted in a continuing low level of development of land for employment uses. The amount of land both developed and granted planning permission remained well below the UDP target. However, virtual all the development that took place was on brownfield sites, exceeding the UDP target, and no allocated new employment sites were lost to other uses.

The emerging Black Country Core Strategy proposes the redevelopment of a large amount of surplus employment land to housing, and the upgrading of the remaining land. It will be a challenge to continue to protect and upgrade the land that is to remain in employment use, and manage the phasing of the release of the remainder.

Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Revised Core Output Indicators.

CORE OUTPUT INDICATOR	ACHIEVEMENT
BD1: Total Amount of Additional Employment Floor Space	9927m²
BD2: Total Amount of Employment Floor Space On Previously Developed Land	9927m²
BD3: Employment Land Available by Type	95.5ha

DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF ACHIEVEMENT

Amount of floorspace developed for employment land use (sq metres) – 2009 monitoring year				
Core Output Indicator	B1a	B8	B1b, B1c, B2 or B8 combined	Total
BD1 – Gross floorspace sq m	215	1,393	8319 (3.14ha)	9,927m ²
BD2 – Gross floorspace on previously developed land	215 (100%)	1,393	8319 (3.14ha)	9,927m ²

The above figures are based on sites granted planning permission in previous years that have been completed during the year. Planning permission was granted for a further 4149m² (net) of floorspace for employment uses during the year: due to resource issues it has not been possible to establish in time for the production of the AMR how much of this floorspace was completed during the year.

BD3 - The provisional vacant land supply in Walsall is 95.5ha. 18.8ha of this is classed as readily available according to the RELS criteria. The RELS

data accounts only for sites above 0.4ha. A further 53.3ha is not currently readily available. The rest is land which has yet to be assessed.

The Council is currently engaged on an employment land review which will assess the total stock of land and the results will be available for next year's Annual Monitoring Report. This review may result in an adjustment to the above figures.

Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Existing Indicators UDP Policy JP1

Local Output Indicator: Land developed for employment uses.	R
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Target

13 ha per annum (UDP Target)

ACHIEVEMENT

Monitoring year total – 4.66 ha

Local Output Indicator: The proportion of development that takes pace on Brownfield Sites	G
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Target

95% of all land developed (UDP Target)

ACHIEVEMENT

Monitoring year total – 96.4%

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.	G
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Target

95% of the total area (taking into account flexibility of Policy JP4.1 and JP 4.2)

ACHIEVEMENT

No planning applications for inappropriate uses were granted.

STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES²²

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

UDP Policy S1-S7

LDF Core Output Indicator BD4ii: Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (relates to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) within the local authority area

R

Target

No specific target.

ACHIEVEMENT

		A1 ²³	A2	B1(a) ²⁴	D2	Total
BD4ii	Gross (m ²)	434	271	320	115	1,140
	Net (m ²)	-10	271	204	115	580

Demolitions and conversions led to a reduction in the amount of A1 floorspace in the borough. However, the majority of this A1 floorspace was converted to other town centre uses, in particular A2 and A3 uses. There was a significant increase in the amount of new A2 floorspace recorded compared to the previous AMR when no new A2 floorspace completions were recorded. As the table in Appendix E shows, the amount of completed floorspace for all of the town centre uses recorded was lower than last year. This fall coincided with difficult economic conditions that were affecting the whole of the UK at the time and these conditions have persisted in the 2009-2010 monitoring year.

UDP Policy S1-S5

LDF Core Output Indicator BD4i: Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (relates to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) within town centres.

R

²² Please note that further information relating to this section can be found in Appendix E

²³ Net tradable floorspace

²⁴ Excludes ancillary or temporary uses

Target

No specific target.

ACHIEVEMENT

		A1 ²⁵	A2	B1a ²⁶	D2	Total
BD4i	Gross (m ²)	0	0	0	28	28
	Net (m ²)	-42	0	0	28	-14

The largest A1 completion during 2008-2009 arose from the conversion of an out-of-centre pub to a Tesco Express (Paddock Lane, Aldridge). This change of use did not require planning permission under the Use Classes Order. Next year there is expected to be large increase in the amount of completed A1 floorspace when a new Morrisons supermarket opens in Willenhall district centre. An extension to a bingo hall accounted for the small amount of new leisure floorspace in Walsall town centre.

UDP Policy S1-S5

Local Output Indicator – Town Centre Development: The proportion of all retail, leisure and other ‘town centre’ uses that takes place in established centres.	R
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Target

90% (UDP target)

ACHIEVEMENT

	A1	A2	B1(a)	D2	Other	Combined
In centre development	-	85%	63%	24%	100%	56%

The low floorspace figures and small number of developments involved mean that the proportion figures are easily distorted. During 2008-2009 two B1a developments were completed compared to one the previous year. One of the B1(a) completions took place to support a nearby hospital, which was in an out-of-centre location. However, the amount of B1(a) floorspace in the centres is still an improvement on the 0% in the previous year. The amount of floorspace in the centres is still an improvement on the 0% in the previous year. The amount of D2 floorspace completed in the borough’s centres has also increased from 0% in the previous year. All of the completions recorded for ‘other town centre’ uses (primarily cafes and takeaways) were in centres, thus exceeding the UDP target.

²⁵ Net tradable floorspace

²⁶ Excludes ancillary or temporary uses

UDP Policy S1-S7

Local Output Indicator- Shopping Centres: Amount of vacant floor space in centres

R

Target

Vacancies to be at or below the national average (UDP Target).

ACHIEVEMENT

The Council was not able to monitor vacancies in all of the centres for 2007-2008, although it does appear there has been some increase in vacancies. Surveys of all the borough's local centres were carried out in May and June to inform the Black Country Centres Study 2009. On average 10.4% of premises on ground and upper floors were vacant but there were wide fluctuations. Vacancy rates ranged from 0% in Beacon Road, Buxton Road and Turnberry Road local centres to 47% in South Mossley, 28% in Beechdale and 26% in Coalpool/Ryecroft.

HOUSING

COMMENTARY

The target in RPG11 of 10,100 dwellings to be completed over the period 1991-2011 was reached during the year. At the time of adoption of the UDP, this implied an average annual target of 422 for the rest of the Plan period. A total of 466 dwellings were completed during the year but there was a net loss of 151 dwellings as the result of the demolition of 617 dwellings including several blocks of multi-storey flats owned by Walsall Housing Group.

Although the targets in RPG11 and the UDP were exceeded, new housing targets were set by the Phase 1 Revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy, which was issued in January 2008. These propose an annual net rate of 500. The new targets will be reflected in future AMR's.

The impact of the recession began to be reflected in the number of completions being less than in recent years, although completions in recent years have been greater than the long term average. The number of completions in 2008-9 was sustained in part by an increase in the number of affordable homes being provided through public funding and as a result of the requirements of Section 106 agreements.

Completions data for the first few months of 2009-10 suggests that completions for 2009-10 will be much lower, although this will be balanced by far fewer demolitions and continued funding of affordable dwellings.

The Walsall Housing Needs and Demand Study update carried out in 2007 identified a surplus of flats and a shortfall of houses in the borough. The mix of dwelling types completed during the year continued this imbalance.

UDP Policies H2,H3, LDF Core Output Indicator (COI H1, H2): Housing trajectory:

	<u>Achievement</u>
(i) Net additional dwellings over the previous five year period (COI H2a);	<u>1597</u>
(ii) Net additional dwellings for the current year (COI H2b);	<u>-151</u>
(iii) Projected net additional dwellings up to 2026 (COI H2c);	
a) Net additional dwellings up to 2026	<u>10334</u>
b) Hectares 2008-2014	<u>62ha</u>

c) Target dwelling numbers 2008-14; and	<u>3338</u>
(v) Number of net additional dwellings needed to meet overall housing requirements, having regard to previous year's performance (H2d).	<u>0</u>

Target

The UDP provides a target of 10,100 dwellings gross to be completed over the period 1991-2011. A total of 10,419 dwellings were completed up to the end of the monitoring year. This target therefore will not provide a useful monitoring indicator in future and will be replaced when the Black Country Core Strategy is adopted (this is anticipated to happen in 2011).

Indicator	Start of Plan Period	End of Plan Period	Total Housing Source of Plan Target Required (Net)	Source of Plan Target
H1 (a)	1991	2011	10,100	RPG 11 (1998)
H1 (b)	2006	2026	63000 for the Black Country	WMRSS Phase 2 Revision Panel Report (September 2009)
H1 (C)	2006	2026	11973	Black Country Core Strategy Publication Document December 2009.

ACHIEVEMENT

YEAR	COMPLETIONS	DEMOLITIONS	NET COMPLETIONS
2003-4	627	308	319
2004-5	793	213	580
2005-6	479	186	293
2006-7	768	152	616
2007-8	591	802	-151
2008-9	466	617	-211

UDP Policies H2,H3,

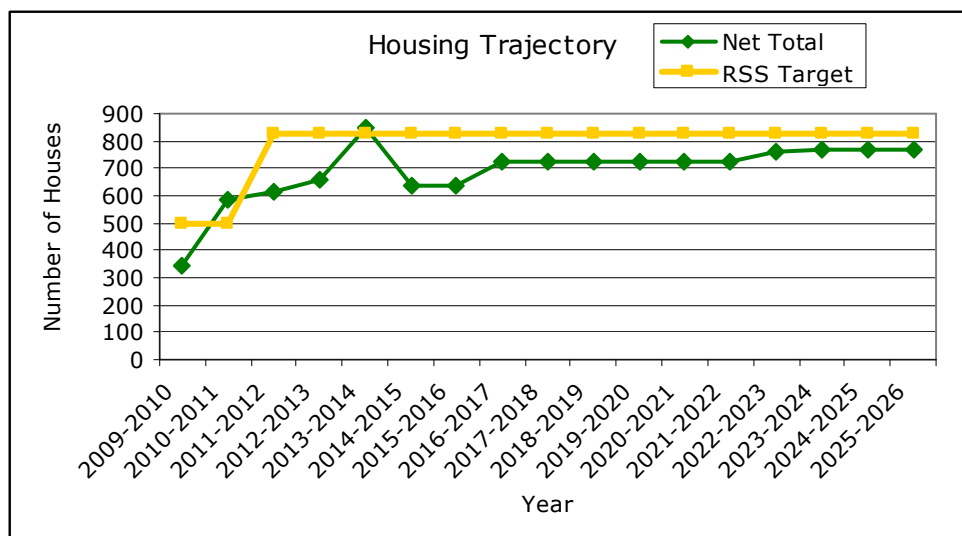
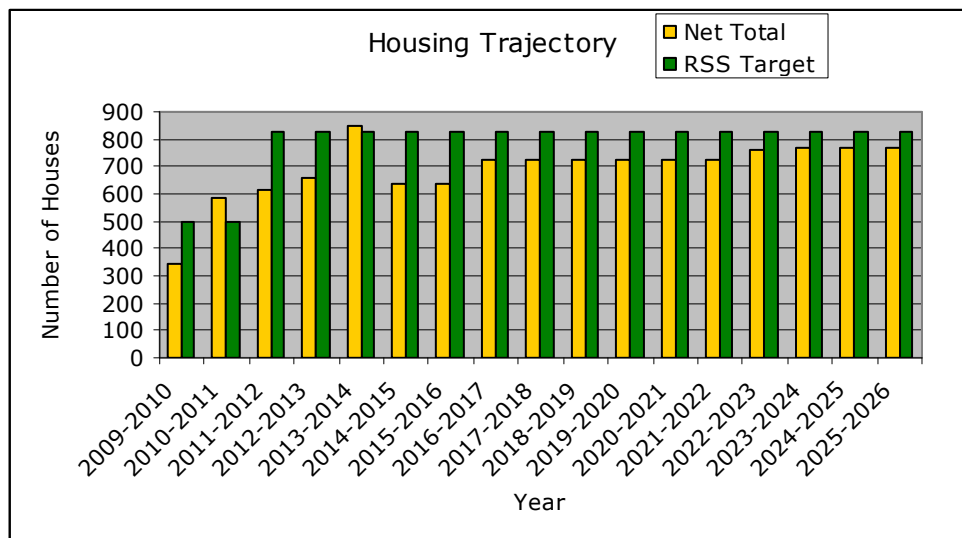
Local Output Indicator – Housing Requirement: Progress towards RSS target for the provision of additional dwellings.	G
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Target

422 new dwellings per annum (gross) (RSS (2008) target is 500 new dwellings per annum)

ACHIEVEMENT

466 dwellings completed 2008-9 (gross)



Please note that RSS targets are gross where as Walsall trajectories are net.

