Annual Monitoring Report 2011

(Monitoring Year April 2010 – March 2011)

Walsall Council

Walsall Council

Annual Monitoring Report

December 2011

(for Monitoring Year April 2010 to March 2011)

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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.

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This document uses a number of technical terms. Where they are first used they are stated in full with their abbreviation given in brackets. Where they are used subsequently only the abbreviation is used. A full explanation of the terms is given in the Glossary.

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.

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CONTENTS PAGE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 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 its local development scheme (LDS), and the extent to which the planning policies set out in the local development documents (LDDs) 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.

1.2 The LDS is the programme agreed by the Council to prepare and update its planning policies. The purpose of the AMR therefore is to provide an update on this programme and the extent to which the planning policies that the Council has already adopted have been successful.

1.3 This is Walsall Council's seventh Annual Monitoring Report and covers the period from 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. For most of this year, the Council's adopted planning policies comprised the "saved" policies of the Walsall Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2005, and the seven adopted supplementary planning documents (SPDs) that support these policies. However, in February 2011 the Council adopted the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). The BCCS has replaced certain policies in the UDP.

1.4 The content of AMRs was formerly required to follow national guidance and include an indication of progress against a series of Core Output Indicators (COIs). This national guidance was withdrawn by the Government in March 2011.

1.5 However, the limited time period between the adoption date of the BCCS and the end of the monitoring year means that this AMR will continue to report progress against the indicators and targets set out in the UDP, as well as the national guidance published in 2005 and 2008[1].

1.6 The next AMR will cover the monitoring year 2011/12 and will report on the implementation of the Black Country Core Strategy for the first time. A new monitoring framework is being developed, which will be based on the targets and indicators in the BCCS. It will also reflect the most recent guidance on annual monitoring, and any changes to legislation that may arise. Data collection arrangements for the year 2011/12 are being adjusted accordingly. Appendix J sets out the indicators that have been retained, replaced or deleted which will form the basis for future AMRs.

1.7 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-

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[1] Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide (March 2005), CLG and Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators – Update 2/2008 (July 2008), CLG

target or the target has been met (green). There is a glossary of terms at section 9 of this document.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Monitoring is an essential element of policy making. Within this context the Annual Monitoring Report is the main mechanism for assessing the performance of the Walsall Local Development Framework (LDF), including the "saved" polices of the Walsall Unitary Development Plan (UDP). Monitoring provides the catalyst for any review or update, as it shows whether or not policies are being implemented – for example, whether the development proposed in the LDF is being delivered at the right time and in the right locations, and whether the LDF environmental protection policies are effective.

2.2 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.

2.3 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.

2.4 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:

I. 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.

II. 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.

III. 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.

IV. 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 re-prioritise any previous assumptions made regarding infrastructure delivery.

2.5 As well as showing the effectiveness of planning policies in delivering development in the right places and at the right times, annual monitoring can also demonstrate that those policies play an important role in helping to achieve the priorities set out in both Walsall's Corporate Plan and Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy. This is highlighted by the table in Appendix H which sets out the UDP monitoring indicators and shows how these align with the objectives of the Walsall Corporate Plan and the Walsall Sustainable Community Strategy.

2.6 A good example of this is the protection of the Green Belt from inappropriate development. Implementing this UDP policy objective can help deliver a number of the Council's priorities, firstly by improving the health of Walsall residents through the protection of recreational and sporting facilities, secondly by improving the environmental quality of the Borough through the protection of countryside and open space, and finally by delivering accessible and sustainable places for business through encouraging development in more sustainable easily accessible previously-developed sites.

3. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING THE YEAR

Plan - Making

3.1 In terms of planning policy the main events related to the adoption of the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). The Examination in Public (EIP) took place in July 2010 and the Inspectors' report was published in October 2010. The inspector found the BCCS sound and the Council formally adopted the Plan on 3rd February 2011. The adopted BCCS supersedes some of the UDP policies and as such the statutory development plan for Walsall now consists of the BCCS and the remaining "saved" UDP policies, together with the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the West Midlands (January 2008).

3.2 Another major change that occurred during 2010/11 was the withdrawal of the national policy guidance on annual monitoring, including the national Core Output Indicators which have been used by all planning authorities since 2008.[2] This has been replaced by a new good practice guide on monitoring, published by the Planning Advisory Service in April 2011.[3] The Government is also proposing to amend the current regulations governing monitoring and the publication of annual monitoring reports, following the introduction of the Localism Act which received Royal Assent in November 2011.[4]

3.3 Although the recent changes came too late to affect data collection during the 2010/11 monitoring year or the monitoring framework used in this AMR, they will have implications for future monitoring in Walsall. They should result in a more up-to-date picture of the Borough being developed as out-of–date indicators and targets are replaced by a new monitoring framework, focusing on the delivery of local priorities and objectives; this is set out in Appendix J that shows indicators that have been retained, replaced or deleted. The 2012 AMR will therefore include a joint section reporting on performance against BCCS policies for the Black Country as a whole in addition to a more local, Walsall perspective.