FIVE YEAR SUPPLY

The above trajectory is based on a combination of sites that have planning permission, those which are allocated in the Unitary Development Plan, proposals for the redevelopment of cleared social housing by Walsall Housing Group, the borough’s main social landlord, and proposals in the emerging Core Strategy, Darlaston and Willenhall Area Action Plans. Together, these identify broad locations for some 15,000 dwellings, in

excess of the requirement to 2026 in the RSS. Of these, some 6,000 have planning permission or are committed sites in the UDP. This is well in excess of the requirement for a five year deliverable supply of 2,500 dwellings based on RSS1.

The Council has commissioned a Strategic Housing Land Availability Survey which is expected to be published in December 2009. This will refine the database of deliverable housing sites.

UDP Policies H2,H3,

Local Output Indicator – Housing Windfalls: The contribution of windfall sites to housing provision	G
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Target

275 dwellings per annum on windfall sites (gross)

ACHIEVEMENT

462 out of the 466 completions were on windfall sites

UDP Policies H1,H3,

LDF Core Output Indicator (H3): Percentage of new and converted dwellings approved on previously developed land.	G
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Target

PPG3 target: 60% UDP target: 95%

ACHIEVEMENT

We do not currently record whether planning permissions are on previously developed land. However, 100% of completions were on such land.

UDP Policy H1

Local Output Indicator – Housing Vacancies: The reduction of vacancy rates in the existing housing stock.	G
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Target

Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011

ACHIEVEMENT

The vacancy rate fell from 4% in April 2008 to 3.8% in April 2009, which continues the positive trend of previous years (down from 4.6% in 2006-7 and 4.1% in 2007-8).

UDP Policy H9

Local Output Indicator: The density of new development.

G

Target

Overall average density of new residential development approved during the year to be at least 30 dwellings per hectare.

ACHIEVEMENT

Data for this year alone is not available. However, taking account of the total capacity of sites that were completed in whole or in part, remained available or were granted planning permission during the year, the average net density was 53 dwellings per hectare.

UDP Policy H10

Local Output Indicator – Housing Types and Sizes: The types and sizes of dwellings built – aim to achieve a mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances.

A

Target

None

ACHIEVEMENT

The mix of dwelling types completed was as follows:

Flats				Houses and Bungalows			
1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+ Bed	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4+ Bed
22	301	2	0	4	20	59	58

70% of all development was flats compared to 30% for housing, with 92% of flats being 2 bed. This is down to considerable amount of development completed within the town centre.

UDP Policy H4 and Affordable Housing SPD

Local Output Indicator (H5): Affordable housing completions

G

Target

UDP residual requirement 184 new affordable dwellings per annum

ACHIEVEMENT

A total of 374 affordable housing units have been provided in this monitoring year, demonstrating excellent progress in this area. Walsall's Strategic Development Framework and Walsall's prospectus for growth has provided a clear vision and direction, along with a clear implementation and delivery mechanism which in turn has enabled partners such as Homes and Community Agency to target funding in the area.

Note: This number includes mortgage rescues and other "conversions" from other tenures so should not be directly compared with the total completion figures for new dwellings as some of the affordable dwellings would have been physically completed in previous years.

Core Output Indicator H4 Net Additional Pitches (Gypsy and Travellers)	G
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Target

N/A

ACHIEVEMENT

One family unit was granted on appeal by the Secretary of State.

Core Output Indicator H6 Housing Quality – Building for Life Assessments	R
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Target

The number and proportion of total new build completions on housing sites reaching very good, good, average and poor ratings against the Building for Life criteria.

ACHIEVEMENT

The Council does not currently record this data.

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.	G
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Target

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”

ACHIEVEMENT

Due to problems with the operation of the Accession software the 2005 target baseline has needed amendment to a population of 252,571. However performance is still on-track, with the latest data from 2008 showing population levels within 30 minutes travel time being 450,731, nearly 43% above the interim 2008 milestone of 315,714 based on a linear distribution between 2005 and 2011.

UDP Policy T2

Local Output Indicator: Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target.	A
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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.

ACHIEVEMENT

LTP Target interim milestone for 2008/9 **324m**. Passenger trips by bus in 2008-09 were **326.7m**. These figures are for the whole conurbation. (Source: Centro ASR 2008-09). 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.

To progress this further need to continue good work across metropolitan area through Bus Showcase, Bus Partnership Routes, Bus Network

²⁷ Please note that further data relating to transport can be found in the appendix D.

Reviews and the wider actions from the Audit Commission Report into West Midlands Bus Use.
Additionally in Walsall complete the Town Centre Transport Package Major Scheme and Walsall Bus Network Reviews in conjunction with Centro.

UDP Policy T4, T5

Local Output Indicator: Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target.	G
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Target

LTP target is for no more than a 7% increase in road traffic mileage between 2004 and 2010.

ACHIEVEMENT

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 in 2006 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 only one year of historic data set to compare to current performance. This will be resolved as the Met Area carries on with the 1500-point approach in future years. In 2006 the result was 102.3 and this had dropped to 101.1 by 2008, this is well ahead of target trajectory.

A Base figure has been set at 2004 of 100.

2006 = 102.3

2008 = 101.1 (well ahead of target trajectory)

(Source: CEPOG Support Team)

Continue with 1500 point surveys.

Deliver improvements on congestion corridors included in LTP PSA target.

Continue to implement Decriminalised Parking Enforcement and look to gain powers for moving vehicle enforcement.

Implement Red Routes & other management improvements.

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 and were completed in Spring 2009. With the completion of the project peak-time journeys have been cut by 96 seconds on average in the morning on the Wolverhampton Road

to Pleck Road stretch and 52 seconds in the evening. 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.

Highway Improvements: UDP Policy T5. Consultation and preparatory work done for the Route 301 scheme between Walsall and Bloxwich. Implementation of this scheme commenced in November 2010. Additional design work and consultation has continued to progress on the Route 404 between Walsall and West Bromwich and the Route 529 between Walsall and Wolverhampton. Implementation of Route 529 is expected in Spring 2010. Following the 51 Route receiving Red Route treatment during 2008, both the 529 and 301 schemes will also incorporate Red Route initiatives in 2010.

UDP Policy T9

Local Output Indicator: Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target

G

Target

LTP Target is 1% increase in cycling index between 2003/04 and 2010/11.

ACHIEVEMENT

Index for the Met Area for 2008/09 is 135.92, around 40 percentage points above the target trend line.

(Source: CEPOG Support Team) Figures are for the whole conurbation. Continue to implement good quality facilities for cyclists as part of the authority's capital works programmes and through developers via planning conditions.

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

Palfrey Park (6.5 Ha) and Willenhall Memorial Park (20 Ha) are managed to Green Flag Award standard and have retained this status from 2007 and 2008 respectively. In addition no development has taken place on protected urban open spaces or playing fields / sports pitches in accordance with policies LC1 and LC6. A PPG17 compliant open space, sports and recreational survey of the existing provision and assessment of future needs provision is currently in progress.

UDP Policy LC1

Local Indicator (formerly Core Output Indicator 4c): Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	A
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Target

Retention of existing Green Flag sites and award of new sites as per Green Space Strategy.

ACHIEVEMENT

No new urban open space has been provided within this monitoring year however 43.62 ha has been provided since 1991 which is considerably higher than the original target.

The only slight exception is that no new open space has achieved Green Flag Award status during the 2008/09 monitoring period. However as the management of parks and open space, and therefore whether Green Flag status is achieved or not, is beyond planning policy control, it would be inaccurate to say that Policy LC1 is unsuccessful as a result of this. The amber performance rating therefore recognises the success in maintaining current Green Flag parks while at the same time acknowledging the need for further awards to be pursued as a priority as set out in the 2006 Green Space.

UDP Policy LC1

UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development.	G
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Target

100% protection (UDP Target)

ACHIEVEMENT

100% protection achieved

UDP Policy LC2

UDP Monitoring Indicator: Provision of new urban open spaces.

A

Target

At least 24 hectares of new urban open space 1991-2011

ACHIEVEMENT

No new urban open space has been provided within this monitoring year however 43.62 ha has been provided since 1991 which is considerably higher than the original target.

UDP Policy LC5

UDP Monitoring Indicator: Length of greenways constructed.

A

Target

At least another 10 miles (16 km) 2002 - 2011 (UDP Target)

ACHIEVEMENT

None in 2008/09 (but 48 km previously)

UDP Policy LC6

UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of playing fields / sports pitches

G

Target

100% protection (UDP Target)

ACHIEVEMENT

100% protection achieved

MINERALS

UDP Strategy Policy Statement 9.9, UDP Polices M2, M3.

LDF Core Output Indicator (formerly 5a): Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority.

A

Target

Targets for aggregate production are set for sub-regional areas in Policy M2 of the West Midlands RSS. The targets are in the form of "apportionments," or annual production rates. Walsall has no apportionments of its own but is part of the West Midlands County sub-region. There is no apportionment for crushed rock but there is a sand and gravel apportionment of **0.506 tonnes per annum** up to 2016 (WMRSS, Policy M2).

ACHIEVEMENT

There was a slight increase in sand and gravel sales in 2007 in the West Midlands County area compared to previous years. However, no new permissions have been granted for sand and gravel extraction in Walsall so permitted reserves remain at a low level. Walsall is currently unable to demonstrate a 7-year landbank (assuming it is expected to provide 10% of the current sub-regional apportionment).

At March 2009, the only application for sand and gravel quarrying related to an extension to Branton Hill Quarry. An application for a new quarry access road to Branton Hill Quarry was approved during 2008/09, which if implemented, should improve accessibility, and enable the outstanding application to be progressed.

UDP Strategy Policy Statement 9.4

LDF Core Output Indicator M2 (formerly 5b): Production of secondary/recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority

A

Target

There are currently no sub-regional targets for production of secondary/recycled aggregates. However, the recently revised national and regional aggregates guidelines²⁸ assume that 100 million tonnes of alternatives (secondary/ recycled aggregates) will be produced in the West Midlands region as a whole between 2005 and 2020. This equates to around **6.25 million tonnes per annum** over this 16 year period.

ACHIEVEMENT

²⁸ National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England 2005 – 2020 (June 2009), CLG

Data from a national survey in 2005 has been used to provide an estimate of recycled aggregate production in Walsall as this is the only information available at present. This can only be regarded as very approximate, as it is based on a “weighted share” of estimated regional/ sub-regional production.

This suggests that in 2005, around 70% of total aggregates production in Walsall was from recycled sources (around 125,000 tonnes of recycled aggregate compared to around 50,000 tonnes of primary aggregate). Trend data based on previous estimates of production suggest that there has been a modest increase in recycled aggregate production in Walsall since 2001. However, landfilling of aggregate also appears to have increased over time.

Proposed New Local Indicator: Supply of clay to brick manufacturing plants
--

R

Targets

There are no local targets for supply of clay to brickworks. However, there is a national policy requirement for mineral planning authorities to identify a **25-year supply of brick clay to each operational or proposed brick manufacturing plant** (see MPS1, Annex 2).

ACHIEVEMENTS

At April 2009 there were still three operational brick manufacturing plants in Walsall. Discussions with manufacturers indicate that none of these works had a 25 year supply. Although Atlas Works (Ibstock) had more than 20 years’ supply, Aldridge (Ibstock) and Sandown (Wienerberger) each had less than 5 years’ supply identified.

No new clay resources have come forward through new permissions during 2008/09, although permission has been granted to increase imports of clay to Sandown Works, which should help maintain supplies of Etruria Marl in the short-term.

WASTE

UDP Policy WM1-WM3

LDF Core Output Indicator WM1: Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority (by type)	G
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Targets

There are currently no targets set in the UDP for provision of waste management facilities, and the targets in Policy WD2 of the RSS are impossible to apply at a waste planning authority level.

However, targets and requirements will be set for the Black Country as a whole, and for each waste planning authority (including Walsall), in the Black Country Core Strategy. These will be based on estimates of capacity currently available and the requirements in the emerging RSS Phase 2 Revision (see Preferred Option, Policy W2, Tables 5 and 6).

ACHIEVEMENTS

New waste management facilities are defined as those which have gained planning permission and have been operable within the reporting year. New commercial waste management capacity is continuing to come forward. Three major waste management facilities were developed in Walsall during 2008/09, as follows:

- Greenstar MRF (around 250,000 TPA capacity)
- New Transfer Station, Leamore (around 25,000 TPA capacity)
- Highfields South Non-Hazardous landfill (void space of around 2,160,000 cubic metres)

UDP Policy WM1 and WM4, UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.1

LDF Core Output Indicator WM1 (formerly 6b): Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority	G
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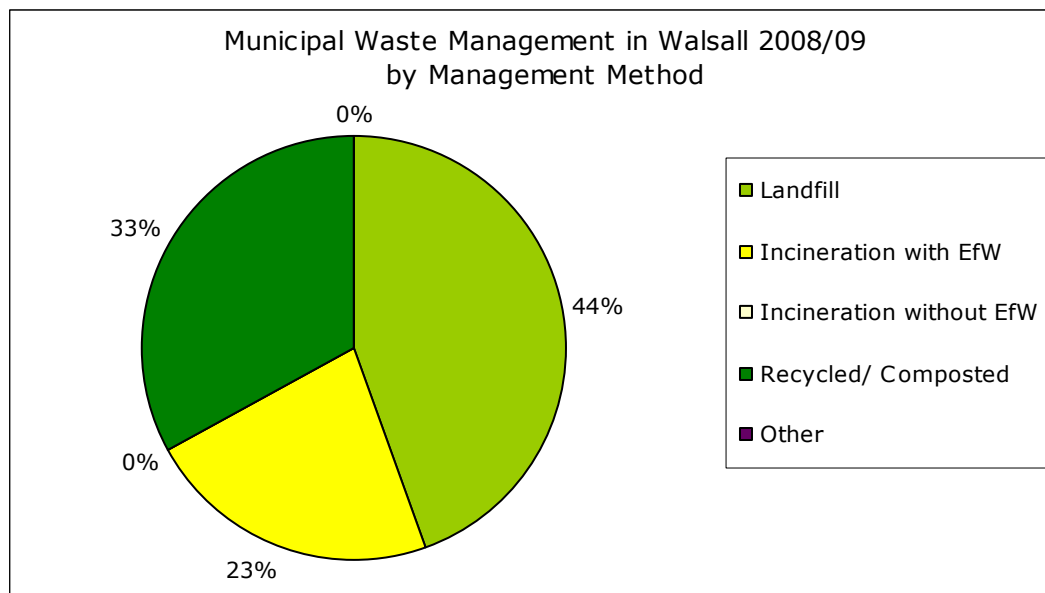
Targets

There are no longer any statutory performance standards relating to Municipal waste management, although the Waste Strategy for England 2007 sets the following **national targets for Municipal waste recovery**:

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

ACHIEVEMENTS

Municipal waste arisings have been falling in Walsall since 2002/03 and this trend is continuing. The figure below shows how Municipal waste was managed in Walsall during 2008/09.



Trend data (see Appendix) shows that recycling and composting rates have continued to rise. In 2008/09 a rate of 33% was achieved (the same rate as Solihull) – the highest rate achieved in the West Midlands Metropolitan area.

A relatively high energy recovery rate has also been maintained despite Walsall having no energy from waste (EfW) facility of its own, through contracts with EfW facilities in neighbouring areas. There has been a corresponding fall in the proportion of Municipal waste sent to landfill, which in 2008/09 accounted for less than half of the total Municipal waste arising in Walsall.

UDP Strategic Policy Statement 10.4, 10.6

Local Output Indicator: Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets.

G

Targets

The main targets for waste are the allowances for biodegradable Municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS), and targets set in relation to National Indicators (NIs) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs). Walsall has only set LAA targets against NI191.

The 2008/09 targets for Walsall were as follows:

LATS allowance - 65,614 tonnes of BMW sent to landfill
NI191: 755.00kg of household waste per head of population (LAA)
NI192: 30.00% of household waste re-used, recycled, composted
NI193: 49.40% of Municipal waste sent to landfill

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Council has continued to reduce the amount of biodegradable Municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill in line with LATS allowances. In 2008/09 it sent **38,277 tonnes of BMW to landfill**, significantly less than its allowance, and is in line to hit the statutory target in 2009/10.

The LAA target for 2008/09 has also been exceeded, with only **675kg of residual household waste collected per head of population** – significantly less than the target figure and less than any other authority in the West Midlands Metropolitan area. The Council has also achieved its National Indicator targets for re-use, recycling and composting of household waste, and Municipal waste sent to landfill.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

For the monitoring year Willenhall Area Action Plan and Darlaston Strategic Regeneration Framework feasibility study were consulted upon. In addition planning applications were advertised and publicised in accordance with the approved Statement of Community Involvement.

CONCLUSIONS

The targets attached to the majority of the “saved” polices within the UDP are being adhered to and are having the desired effect. Development rates are down in some areas however, this is to be expected given the economic downturn. A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in progressing the Black Country Core Strategy which has now been formally published (although publication took place after the end of the monitoring year).

GLOSSARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Office for National Statistics (ONS) The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the executive office of the UK Statistics Authority, a non-ministerial department which reports directly to Parliament. ONS is the UK Government's single largest statistical producer.

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

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

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

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

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) SSSIs are the country's very best wildlife and geographical sites. They include some of the most spectacular and beautiful habitats; wetlands teeming with wading birds, winding chalk rivers, flower-rich meadows, windswept shingle beaches and remote upland peat bogs.

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) SACs are areas which have been given special protection under the European Union's Habitats Directive. They provide increased protection to a variety of wild animals, plants and habitats and are a vital part of global efforts to conserve the world's biodiversity.

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

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

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

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

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. A process to assess the environmental, social and economic effects of the policies

and proposals contained in development plan documents and supplementary planning documents.

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

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

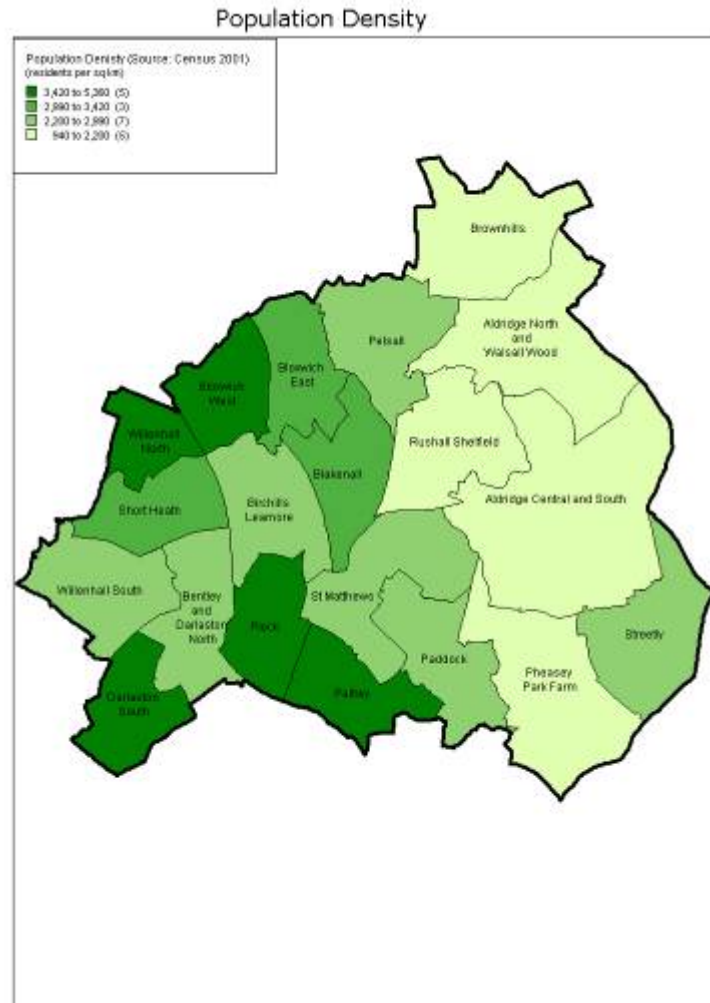
West Midlands Regional Assembly. This is made up of politicians from all local authorities across the region plus representatives from other public bodies and the business and voluntary sectors. It is responsible for developing and co-ordinating a strategic vision for the region, in terms of the environment, the economy, housing and transport as well as spatial planning. For spatial planning the Regional Assembly is the 'Regional Planning Body', responsible for the Regional Spatial Strategy.

Worklessness Worklessness is the detachment from the formal labour market in particular areas of particular groups. Workless individuals include individuals who are unemployed and claiming unemployment benefits, individuals who are economically inactive and eligible for inactive benefits (who may or may not be claiming them), and individuals who are working exclusively in the informal economy (*who may or may not be also be claiming benefits*)" (Wigan Council: Worklessness Case Studies).