3.4 The BCCS forms a key part of the statutory spatial land use development plan for Walsall and the other three local authorities (Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Dudley). It forms the basis for decisions on planning applications, and is also a key document in future decisions on infrastructure and the Council's capital programme. The BCCS also forms the basis for future development plan documents such as the site allocations document. It sets a vision for the development of the area up to 2026 and promotes Walsall for investment.

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[2] Letter to Chief Planning Officers 30.03.11 on CLG website:
http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/letterlocalplans

[3] Monitoring that Matters – Towards a Better AMR (April 2011), Planning Advisory Service

[4] See consultation document on Local Planning Regulations published in July 2011:
http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/localregulationsconsultation

Developments

3.5 The after-effects of the recession meant that only a small; amount of land (5.88ha) was developed for employment uses. Whilst the total showed a small improvement over 2010, it was composed mostly of sui generis type uses, with a very low manufacturing component**.** There was a continuing increase in vacant employment land. This also resulted in a continued increase in vacant land and in-centre vacancy rates, with Walsall Town Centre being recorded as having the 24th highest vacancy rate in Great Britain and the second highest vacancy rate in the West Midlands. Unemployment dropped from 13.8% of the workforce between,April 2009 / March 2010 to 12.7% between April 2010 / March 2011, as the manufacturing industry started to recover from the recession. Service sector employment performed poorly, and earnings for both full and part time workers, as measured by the ONS, stayed below both the West Midlands and Britain as a whole.

3.6 Nearly 100% of housing and employment development took place on brownfield land in this monitoring year exceeding the UDP target helping to achieve a sustainable future for the borough and 100% of the greenbelt was protected from inappropriate development preserving its openness and function for appropriate uses such as agriculture, forestry and outdoor sports or recreation.

3.7 A significant amount of completed floorspace for town centre uses was achieved on an edge-of-centre location due to the Tesco redevelopment. This means that technically speaking the proportion of development for town centre uses that took place in established centres is as low as at 12.1%, well below the UDP target of 90%. These figures highlight the need for the Site Allocation Document and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) in order to strengthen Walsall's centres and to encourage investment within the established centres. In addition to out-of-centre development the amount of vacant units continues to rise further showing the need for a positive approach to investment within the centres in order to reduce the in-centre vacancy rates and sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of the Town, District and Local Centres.

3.8 The significant effort that was made last year to improve the accuracy of data used in the monitoring of local and national indicators, especially for housing and employment development, means that the data for this year in respect of housing and employment development cannot be accurately compared with that for the previous year to show any change in the rate of development between the two years. However, an accurate base has now been provided that will allow for better quality monitoring in future years.

3.9 Housing completions during the monitoring year remained above the long term average despite the continuing difficult economic conditions, especially for the housing market. The high number of completions has resulted in the Council receiving nearly £1m in New Homes Bonus and a similar sum is expected for the second year of this funding source. However, approximately three-quarters of these completions were affordable homes. Although the provision of this high number of affordable homes is welcome, they have been heavily dependent on support from the Homes and Communities Agency: reductions in funding from the HCS means that it is unlikely that this level of support will be forthcoming in future years.

3.10 The Council's performance against the national and local indicators in place during the 2010/11 monitoring year is set out in detail within the main body of this report and a table summarising the performance is also provided in Appendix I.

Achievements

3.11 Walsall Council, along with the other three Black Country Planning Authorities (Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton) commenced a review in this monitoring year to aim to provide a 'Business Friendly Planning' service, a project initiated by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to attract investment and enable high quality and sustainable development in the Black Country. A Planning and Development Charter was worked up with our customers and was subsequently endorsed by the LEP and adopted by each LPA (outside of this monitoring year) which sets out pledges made by the Black Country LPAs to deliver a Business Friendly Planning service and includes a pledge to develop and continue to update Walsall's Local Development Framework (LDF) to give clarity and certainty over development opportunities, and help inform investment decisions. The review is being seen as an example of good practice, with other LEPs across the country keen to learn from the Black Country model[5].

3.12 Some significant developments were also completed during the monitoring year as set out below which will continue to contribute to ensuring that Walsall is well positioned to benefit from the recovery:

I. The refurbishment and re-development of Walsall Manor Hospital was completed in Spring 2011 and was awarded a 'Built In Quality Award' for its outstanding quality of construction.

II. The new Tesco Superstore, Littleton Street, Walsall was completed in December 2010 creating several hundred new jobs.

[5] http://www.the-blackcountry.com/default.asp?PageID=336&n=Planning

4. CONTEXTUAL INDICATORS

4.1 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 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011.

CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

Figure 1 – Borough of Walsall and Surrounding Area.

4.2 Walsall Metropolitan Borough is in the West Midlands region and lies to the north-west of Birmingham (as shown in Figure 1 above) 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 miles (104 km^2).

DEMOGRAPHICS

4.3 The population in Walsall continues to increase steadily despite 2004 projections to the contrary, growing from 253,499 in the 2001[6] census to the latest figures which show that the Borough has a population of 256,900[7]. A new country-wide census was carried out in March 2011 and the results, once published, will inform future AMRs.

4.4 Walsall has a higher proportion of younger (38.8%) and older aged people (17.6%) than England, as a whole. The equivalent proportions in England are 37.5% and 16.5%, respectively. Walsall has comparatively fewer people in the middle age groups (43.5%). The largest proportionate difference between Walsall and England occurs in the 30 to 44 broad age groups. The percentage of working age people in Walsall (61.5%) is lower than in England (64.8%). Walsall has more males than females in the younger age groups[8]. According to the 2001 census 13.6%[9] of Walsall's population were from Black or Ethnic Minority Groups.

ENVIRONMENT

4.5 Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy, identifies improving the quality of the environment as 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 tables 4 - 6 at section 7 of this report and in Appendix B.

4.6 In July 2010 the Council produced an Air Quality Progress Report which confirmed that occasions when nitrogen dioxide exceeds the annual air quality objective still occur, especially in the vicinity of the M6 motorway, St Paul's Bus Station in the town centre, and along certain roads including the town centre ring-road. The report does however note that the 1% reduction in nitrogen dioxide concentrations in the West Midlands as set out in the West Midlands Local Transport Plan LTP2 was on target to be achieved. The report also concludes that there have been no new local developments that result in new or newly identified road traffic that may have a relevant impact on air quality[10]. The Target for LTP3 has been set to Reduce local CO2 emissions from transport by 10% per person between 2010/11 and 2015/16.

[6] 2001 Census at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk
[7] mid- year population estimates 2010, ONS at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk
[8] Mott MacDonald summary report of ONS mid-year population estimates 2010
[9] 2001 Census at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk
[10] http://www.walsall.gov.uk/air_quality_progress_report_2010-2.pdf

ECONOMY

4.7 At November 2011, 72.2% of Walsall's working age (16-64) population were economically active. This compared with 74.2% for the West Midlands region. Of the economically inactive, 7.2% wanted a job; 20.7% did not. This compares with 5.2% and 20.6% respectively for the West Midlands region. The claimant count (payable to people who are available, capable and actively seeking work) in the Borough fell very slightly from 10,673 in April 2009 (6.8% of the working age population) to 10,412 in April 2010 (6.7% of the working age population). This compares with the regional figure of 4.8%.

4.8 The latest figures in 2008 showed 18.4% of those employed in Walsall were engaged in manufacturing, compared with 13.8 % for the West Midlands region as a whole. Services are slightly under-represented in Walsall accounting for 76.3% of those employed compared to 79.7% for the West Midlands region. Despite the long term decline in manufacturing employment, manufacturing has continually made up a higher proportion of the jobs in Walsall than the West Midlands region (figures from 2008 going back until at least 1995 show this). Gross weekly earnings by workplace in 2011 were £429.20 for Walsall and £470.50 for the West Midlands region and workers at Walsall workplaces have consistently earned less than the regional figures (figures going back until at least 1998 show this)[11].

SKILLS AND EDUCATION

4.9 Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy[12] 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.

4.10 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.

4.11 As Table 1 below demonstrates, the percentage of pupils achieving 5 A-C* GCSEs has increased year on year[13] achieving over a 60% reduction in the gap between the borough and the national average since 2006 (10.7% gap 2006 and 4% in 2010). Whilst the Borough is still below average in England, the continued improvement that is narrowing the gap with the national average will help to build on the achievements of schools educational attainment within Walsall.