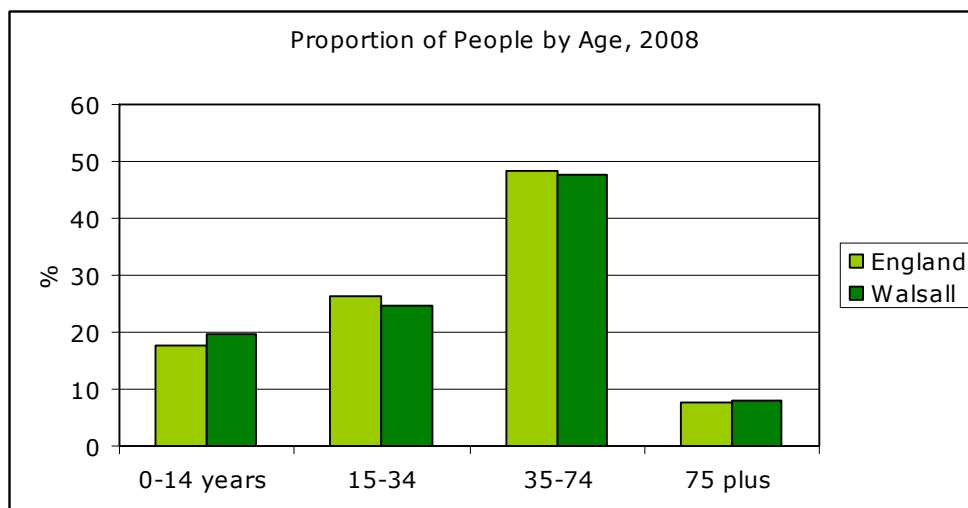
ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT APPENDIX

Appendix A- Contextual Indicators

Demographic Indicators



Source: Census 2001



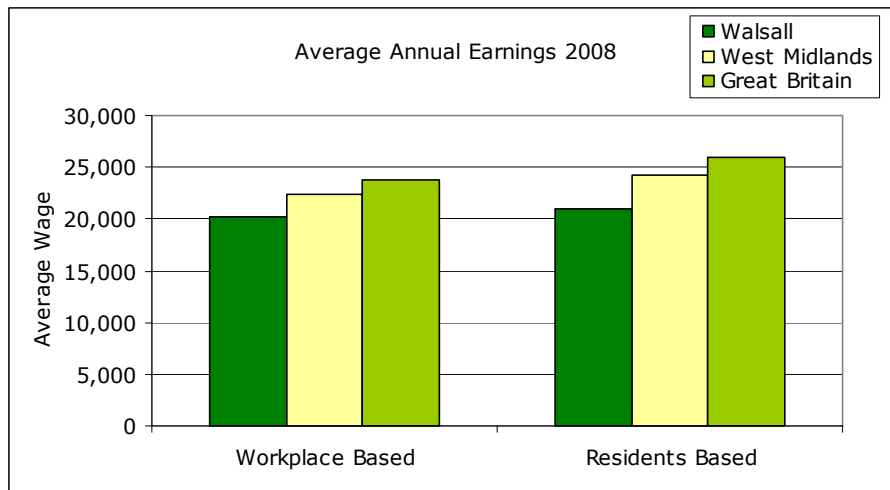
Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, ONS

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009
Population	255,400 (2008 mid-year population estimates)
Net in/out migration	+ 900 (2007-2008 mid year population estimates)
Projections / forecasts of population growth	2010: 251,200 2015: 205,500 (2004 population projections)
Demographic Structure of communities	BME 14% - Mixed 1.4% Asian 10.4% Black 1.4% Chinese 0.4% (2001 census)

Environmental Indicators

Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009
Percentage of area classified as urban open space / green space	20.4% (Source: Walsall MBC)
Amount of Derelict Land	209ha
Air quality / percentage of area covered by AQMA	100% for NO ₂ Specific areas declared across Borough for different pollutants
Number of sites on the Contaminated Land register	None (Source: Walsall MBC)

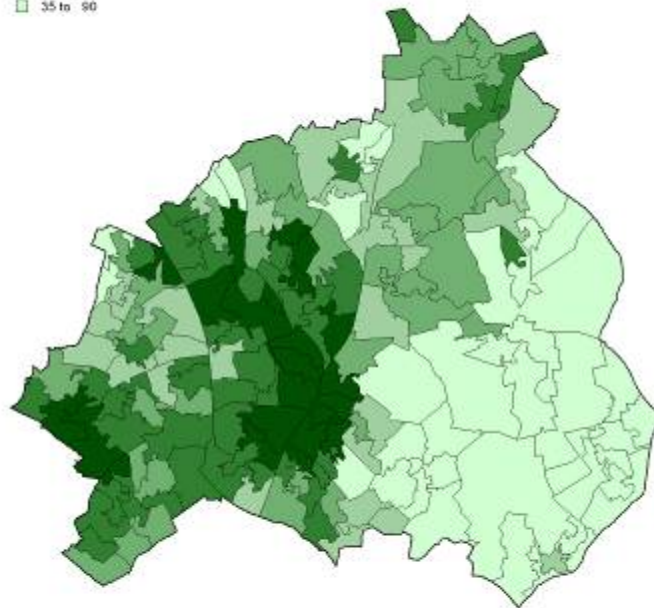
Economic Indicators



Worklessness in Walsall, February 2009

Number of 'Workless' People
by Lower Super Output Area

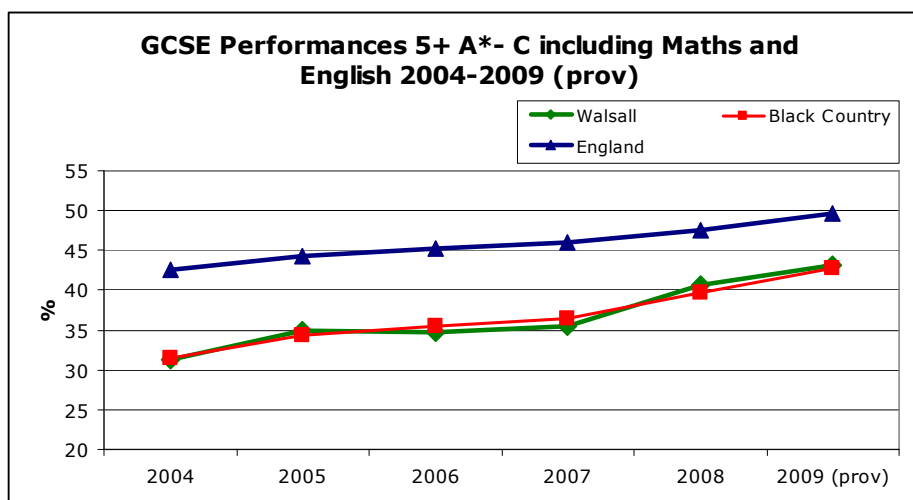
- 271 to 510
- 201 to 270
- 145 to 200
- 91 to 145
- 35 to 90



Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009
Percentage of people who are economically inactive	22.8% (WM - 22.7% Eng - 21.1%) (Annual Population Survey, 2008)

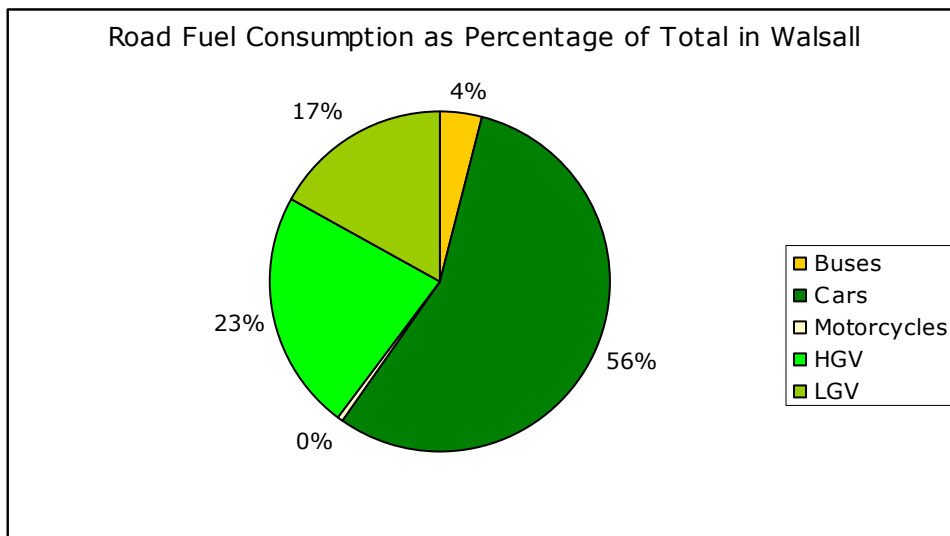
Unemployment	6.9% (WM – 5.3% UK – 4%) (Claimant Count, March 2009)
Gross Value Added per head (£)	£15,586 (Walsall and Wolverhampton), £16,303 West Midlands), £19,430 (United Kingdom). (National Statistics, 2006)
New business registration rate	45.8 (WM – 55.5% UK – 61.0%) (National Statistics, 2007)
Count of Active Enterprises	7,625 (National Statistics, 2007)
Percentage of small businesses in an area showing employment growth	12.7% (WM – 13% Eng – 12.8%) (National Statistics, 2007)
Median earnings (£) for full time employees working in Walsall	£21,154 (WM – £23,820 UK – £25,123) (ASHE, 2008)
Median earnings (£) for full time employees living in Walsall	£22,537 (WM – £23,807 UK – £25,123) (ASHE, 2008)

Skills and Educational Indicators



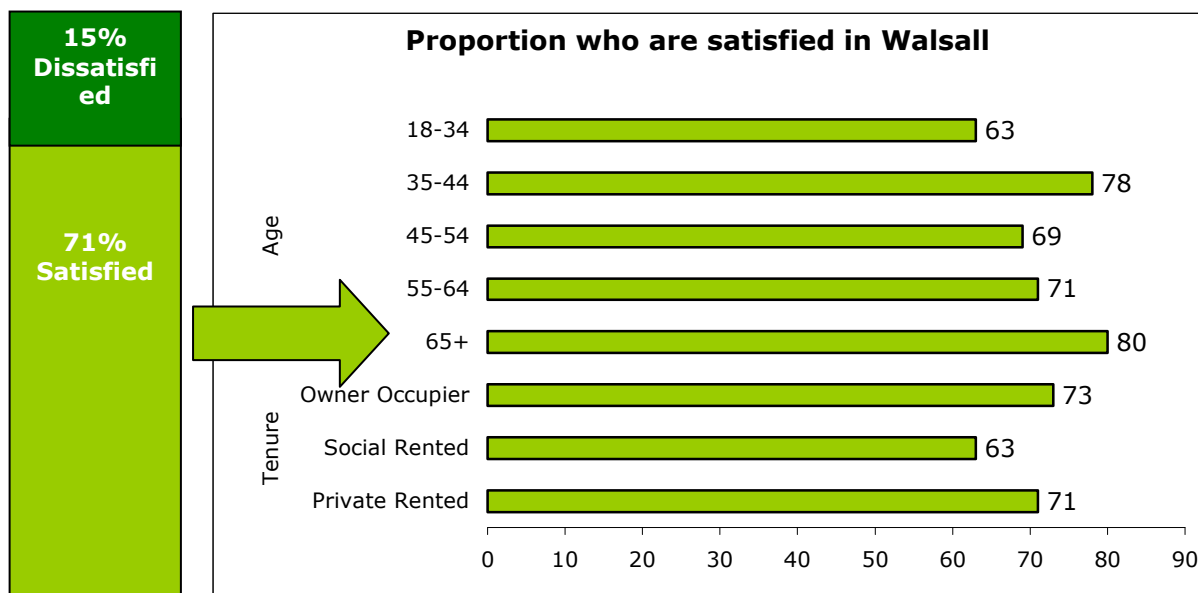
Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009
Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades	59.4% (Eng – 65.3%)
Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths	40.6% (Eng – 47.6%) (DCSF, 2008)
% of the working age population qualified to NVQ level 4+	18.7% (WM – 24.5% Eng – 28.7%) (Annual Population Survey, 2008)
% of the working age population with no qualifications	18.6% (WM – 16% Eng – 12.3%) (Annual Population Survey, 2008)

Transport Indicators



Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009
Average duration / distance of journeys to work	% who work at home – 7.5 % travel <2km – 20.8 % travel 2km to <10km – 47.3

Quality of Life Indicators



Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009									
Patterns of deprivation / proportion of population suffering from multiple deprivation	5.6% of Walsall residents live in the 5% most deprived areas (Dept. for Communities & Local Govt, 2007)									
Proportion of People who are satisfied with Walsall	71% Satisfied 15% Dissatisfied (Place Survey 2008/2009)									
Structure of housing stock	Owner occupied - 64.7% Rented - 35.3% (2001 census)									
House prices - Walsall Metropolitan District	March 2009 - £114,490 March 2008 - £133,406									
Levels of crime and people's perceptions of crime										
Life expectancy and mortality rates	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Walsall</th> <th>Eng</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Males</td> <td>75.7</td> <td>77.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Females</td> <td>81.3</td> <td>81.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> (NCHOD, 2007)		Walsall	Eng	Males	75.7	77.7	Females	81.3	81.8
	Walsall	Eng								
Males	75.7	77.7								
Females	81.3	81.8								

Appendix B- Development of Greenbelt

Application Reference	Location	Type of Development
07/1694/OL/E11	GOSCOTE HOSPITAL ,GOSCOTE LANE	Outline permission for demolition of existing hospital buildings and redevelopment for health and social care purposes.
07/2167/FL/E6	THREE CROWNS P.H.,SUTTON ROAD,WALSALL,WS5 3AX	Convert public house to 12 apartments and minor extensions - Re-use of a landmark building.
08/0028/FL	FORMER SHIRE OAK TRANSPORT CAFE, 250 CHESTER ROAD,STONNALL,WALSALL	Amendments to an earlier consent. Removal of previous transport café, reducing extent of hardstanding and no increase in the footprint from the earlier permission.
08/0059/FL	LAND AT CARTBRIDGE LANE SOUTH,WALSALL	Demolish factory & erect 96 dwellings. No greater footprint and reduces the bulk of buildings on the site.
08/0322/WA	HIGHFIELDS SOUTH QUARRY, LICHFIELD ROAD, SHELFIELD, WALSALL	Holding Tank at Quarry. Considered of limited scale.
08/0768/FL	COLLEGE FARM, BOSTY LANE, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 0LF	Extensions to a house.
08/1299/FL	GOSCOTE HOSPITAL SITE,GOSCOTE LANE,WALSALL,WS3 1SJ	Palliative Care Unit. Replacing floorspace of existing building.
06/0169/OL/E4	520,CHESTER ROAD,ALDRIDGE,WALSALL,WEST MIDLANDS	Outline application for new access quarry road plus new residential for up to 14 aspirational homes.

INTRODUCTION

The core indicators for biodiversity are as follows:

Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, 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'.

A further core indicator was subsequently introduced:

Change in areas of biodiversity importance.

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 4 years to establish baseline data relating to priority habitats and species. This report relies heavily on data provided by EcoRecord and the Wildlife Trust.

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 reports on 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 2008 AND 31 MARCH 2009

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 2008 and 31 March 2009.

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 eleven Local Nature Reserves covering some 262 ha. These sites are usually also designated as SSSIs or SINCs or occasionally SLINCs.

One new site has been declared since 1 April 2008. This is Barr Beacon and Pinfold Lane Quarry LNR, Walsall declared on 1 September 2008 and is 26.7 hectares in area. This means that Walsall Council has achieved the national target of providing 1 hectare of Local Nature Reserve land for every 1000 population.

There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009.

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 current reporting period there are 38 SINC's covering some 503 ha. This has not changed since the previous report.

Between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 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 70 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.

Between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2009 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. Most Walsall sites have been monitored since the previous AMR report.

Walsall's SSSIs are in a greatly improved condition. In the previous report only 50.3% of the sites assessed were favourable or recovering. The figure is now 80.34% following recent assessment by Natural England. The situation within the West Midlands County is that 94.6% of site units are in a favourable/recovering condition. The condition of Walsall's SSSIs is now much closer to that of the SSSIs in the wider county. This Walsall 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.

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

Monitoring qualitative change to the SINCs and SLINCs is the responsibility of the local authority and the partnership which designates the sites. It 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 indicators were adopted in the 2006 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 shows that 35.1% of Local Sites were surveyed in the last 5 years and 35.6% in the last 10 years. The figures for the previous reporting period were 25.7% and 18.6% respectively. More detailed data is provided below.

TABLE 2: SURVEY EFFORT ON LOCAL SITES BETWEEN 1 APRIL 2008 AND 31 MARCH 2009				
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.	22	225.7	57.9	44.9
2007-8 reporting period.	11	68.7	28.9	13.7
2006-7 reporting period.	7	37.92	21.9	9.3
	No of sites	Area of sites	Percentage	Percentage

	surveyed in last 5-10 years.	surveyed in last 5-10 years. (ha)	of total site number.	of total site area.
Current reporting period.	9	39.3	23.7	7.8
2007-8 reporting period.	9	39.3	23.7	7.8
2006-7 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
2007-8 reporting period.	17	115.9	24.3	25.4
2006-7 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 number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	41	172.5	58.6	37.8
2007-8 reporting period.	41	172.5	58.6	37.8
2006-7 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.	39	341.6	36.1	35.6
2007-8 reporting	28	184.6	25.6	19.2

period.				
2006-7 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 number.	Percentage of total site area.
Current reporting period.	50	211.8	46.2	22.08
2007-8 reporting period.	50	211.8	46.2	22.08
2006-7 reporting period.	4	18.17	3.7	2.15

These results need some interpretation. There was a concentrated effort to survey the SINC sites which had not been surveyed within the last 10 years. All the geological SINCS have also been surveyed within the last two years. In addition two invertebrate surveys were also carried out which are not recorded in this data. Habitat survey work on designated sites (and geological survey work on geological sites) is recorded for this indicator because it has been the basic method of monitoring sites over the last 25 years.

Surveying is resource-intensive and cannot be carried out in-house because of a lack of capacity. The survey work carried out in the latest reporting period therefore represents a significant investment.

CHANGE TO PRIORITY SPECIES AND HABITATS

In a previous 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: ponds

Ponds: local indicator 1: Extent of ponds

Work on a review of the pond resource in Birmingham and the Black Country was carried out by EcoRecord, the ecological database for the Black Country and Birmingham within the reporting period.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan gives definitions of the priority habitats. The definition for priority ponds comprises a permanent and seasonal standing water bodies up to 2 ha in extent which meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Habitats of international importance: Ponds that meet criteria under Annex I of the Habitats Directive.
- Species of high conservation importance: Ponds supporting Red Data Book species, UK Biodiversity Action Plan species, species fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act Schedule 5 and 8, Habitats Directive Annex II species, a Nationally Scarce wetland plant species, or three Nationally Scarce aquatic invertebrate species.
- Exceptional assemblages of key biotic groups: Ponds supporting exceptional populations or numbers of key species. Based on (i) criteria specified in guidelines for the selection of biological SSSIs (currently amphibians and dragonflies only), and (ii) exceptionally rich sites for plants or invertebrates (i.e. supporting ≥ 30 wetland plant species or ≥ 50 aquatic macroinvertebrate species).
- Ponds of high ecological quality: Ponds classified in the top PSYM category ("high") for ecological quality (i.e. having a PSYM score $\geq 75\%$). [PSYM (the Predictive System for Multimetrics) is a method for assessing the biological quality of still waters in England and Wales; plant species and / or invertebrate families are surveyed using a standard method; the PSYM model makes predictions for the site based on environmental data and using a minimally impaired pond dataset; comparison of the prediction and observed data gives a % score for ponds quality].
- Other important ponds: Individual ponds or groups of ponds with a limited geographic distribution recognised as important because of their age, rarity of type or landscape context e.g. pingos, duneslack ponds, machair ponds.

Estimates, based on the relatively small national pond data sets currently available, suggest that around 20% of the c.400,000 ponds in the UK might meet one or more of the above criteria. In the Birmingham and Black Country area the completed study suggests that 9.7% of ponds meet the criteria or 17.3% of the combined area of ponds.

The review identified all ponds below 2 ha in extent from OS Mastermap information but excluded garden ponds. Information held on the EcoRecord database was used to assess whether the ponds met the criteria for qualification as priority ponds in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

The results are set out in Table 3.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF CURRENT KNOWLEDGE: PONDS IN WALSALL

	Total no. of all ponds/ total areas of all ponds ha)		% total no. of all ponds within B'ham & Black Country	% total area of ponds within B'ham & Black Country	Total no. of priority ponds/ total areas of priority ponds ha)		% total no. of priority ponds within B'ham & Black Country	% total area of priority ponds within B'ham & Black Country
Walsall	289	36.5	27.4%	26.6%	45	7.9	44.6%	32.0%
Dudley	214	18.3	20.3%	13.4%	32	5.6	28.6%	22.0%
Sandwell	104	20.0	9.9%	14.6%	3	2.1	2.7%	8.5%
Wolverhampton	73	13.6	6.9%	9.9%	3	2.3	4.5%	9.8%
Birmingham	375	48.6	35.5%	35.5%	19	5.8	19.6%	27.7%
TOTALS	1055	100	100%	100%	102	23.7	100%	100%

Some interesting results emerge. Walsall borough contains a relatively high proportion of the total pond resource in the sub-region. Notably 44% of identified priority ponds lie within the borough boundaries despite Walsall covering only about 17% of the total land area.

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

- The total area of ponds might be overestimated to some extent.
- Survey work/ ground truthing will be crucial to identify the actual extent and monitor the condition of the pond resource.

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

Ponds: 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 priority ponds through the planning system/local wildlife sites system was carried out. The results are shown in Table 4 below.

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF PROTECTION CURRENTLY GRANTED BY THE PLANNING SYSTEM TO THE PRIORITY PONDS IN WALSALL (AND THE WIDER SUB-REGION FOR COMPARISON)

	No. of priority ponds in designated sites	Area of priority ponds in designated sites (ha)	No. of priority ponds outside designated sites	Area of priority ponds outside designated sites (ha)
Walsall	45	7.91	5	0.19
Dudley	32	5.57	0	0
Sandwell	3	2.14	0	0
Wolverhampton	3	2.31	2	0.16
Birmingham	19	5.81	3	1.20
TOTALS	102	23.74	10	1.55

Overall the known priority ponds resource in Walsall is largely 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, although protected to a degree by the planning system the habitat resource still remains vulnerable. However, there is a proportion of the resource which has no current protection. The locations of all ponds within Walsall are shown on the plan in Appendix 1.

The 5 priority ponds which currently do not receive protection through site designation are reviewed below in Table 6.

TABLE 5: ASSESSMENT OF PRIORITY PONDS IN WALSALL BOROUGH CURRENTLY OUTSIDE PROTECTED SITES.