[11] https://www.nomisweb.co.uk
[12] http://www.walsallpartnership.org.uk/wp-index/wp_scs.htm
[13] http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/performancetables/group_10.pl?Mode=Z&Type=LA&Begin=s&No=335&Base=g&Phase=1&F=1&L=50&Year=10&Key=4&Order=asc

Table 1 – Education Attainment Levels

School	% of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving 5+A*-C (and equivalent) including English and maths GCSEs				
	2006	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**
Local Authority Average	34.9%	35.5%	40.6%	44.0%	49.5%
England (all schools)	45.6%	46.3%	47.6%	49.8%	53.5%

4.12 The percentage of people with degrees has increased slightly from the 2009/10 position (from 17.6% in 2009/10 to 18.2% in 2010/11), whilst the regional and national averages have slightly increased. There also remains a big gap in the average point score at Key Stage 5 between Walsall and the national performance[14]. Whilst the proportion of the working age population with no qualifications has very slightly decreased from 19.9% in 2009/10 to 19.5% in 2010/11, Walsall is still above the regional and national averages at 15.1% and 11.3% respectively[15].

4.13 Skill levels in Walsall need to increase if the gap with the West Midlands and England is to be closed and to minimise the impact on the economic wellbeing of Walsall and its residents. This is supported by around 29% of Walsall businesses who were surveyed in 2010 and said they are currently affected by skills gaps and shortages in the workforce. When asked if they are likely to be affected in the future, 48% of businesses said yes. This evidences the need to increase the skills set of the boroughs population to provide the adequately trained workforce that Walsall businesses require. Further skills and education data can be found in Appendix A.

[14] http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/performancetables/group_10.pl?Mode=Z&Type=LA&Begin=s&No=335&Base=c&Phase=2&F=1&L=50&Year=10&Key=6&Order=asc

[15] https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431970/printable.aspx

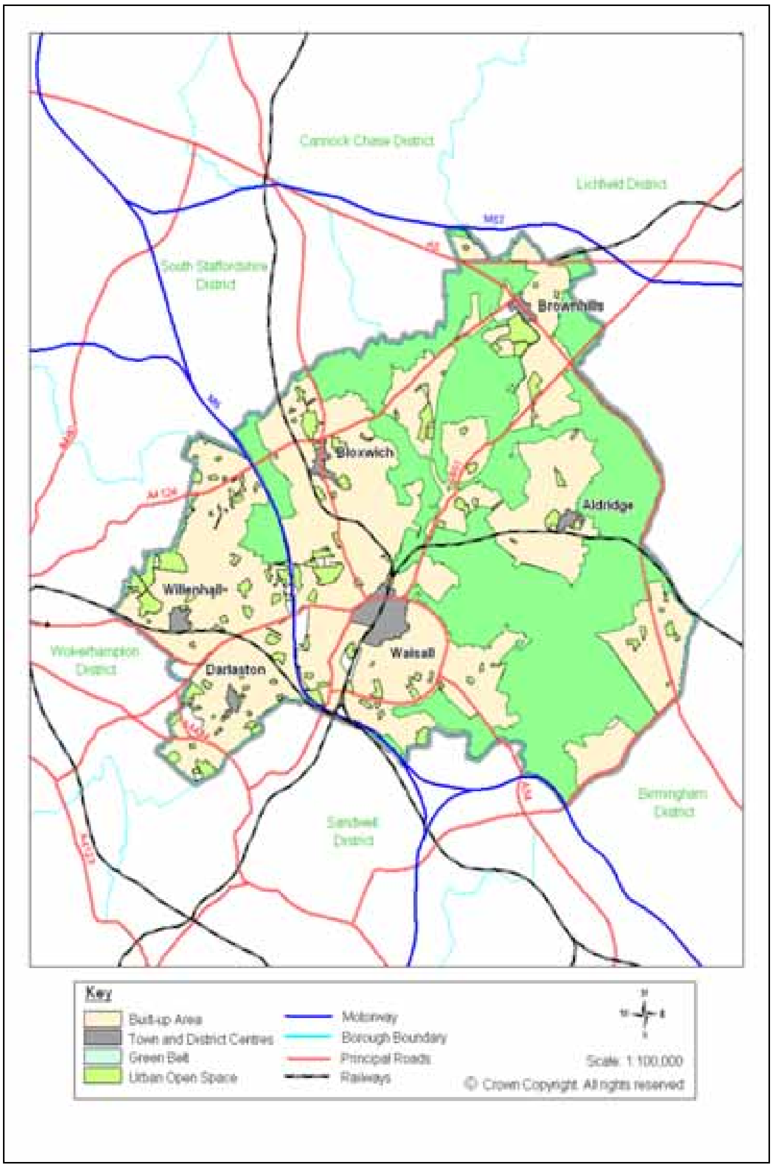


Figure 2 – Walsall Transport and Spatial Connectivity.