Address	Grid reference	Area (ha)	Notes
The Bungalow, Waddens Brook, Willenhall	SO9551 9935	0.0157	Within grounds of private house immediately adjacent to Waddens Brook SINC. Could be incorporated into Site of Importance for Nature Conservation boundary following ground truthing but not believed to be under any immediate threat.
Playing fields to north of Waddens Brook, Willenhall	SO9571 9973	0.0060	Immediately north of Waddens Brook SINC. Council owned. Could be incorporated into Site of Importance for Nature Conservation boundary following

			ground truthing but under no immediate threat.
Junction of Stafford Road and Stoney Lane, Bloxwich	SJ99870 299	0.0115	Council owned. Could possibly be designated following ground truthing but under no immediate threat.
Great Barr Golf Course, Chapel Lane, Pheasey	SP04809 612	0.0286	Pond within golf course. Privately owned. Could possibly be designated following ground truthing but not believed to be under any immediate threat.
North of Chapel Farm, Chapel Lane, Pheasey	SP04879 599	0.0154	Pond to rear of farm buildings. Privately owned. Could possibly be designated following ground truthing but not believed to be under any immediate threat.
	TOTAL	0.0772	

The discrepancy between the cumulative total areas of the ponds is due to the small size of the ponds and uncertainty as to where the pond begins and marginal habitats end.

These five ponds will be reviewed and 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 priority ponds have been examined in some detail. This report could not have been written without the strong collaboration of EcoRecord.
- 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 but there are doubts about the availability of funding for future years.
- 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 Biodiversity Project Officer was employed from 2 January 2007 and a

second EcoRecord member of staff has been employed. A key part of both posts will be to monitor and analyse wildlife trends.

- 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. A local sites partnership is in the process of being set up which will facilitate this action.
- 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 D- Transport

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.

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.

Transport Infrastructure

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 and were completed in Spring 2009. With the completion of the project peak-time journeys have been cut by 96 seconds on average in the morning on the Wolverhampton Road to Pleck Road stretch and 52 seconds in the evening. 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.

Highway Improvements: UDP Policy T5. Consultation and preparatory work done for the Route 301 scheme between Walsall and Bloxwich. Implementation of this scheme commenced in November 2010. Additional design work and consultation has continued to progress on the Route 404 between Walsall and West Bromwich and the Route 529 between Walsall and Wolverhampton. Implementation of Route 529 is expected in Spring 2010. Following the 51 Route receiving Red Route treatment during 2008, both the 529 and 301 schemes will also incorporate Red Route initiatives in 2010.

The Rail and Metro Network: UDP Policy T3. There have been no large rail infrastructure improvements in Walsall in 2008/09. 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. During 08/09 the Plan has impacted on the development of Network Rails: Rail Utilisation Strategies, The West Midlands Rail Development Plan and Centro's Public Transport Prospectus and other Centro proposals, whilst supporting the work done towards the Regional Transport Priorities. It also stimulated a study investigating the viability of reintroducing passenger services on the current Walsall to Sutton Freight Line, which has now reported and stimulated a study into reinstating Aldridge station with Birmingham to Walsall services extending to serve it. Three separate studies have also been commissioned by Centro into reintroducing the recently discontinued Wolverhampton to Walsall service.

Walsall Town Centre Transport Patterns

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

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 in 2006 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 only one year of historic data set to compare to current performance. This will be resolved as the Met Area carries on with the 1500-point approach in future years. In 2006 the result was 102.3 and this had dropped to 101.1 by 2008, this is well ahead of target trajectory.

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.** 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. The LTP Target interim milestone for 2008/9 is **324m**. Passenger trips by bus in 2008-09 were **326.7m**. These figures are for the whole conurbation. (Source: Centro ASR 2008-09)

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.

Local biennial cordon surveys around Walsall Ring Road have shown a 6.6% drop in in-bound bus trips across the cordon in the morning peak (07:30 – 09:30) from 5827 person trips in 2007 to 5441 person trips in 2009. However, this has to be seen in the context of a 3.2% overall drop in person trips between 2007 and 2009 into Walsall. The main reasons 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 was being implemented and the general fall in Public Transport usage in Metropolitan areas nationwide due to the recession.

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. In 2000/1 22.8 million journeys were made by train, and in 2008/09 this figure has risen to 37.6 million. The 2008/9 figures represent an increase of 65% on 2000/01, giving a 5.9% rise from 2007/8 (35.5 million). No patronage figures for Walsall station are yet available for 2009. However in 2008 the Dft ticket sales figure was 604,422 whereas the Centro rail station count (which includes season tickets etc) was 1,247,852.

Walsall's Rail Service and Facilities Improvement Plan has impacted on Network Rail's business plan and Rail Utilisation Strategies, London Midlands proposals, the West Midlands Rail Development Plan and the Centro Public Transport Prospectus. Partnership studies between Walsall, Centro and Network Rail are underway and others are proposed to look at how the aspirations of Walsall's Plan can be implemented including new stations at Aldridge and Willenhall, and the Black Country Access Study (Stourbridge to Walsall rail corridor).

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.

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.

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.

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.

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:

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%

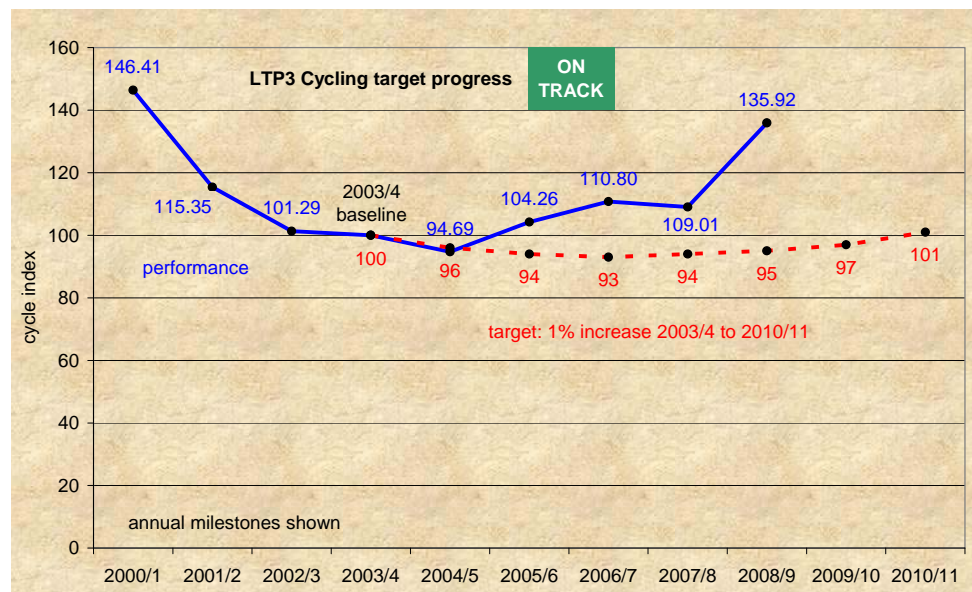
Private Short Stay	56%	63%	67%
Total Spaces	61%	65%	61%

On 1 April 2009 the council took over civil parking enforcement powers. This gives it the powers to enforce legal parking within the town, freeing up the police to deal with other issues.

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 2008/09, 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.

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



Performance against the target trajectory has been positive since 2004/05, showing steady increases in cycle trips. The 07/08 figures for the Met Area showed a slight fall from 110.8 in 2006/7 to 109.01 in 2007/8 which was still above the LTP target trajectory. However, this years figures show a significant recovery to 135.92, which is far above the LTP targets.

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.

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, in 2006 Walsall fell 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 for a twelve month period from March 2007. In March 2008 Walsall, exceeded the LTP target and the Met Area wide performance with 79% or 102 schools with travel plans. In 2009 22 schools completed travel plans bringing the overall total to 124 schools (95%).

In March 2008, Walsall was the lead authority for a new national initiative "School TravelWise". This website gives sustainable travel information and helps pupils plan routes, which will complement and improve the effectiveness of school travel plans in Walsall. It also provides the mandatory information required for the audit of the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority.

Under the priority of 'improving the quality of our environment', Walsall included national indicator NI 198 Mode of Travel to School as a LAA priority setting a target to reduce the % of children travelling by car to school from a baseline of 31.4% to 28.4% over the current LAA period.

This will help support Walsall's efforts to tackle congestion. In addition, work to promote the use of public transport, walking and cycling will also strongly support other Walsall LAA priorities notably reducing per capita CO2 emissions and reducing Year 6 child obesity. Walsall is just one of 33 LAs nationally who have chosen the school travel indicator.

In 2008, the percentage of 5 to 16 year olds travelling by car (excluding car sharing) was 29.9% based on a comprehensive return across the Borough via the spring school census, however in 2009 this rose to 30.5%, slightly above the 30.4% target. This has been reported as Red on the RAG rating and steps are currently in place to ensure that additional Area Based Grant funding can be secured to ensure that targets can be achieved.

The A*STARS (Active School Travel and Road Safety) Project, a new initiative between Walsall Council and Walsall NHS, was launched in October 2009. 11 schools are part of a 2-year pilot to promote and encourage sustainable forms of travel such as walking and cycling to help to reduce obesity levels.

Workplace Travel Plans: target required by Regional Spatial Strategy: 30% of all employees to work in organisations committed to work place travel plans by 2011. In 2008 22.9% of employees in Walsall were employed by companies with a travel plan, which was up from the 2007 figure. This however was below the West Midlands figure of 30.3%, which rose from 27.4% in 2007, and exceeds the 2011 LTP target of 30% of employees in companies with a travel plan. During 2008/9 this figure has stayed the same and therefore is still above the LTP target for 2011.

UDP Policy T1: Helping People to Get Around. The Shopmobility scheme within Walsall has continued through 2008/09 and Centro have continued to support bus services within the borough through their Socially Necessary Services Fund. There are currently 23 services which are supported either wholly or in part by Centro subsidies.

Accessibility Standards: UDP Policy T10, T11 and T12: In seeking to improve accessibility and encourage sustainable development in the borough, planning policies aim to minimise the need to travel. They seek to do this by focusing new homes in areas which are well served by a range of local services and employment opportunities, and are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling.

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. A progress check was conducted in 2009, and the LSP have tasked themselves with the responsibility for its further development and delivery.

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.

Due to problems with the operation of the Accession software the 2005 target baseline has needed amendment to a population of 252,571. However performance is still on-track, with the latest data from 2008 showing population levels within 30 minutes travel time being 450,731, nearly 43% above the interim 2008 milestone of 315,714 based on a linear distribution between 2005 and 2011.

Within Walsall, the following Bus Showcase schemes contributed to the improvement in this indicator during 2008, as defined in the WMLTP Delivery Report:

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

The 301 and 529 routes will help to further improve this in 2010.

Appendix E- STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES

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).

The effectiveness of the application of the UDP policies is measured through overlapping local (UDP) and Core Output Indicators. The table below compares the recorded completions for 2008-2009 with those for the previous year.