4.14 Walsall has a major potential advantage in being close to the hubs of both the national motorway and rail networks as shown in Figure 2 above. 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.

4.15 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:

I. *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.

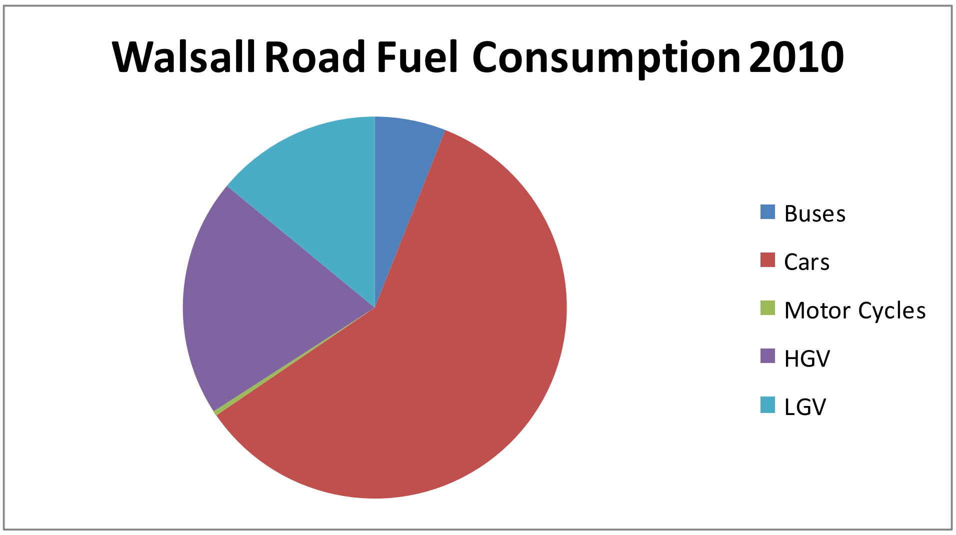
II. *Cost of transport* - The cost of travelling by public transport has risen at a greater rate than by private car. Between 1990 and 2003 bus fares rose by 26% in real terms compared with a 4% increase in cost of car travel.

III. *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.

IV. *Safer streets* - Consultation has shown that crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour can be a major deterrent to travelling by public transport.

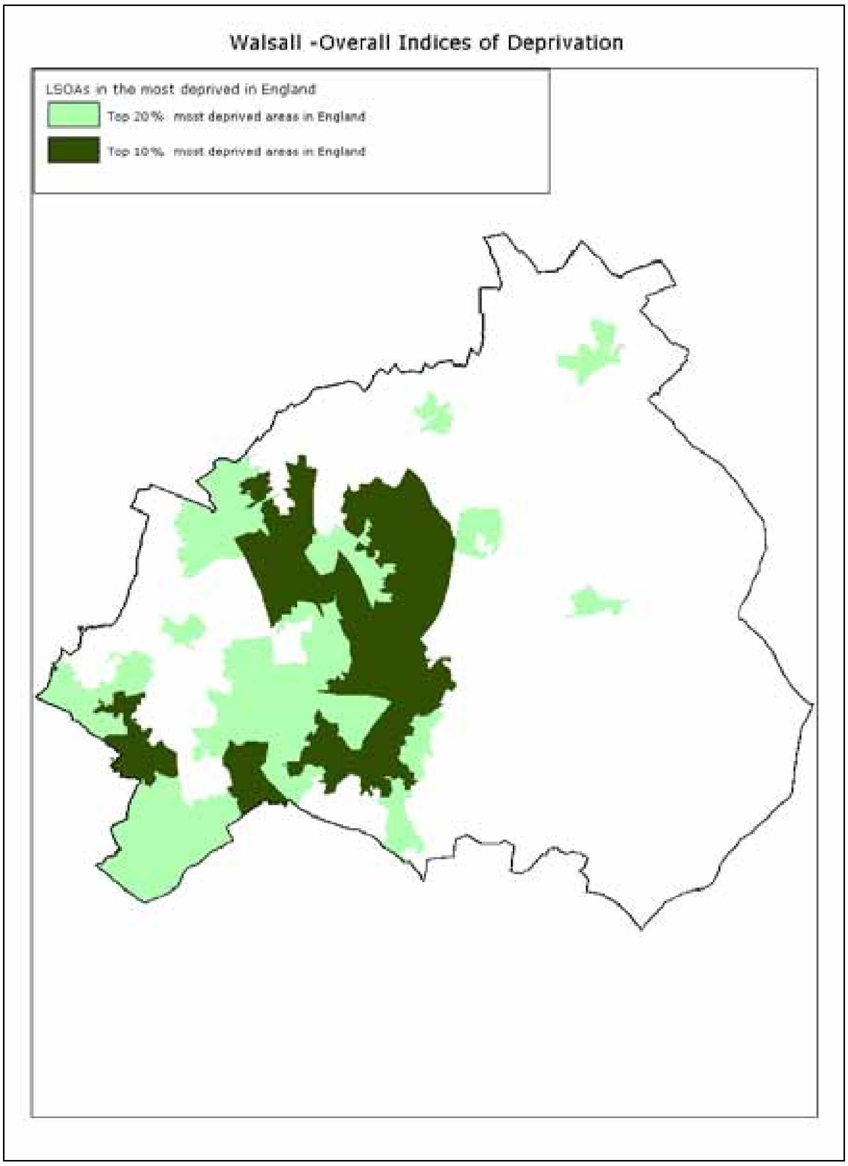
4.16 According to the census[16], 34% of the population in Walsall travel to work by car, only 7% of people use the bus to go to work whilst 6% travel to work by foot. In addition it was found that 17% of all Walsall employees travelled less than 2km to work and 80% travelled less than 20km.

4.17 Overall, total trips by car and public transport fell by 1.2% from 16,504 in 2009 to 16,313 in 2011. Bus trips decreased by 2.2% while car trips also declined by 1.1%. Train trips, although small numbers, increased by 17.4% from 287 to 337 trips. Overall, the bus modal share decreased slightly from 31.2% to 30.9%. Cars still remain by far the most popular mode of transport into Walsall town centre during the morning peak increasing its share of modal split very slightly by 0.1% during 2011 to 67.1%.



[16] 2001 Census at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk

Figure 3 – Indices of Deprivation for Walsall



4.18 The English Indices of Deprivation 2011 are the Government's official measure of multiple deprivation at small area level. This provides an update to the Indices of Deprivation in 2004 and 2007. Walsall was ranked 30th most deprived local authority in 2011[17], continuing the worsening trend since 2007 when it was ranked 45th and in 2004[18] when it was ranked 51st. 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.

4.19 In addition to the Borough profile, 32,482 small areas known as Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are ranked on seven different themes including income, employment and health. Areas ranked between 1 and 3,248 are in

[17] Obtained from the Walsall State of the Borough Report 2011.
[18] 1 being the most deprived and 326 being the least deprived.

the 10% most deprived areas in England, areas between 1 and 6,496 are in the 20% most deprived areas in England.

4.20 There is considerable variation between the levels of deprivation across the Borough, almost a quarter of neighbourhoods (41 of 169) are amongst the most deprived 10% in England. This is worse than 2007 when there were only 33 neighbourhoods in this category. In contrast, 9 areas (5% of the total) are within the least deprived 10% nationally and this is a slight improvement from 7 areas in 2007[19].

4.21 The Place Survey 2008/2009[20] 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 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 results from the 2010 Place Survey do not appear to be available at the time of publishing this AMR.

4.22 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%).

4.23 A survey of Walsall residents (Feeling the Difference Survey) showed that perceived levels of crime in the Borough has shown little movement, but feelings of safety have increased. The total number of recorded crimes has increased from 19,063 in 2009/10 to 20,112 in 2010/11 with vehicle crime, robbery criminal damage and domestic burglary being the greatest contributors to the increase[21]. Further data on crime can be found at Appendix A.

[19] Obtained from the Walsall State of the Borough Report 2011.
[20] http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/xls/1326148.xls
[21] Obtained from the Walsall State of the Borough Report 2011.

5. SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS INDICATORS

5.1 Significant effects indictors are a method of monitoring the effects of plans and policies on the social, environmental or economic objectives by which sustainability is defined. The Council is required to measure significant effects raised in a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in order to satisfy the requirements of European Directorate 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'. An SEA was carried out as part of the evidence base for the BCCS.

5.2 Following adoption of the BCCS by all four authorities on 3rd February 2011 the significant effects indicators will be monitored across the Black Country and included in future AMRs.

6. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE

6.1 This section of the AMR looks at the progress the Council has made in producing the documents that make up the Local Development Framework (LDF) during the period April 1st 2010 to March 31st 2011. Progress is measured against the milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS 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, organisations and stakeholders with essential information on the Council's planning policies, both now and those intended to be prepared in the future.