Type of Development	Total Floorspace Completed in the Borough		Floorspace Completed in Town, District or Local Centres		Percentage Completed in Town District or Local Centres (UDP Indicator)	
	07-08	08-09	07-08	08-09	07-08	08-09
Retailing (m ²) ²⁹	12,681	705	12,601	229	99.4%	32.5%
Offices B1(a) (m ²)	500	320	0	204	0%	62.5%
Leisure (m ²)	386	115	0	28	0%	24.4%
Total (m ²)	13,567	1,140	12,601	461	92.9%	40.4%

The data in the table above is for gross completions rather than net to enable the figures from this year’s AMR to be compared with last year’s figures. Some of the fall in retail completions can be accounted for by the change in the council’s data recording to bring it in line with the government’s advice on core output indicator BD4i & ii. The majority of new A1 floorspace in 2007-2008 arose from the completion of an ASDA supermarket in Walsall Town Centre and a Lidl in Willenhall. However, the fall in completions for all types of development 2008-2009 also reflects the difficult economic conditions that were affecting whole of the UK at the time.

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 2008-2009 there has been a fall in the amount of A1 floorspace and, as with previous

²⁹ A1 & A2 combined (A1 calculated as gross floorspace 07-08 and as net sales floorspace 08-09)

years, there has been a lack of office and leisure completions. This is partly a reflection of the health of Walsall's centres, but it is also the case that development 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. 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

During 2008-2009 there were 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. Landowners and developers are continuing to work with the council and Walsall Regeneration Company to bring forward plans for the redevelopment of the Shannon's Mill area of Walsall town centre.

Walsall town centre has been affected by the demise of several national retailers including Adams, Rosebys, Zavvi and Woolworths, all of whom occupied units in the primary shopping area. The building previously occupied by Woolworths has since been re-opened by TJ Hughes. Rosebys store is now occupied by Paddy Power.

A new Morrisons supermarket in Willenhall district centre is expected to open at the beginning of 2010. This development will help rejuvenate the centre and counteract ongoing decline. There are also major retail developments in the pipeline for Walsall's town centre. The former Walsall Technical College campus has been demolished to make way for a Tesco Extra store on the edge of the centre on St Paul's Street. The new supermarket is expected to be completed before the end of 2010. Construction of a new college as part of a 'business and learning campus' on the northern side of Littleton Street was completed in the autumn.

Office Development

Previous years have been marked by an almost total lack of B1(a) office development in the borough. During 2007-2008 one office development was been completed, during 2008-2009 this increased to three³⁰.

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 2 Revision, is proposing 220,000sqm gross of office floorspace for Walsall to 2026. This strategy is being carried forward through the emerging Black Country Core Strategy, which

³⁰ Apart from ancillary or temporary uses.

promotes major office development in Walsall town centre as part of a network of strategic centres (with Brierley Hill, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton).

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

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 the requirement for industrial-type buildings. In 2008-2009 there have been two leisure completions, an extension to Gala Bingo, Jerome Retail Park, and Bloxwich Stafford Road Sports Club.

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 2 Revision and the emerging Black Country Core Strategy.

The Health of Existing Centres

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 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.

In 2005/06 the Council was able to monitor the vacancies in the town and district centres. For the past 3 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. This year the council did carry out detailed surveys of the local centres for the Black Country Centres Study 2009 and is reviewing its monitoring capability for future years.

Commercial information on the district and local centres is limited, as they are not considered (by institutions and the Valuation Office Agency (VOA)) to be of interest for commercial property investment. In previous years information on Walsall town centre has come from the VOA's Property Market Reports. However, information on retail yields was not published this year because the volatile economic conditions meant that such information would not provide a true reflection of the situation. A review of the number of centres covered in the report in future is expected to be concluded in January 2010. More recent information on primary retail

rents ('In Town Retail Rents' Wall Charts, Colliers CRE, Summer 2009) show that the Zone A retail rent for Walsall fell between June 2008 and June 2009 from £120psf to £100psf (-16.6%). Colliers CRE's 2009 Midsummer Retail Report shows that between June 2008 and June 2009 the average prime retail rent in the West Midlands fell by 11.2% from £136psf to £121psf. Over the same period the average prime retail rent for the UK fell from £130psf to £115psf (-11.5%).

At the time of publication market conditions in the UK retail sector were still poor and with no signs of improvement in the short term. This is a major cause for concern and will continue to create challenges for the borough over the 2009-2010 monitoring year.

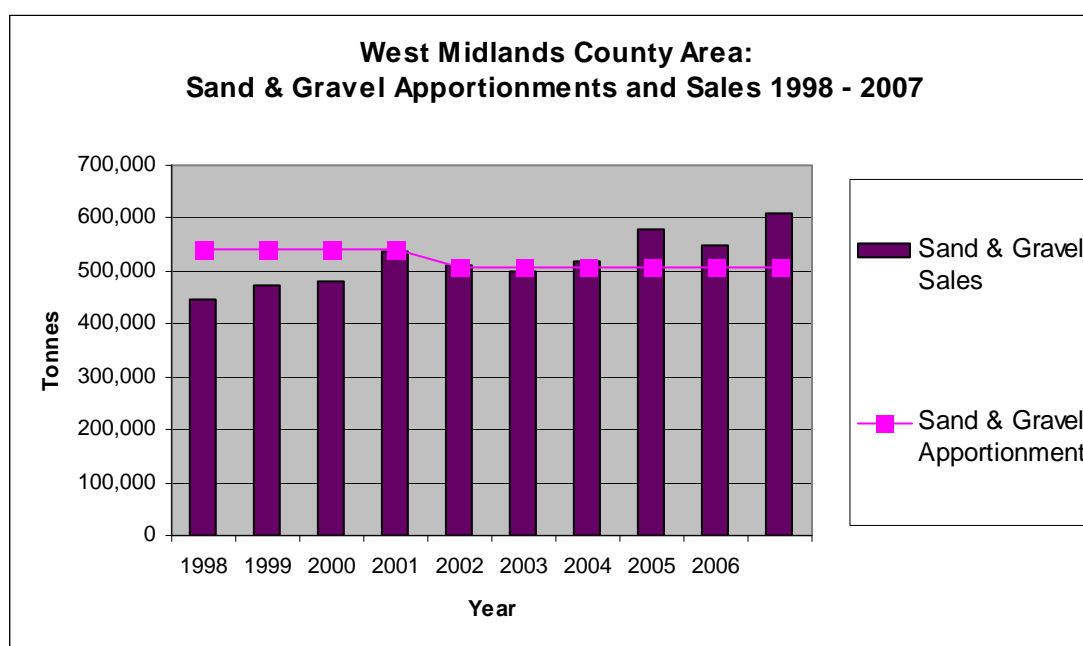
Appendix F - MINERALS

Primary Aggregates

Primary aggregates production is monitored at a regional level by the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (WMRAWP). Information is published in annual reports which can be found on the CLG website. The latest report available is for 2007.

Walsall is part of the larger West Midlands County sub-regional area.³¹ The only authorities in the sub-region which contribute to the sand and gravel apportionment are Solihull and Walsall. Aggregates monitoring has always covered calendar years (1 January – 31 December) rather than normal LDF monitoring years (1 April – 31 March).

Trend data from WMRAWP Annual Reports 1999 – 2007 (see Figure below) shows that since 2001, annual sand and gravel sales in the West Midlands County area have been slightly higher than the sub-regional apportionment. Sales are generally considered to equate to production. Walsall has contributed around 10% of this.



Source: WMRAWP Annual Reports 1998 – 2007

Primary aggregate sales in the West Midlands County in 2007 (the latest year for which verified data is available) are summarised in Table M1 below.

³¹ The West Midlands County = the Metropolitan unitary authorities of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

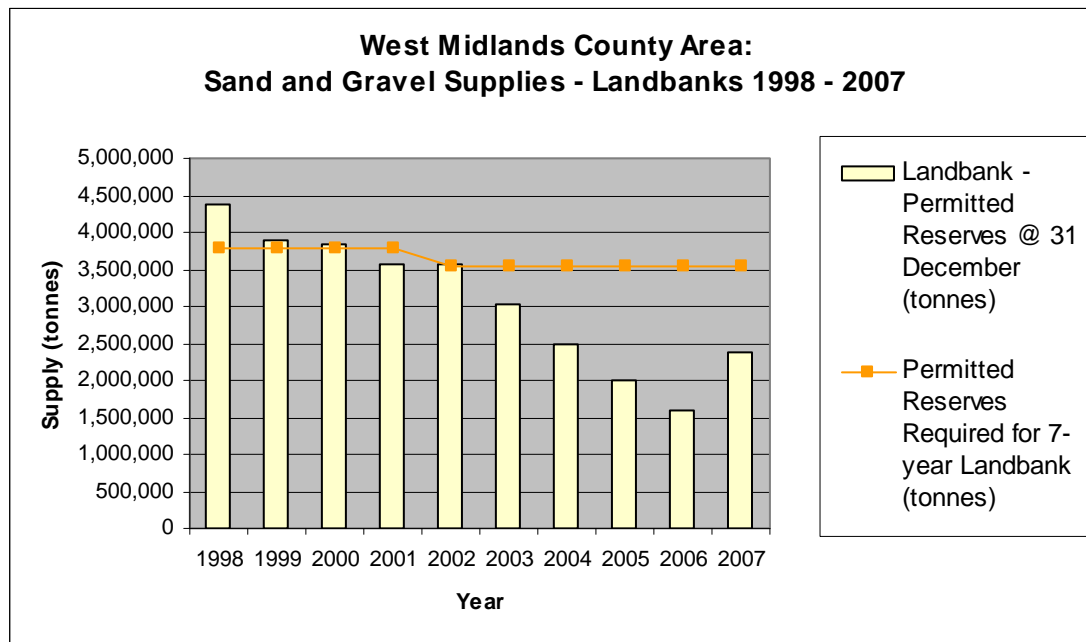
Table M1: Primary Aggregate Sales in the West Midlands County (including Walsall), 2007

Type of Aggregate	Crushed Rock	Sand and Gravel	Total
Amount produced	0	610,000	610,000

Source: WMRAWP Annual Report 2007

However, supplies of sand and gravel reserves have not kept pace with production. WMRAWP annual reports show that sand and gravel landbanks declined between 2002 and 2006 (see figure below). The increase in 2007 was due to a new permission being granted in Solihull.

National policy guidance requires mineral planning authorities to maintain a minimum 7-year landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves. LDFs should therefore identify enough resources to allow production to continue at the annual rates assumed in the apportionment, throughout the plan period, plus 7 years beyond.



Source: WMRAWP Annual Reports 1998 – 2007

The Solihull and Walsall UDPs currently identify enough resources to last until 2018, although not all these resources have planning permission. The Black Country and Solihull Core Strategies will be expected to identify sufficient supplies to last until 2026 and beyond.

The current review of the West Midlands sub-regional apportionments (due to be completed in March 2010) will need to take account of the evidence underpinning the Core Strategies on the availability of viable sand and gravel resources.

Permitted sand and gravel reserves in Walsall are not as low as was believed in previous AMRs, due to previous errors in reporting the extent

of permitted reserves within one of the quarries. However, they are still at a very low level and were estimated to be **around 300,000 tonnes** in December 2007. This is an approximate figure, which is all we can provide in the AMR. As there are only two operational quarries in Walsall, detailed survey data is too commercially sensitive to publish.

No recent permissions for sand and gravel working have been granted in Walsall, although there is a current application for an extension to Branton Hill Quarry. This has been in abeyance for some time, because of outstanding issues concerning accessibility and hydrology. However, permission was granted for a new access road to the quarry during 2008/09 and this should allow the application to be determined some time during 2009/10.