6.2 Walsall updated its LDS in June 2011, outside of this monitoring year and this version was approved by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (CLG)[22]. The key revisions made to the LDS at that time are detailed below:

I. Taking account of the adoption of the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) on 3 February 2011;
II. Updating of the Council's 'saved' Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies, to reflect the adoption of the BCCS;
III. Amendments to the programme for the production of a Site Allocations DPD, omitting development management policies to aid early adoption of the plan;
IV. A proposal to prepare an Area Action Plan (AAP) for Walsall Town Centre, to be prepared to a timetable to align with the timetable for the Site Allocations DPD;
V. Deletion of the programme to prepare the AAP proposed previously for Central Willenhall, with housing,employment land and other site issues outside of Willenhall town centre to be addressed through the proposed Site Allocations DPD;
VI. Deletion of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) from the formal

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

contents of the LDS (although, as set out in Appendix 4, the Council is proposing these documents should be revised and updated); and

VII. Recognition of the need to prepare a Charging Schedule to enable the implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) introduced by Government, although the programme for this does not have to be included as a formal part of the LDS.

6.3 Table 2 below details the DPDs proposed to be developed in this monitoring year and their progress up to the end of March 2011 against the timetable in the July 2011 LDS[23] that also sets out additional DPDs that are planned to be developed in 2011/12 and beyond. Progress against these additional DPDs will be reported on in the 2012 AMR but are also briefly mentioned in section 6.9 below to set out the intended timescales for 2011/12.

Table 2 – LDS Progress (this relates to the previous LDS that was in effect until June 2011)

Document	LDS Milestone	Target	Actual	Achievement	Comments
Black Country Core Strategy	Submission to the Secretary of State for examination	February 2010	February 2010	G	Adopted on 3rd February 2011.
Central Willenhall: AAP	Start	January 2008	-	G	Revised date Consultation February 2009.
	Publication	February 2010	-	R	As a result of work on the BCCS, AAP was reviewed and work suspended in 2009.

6.4 Towards the end of this monitoring year the BCCS was formally adopted (3rd February 2011) by the Black Country authorities following the examination process that found the plan to be 'sound'[24]. This is an important achievement in setting a regeneration framework for the Black Country as a whole.

23 http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/planning/planning_policy/local_development_framework/ldf_local_development_scheme

24 http://blackcountrycorestrategy.dudley.gov.uk/ *and* http://www.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/local_development_framework/ldf_core_strategy.htm

6.5 On the other hand, work on the Willenhall AAP was suspended in 2009 so that resources could be concentrated on the BCCS and the key points of the strategy could be taken into account. As noted above, the decision has subsequently been made not to proceed with this AAP.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND FUTURE ACTIONS

6.6 Since the end of March 2010 the evolution of the planning system has continued. The new Government, which took office in May 2010, has introduced the Localism Bill, which obtained Royal Assent in November 2011. Amongst other changes, the Bill proposes to abolish regional strategies and introduce neighbourhood planning. The Government has consulted on several potential changes to the planning system, including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and changes to permitted development rights for changes of use from industry and offices to housing.

6.7 The outcome of most of these consultations and changes to legislation took place after the end of the monitoring year. However, during the year the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations took effect in April 2010. The CIL Regulations, and the adoption of the BCCS, mean that it has become necessary to review the Council's SPDs. .

6.8 The difficult economic climate has continued to affect the ability of development to come forward. This has affected the success of many development plan policies and means that the Council has to place increasing importance on considering the viability of development when developing new policies.

6.9 Further DPDs are being developed outside of this monitoring year and will help to take Walsall's LDF forward; the first will be a Site Allocation Document (SAD) that will allocate uses for sites and areas across the entire Borough (excluding the town centre) and a Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) that will set out a framework to allocate land uses in Walsall town centre. Both are planned to go out to consultation at the end of February 2012 and more information can be found at
http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/planning_policy/local_development_framework.htm

7. IMPLEMENTATION OF UDP POLICIES

7.1 This section of the report sets out the policies that are required to be monitored, how the policies are being implemented, and whether we are meeting the monitoring targets through the use of RAG rating whereby R = Red (significantly behind target), A = Amber (Some progress towards target, but target not met) and G = Green (On-target or target met).