Secondary and Recycled Aggregates

There is evidence that significant quantities of alternatives to primary aggregates (secondary and recycled aggregates) are produced in the West Midlands County area.³²

Secondary and recycled aggregates are defined as follows:

- Secondary aggregates – produced as a by-product of mining and quarrying or of industry
- Recycled aggregates – produced from recycling of waste, in particular, construction, demolition and excavation waste (CD&EW)

WMRAWP has attempted to monitor secondary aggregate production by surveying production sites, but this has not yielded useful results for Walsall or the wider West Midlands County area, as not all operators have provided information.

At present, Walsall still has no system in place for monitoring on-site production of recycled aggregates through Site Waste Management Plans (SWMP) or waste audits provided with planning applications. However, this will be addressed during 2009/10 – 2010/11 as part of revised monitoring arrangements for the Black Country Core Strategy.

Until better monitoring arrangements are in place, the only evidence for production of secondary aggregates is from national surveys commissioned by CLG from Capita Symonds. The latest survey covered production during 2005. Although there are caveats attached to the sub-regional data from this survey, it is the only indication we have of recycled aggregate production at the present time.

A study on waste carried out to inform the Black Country Core Strategy used the sub-regional data from the 2005 survey and attributed a

³² The Sustainable Use of Resources for the Production of Aggregates in England (2006), WRAP

“weighted share” for each of the Black Country authorities, to estimate CD&EW arisings and recycled aggregate production. The data for Walsall is summarised in Table M2 below.

Table M2: Estimated Production of Alternative Materials in Walsall, 2005

Type of Aggregate	Secondary	Recycled	Total
Amount produced	Not known	125,000	125,000

Source: Black Country Waste Planning Study (May 2009), Atkins, Table 3.7

Brick Clay

There is still no system in place for regular monitoring of supply of clay to brickworks, but discussions with operators have continued during 2008/09 about the potential to identify new sources of supply. It is anticipated that a monitoring system will be put into place during 2009/10 for the purpose of monitoring the Black Country Core Strategy.

During 2008/09 permission was granted to vary a condition on the permission relating to Sandown Works, to increase the percentage of imports allowed. This is aimed at addressing short-term supply issues. Discussions with Wienerberger have continued and it is anticipated that an application will be submitted during 2009/10 for an extension to Sandown Quarry. There have also been discussions with Ibstock regarding a possible extension to Atlas Quarry.

The supply situation at April 2009 is summarised in Table M3 below. Further information on brick clay supply can be found in the Minerals Background Paper 2 (November 2009) which forms part of the evidence for the published Black Country Core Strategy.

Table M3: Supply of Etruria Marl to Walsall Brickworks, April 2009

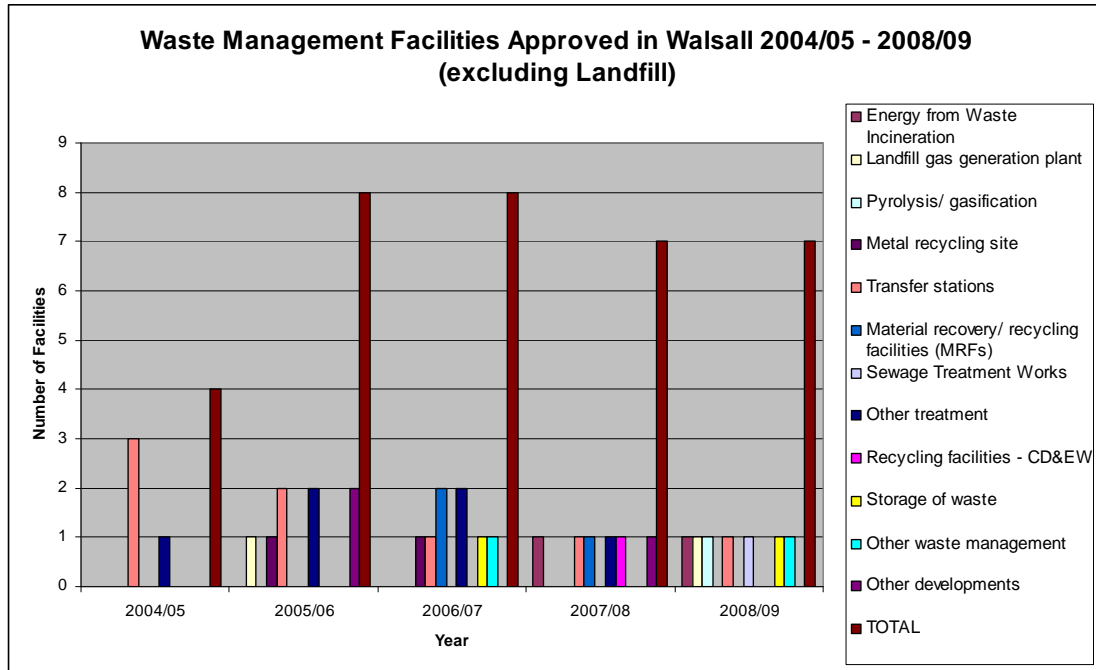
Works	Operator	Main Source of Supply in Walsall	Estimated Supply @ April 2009 (years)
Aldridge	Ibstock	Highfields South (imports)	Less than 5
Atlas	Ibstock	Atlas	22
Sandown	Wienerberger	Sandown Highfields South (imports)	Less than 5

Source: Discussions with brick manufacturers during 2008 – 2009

Appendix G - WASTE

New Waste Management Capacity

Waste management applications have continued to come forward in Walsall, despite the economic recession. The figure below shows how many facilities have been granted planning permission since 2004/05.



Source: Walsall Council Planning Register

Seven applications for waste management facilities came forward in Walsall during the monitoring year 2008/09, and a further application for housing development affecting a commercial waste management depot also came forward. Of the waste management applications, six were approved, two were refused and one was not determined at 1 April 2009. The application affecting the depot was subsequently refused and is now the subject of an appeal.

Seven waste management applications were approved during 2008/09 - some of which had been submitted in the previous monitoring year. Only three of these applications involved the provision of new waste management capacity. Most of the others related to ancillary development at an existing facility, not resulting in any net change to capacity.

Not all of the waste management facilities approved are implemented. Table W1 below summarises the new waste management capacity implemented in Walsall since 2004/05, where the capacity is known (excluding landfill). Waste management capacity means maximum annual throughput - the maximum amount of waste in tonnes which a facility can handle in a year, or tonnes per annum (TPA).

Table W1: New Waste Treatment and Transfer Capacity Implemented in Walsall 2004/05 – 2008/08, by Type (Where Known) – Tonnes per Annum (TPA)

Year	Transfer Stations	Material Recovery/ Recycling Facilities (MRFs)	Other Treatment	Recycling facilities - CD&EW	Other Waste Management	TOTAL
2004/05	35000	0	2500	0	0	37500
2005/06	5000	0	0	0	0	5000
2006/07	0	0	2500	0	0	2500
2007/08	0	62400	0	74920	50000	187320
2008/09	25000	250000	0	0	0	2435000

Source: Walsall Council Planning Register

During 2008/09, three major waste management facilities were implemented. These were as follows.

- MRF (Greenstar) – capacity approx. 250,000 TPA
- Transfer Station, Leamore – capacity approx. 25,000 TPA
- Highfields South Non-Hazardous Landfill Site – void space approximately, 2.16 million cubic metres

The final elements of the details of a major commercial resource recovery park at Fryers Road in Leamore (which obtained outline permission in 2007/08) were also approved. This development, expected to commence during 2010/11, will include a material recovery facility (MRF) with an estimated capacity of around 200,000 TPA and a combined heat and power (CHP) plant with an estimated capacity of 30,000 – 40,000 TPA.

Progress has also been made with the bringing forward of new Municipal waste infrastructure. During 2008/09 permission was granted by Staffordshire County Council for a new Energy from Waste facility (W2R) in South Staffordshire, which when completed (expected to be 2012/13) will be managing up to 60,000 tonnes of Walsall's Municipal waste per annum.

Municipal Waste Management

Although Walsall Council has no Municipal waste treatment infrastructure of its own and has relied on contracts to manage its waste, Municipal waste management performance has been consistently good, and better than most neighbouring authorities. Walsall has generally been moving in the right direction with regard to the national waste strategy objectives of reducing reliance on landfill and increasing recycling, composting and recovery rates.

Table W2 below summarises Municipal waste management performance in 2008/09. This shows that recycling, composting and energy recovery

rates are continuing to improve, and the amount of waste sent to landfill is continuing to reduce.

Table W2: Municipal Waste Management in Walsall 2008/09 by Management Method

Management Method	Landfill	EfW	Without EfW	Recycled/ Composted	Other	Total Waste Arisings
Amount of waste arising (tonnes)	57,753	29,516	0	42,985	0	130,254
Proportion of total waste arisings (%)	44.3%	22.7%	0.0%	33.0%	0.0%	100.0%

Source: Defra Municipal Waste Tables 2008/09

These improvements have mainly been achieved through recent improvements to the Council's waste management facilities and waste collection service. During 2008/09, a new waste collection service was rolled out to households in the Borough, involving the provision of larger bins for dry recyclable wastes. As a result of these improvements more recyclable waste and green garden waste can be collected.

The Council has also secured a contract to recycle up to 20,000 tonnes of waste per annum at the new Greenstar MRF facility in Aldridge, which should help maintain recycling rates into the future. There are also aspirations to develop a new waste management depot and a third household recycling centre to serve the Darlaston/ Willenhall areas.

From 2012/13 the Council will also have access to a new Energy from Waste (EfW) facility being developed in South Staffordshire by Staffordshire County Council. Walsall is one of the four partners involved in this scheme, the others being Staffordshire County Council, Sandwell MBC and Warwickshire County Council.

Waste Management Targets

LATS sets the maximum amounts of biodegradable Municipal waste (BMW) that can be sent to landfill in each waste planning authority area. The LATS target years are 2009/10, 2012/13 and 2019/20, and there are target allowances for each year in between. The LATS allowance for 2008/09 for Walsall is set out in Table W3 below.

Table W3: Walsall LATS Targets and Performance 2008/09: Tonnes of BMW Sent to Landfill

LATS Allowance 2008/09 (tonnes)	Walsall Performance 2008/09 (tonnes)
65,614	28,277

Source: LATS Public Register

Local targets for waste management changed in 2008/09 as a result of new National Indicators (NIs) and Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets replacing the old Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI).

The new National Indicators are not directly comparable to the old BVPIs, except for NI192 which is roughly equivalent to BVPI 82a + 82b. The three new NIs for waste, and Walsall's targets and performance for 2008/09 are set out in Table W4 below, with the LAA target (NI192) highlighted in green.

Table W4: Walsall LATS Targets and Performance 2008/09: Tonnes of BMW Sent to Landfill

National Indicator	Walsall Targets 2008/09	Walsall Performance 2008/09
NI191: Residual household waste per head of population (kg)	755.00kg	674.57kg
NI192: Percentage of household waste re-used, recycled or composted	30.00%	35.31%
NI193: Percentage of Municipal Waste landfilled	49.40%	44.33%

Source: Walsall Council Performance Data 2008/09 (on WBSF website)

This shows that Walsall is meeting and in some cases significantly exceeding the targets set for management of Municipal and household waste.