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY

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

Table 3 - Monitoring target for the Greenbelt

Greenbelt[25]		
Local Output Indicator- Green Belt: Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV2**	
Target	100% protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.	
Achievements	1. 100% achieved when allowance for very special circumstances are taken into account.	
Actions or Comments	1. No planning permissions were granted for development in the green belt which was contrary to UDP Policy ENV2. 2. In a small number of cases development has occurred that is, or would normally be, considered inappropriate in the green belt (see appendix B). However in all cases these applications are in compliance with the Development Plan as they are either justified by the demonstration of very special circumstances, which outweigh the harm by way of inappropriateness to the green belt, or are designated as Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt and thus accord with UDP Policy ENV4.	

[25] Please note that further data relating to greenbelt can be found in Appendix B.

Table 4 - Monitoring target for Biodiversity (change in areas of Biodiversity importance)

Biodiversity[26]		
New Core Output Indicator E2- Change in areas of biodiversity importance.		**G**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV19-24**	
Target	1. 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. 2. Areas (ha / % of resource) lost to development requiring planning permission since 1 April 2007.	
Achievements	1. At present it is not possible to establish precisely the extent to which priority species and habitats are affected by the development management system. However, many areas of priority habitat are within the boundaries of designated wildlife sites and by protecting the sites, the priority habitats are protected. Priority species are more problematic where they occur outside designated sites. Where planning applications would affect known populations or where populations could reasonably be expected to occur, ecological surveys are required in support of planning applications. 2. **Special Areas of Conservation** are designated by Natural England in response to European legislation. The borough currently has one such site which is Cannock Extension Canal candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC). There was no loss or damage to this site between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011. 3. **Sites of Special Scientific Interest** are designated by Natural England. The borough has eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest covering. 102.7 ha, including the Cannock Extension Canal which is also a SAC. There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011. One additional site has been notified within the reporting period. 4. The borough has eleven **Local Nature Reserves** covering some 262 ha. These sites are usually also	

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

	designated as SSSIs or SINCs or occasionally SLINCs. No new sites have been declared since 1 April 2010 and there were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011. 5. **Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation** are local sites designated by the local authorities in collaboration with Natural England 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. This position has not changed since the previous report. Between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011 there were no planning permissions granted resulting in the potential loss of any SINC. 6. **Sites of Local 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. A previously unreported planning permission was granted which has resulted in the loss of a small part of the Goscote Wedge SLINC. Details are set out in Table 1 of Appendix C. The council is not aware of any other extant permissions which were implemented in the reporting period. This equates to 0.13 ha or less than 0.1% of the total Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation resource. 7. **Maintaining up-to-date records of designated sites**. Sites can only be effectively protected if there is up-to-date information on their condition. Currently all the SSSIs have been assessed within the past 5 years and almost 89% found to be in a favourable or recovering condition. For the Local Sites (SINCs and SLINCs) 40.7% of all sites have been surveyed within the last 5 years and a further 42.6 surveyed within the last 5-10 years. This is the best performance by the council since the AMR has been prepared.
Actions or Comments	1. There have been few losses to the designated site resource through planning permissions granted. The sites are far more threatened by lack or management

	or inappropriate management which cannot easily be controlled through the planning system. 2. Designated sites continue to be monitored regularly to ensure planning decisions are taken on the most up-to-date data.

Table 5 - Monitoring target for Biodiversity (Biodiversity Action Plan)

Biodiversity		
Local Output Indicator- Progress in relation to targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and the Black Country.		**R**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV19-24**	
Target	Appendix C provides further detailed information on this indicator	
Achievements	1. At present it is not possible to establish the extent to which the revised Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan targets are being met through the implementation of planning policies.	
Actions or Comments	1. The main role of the implementation of planning policy is to protect the resource from damage and loss. This has been successful. Securing the expansion of the resource through the creation of key habitats can only occur on large sites where conditions are suitable for the target habitats.	

Table 6 - Monitoring target for Biodiversity (Tree Planting)

Biodiversity		
Local Output Indicator- Tree Planting		**A**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV15-19**	
Target	Progress in relation to targets in forest plans / strategies.	
Achievements	1. Approximately 50 large street trees have been planted throughout the borough. Again the number is low due to a withdrawal of funds from the tree planting budget. 2. A further 2500 trees were planted on the Reedswood Park site. 3. The Planting of 225 fruit trees at the Arboretum Grange site marked the launch pad for the governments Big Tree Plant scheme and represent the first local government controlled orchard. This orchard was planted and is maintained by volunteers at no cost to the council. 4. Over 1500 trees were planted as part of the Agro Forest project on the site of the old golf course, Arboretum extension, during the national tree planting week. Again the planting was done largely	

	by volunteers and at no cost to the council. 5. 109 trees were planted on two sites by volunteers as part of the Holocaust Remembrance scheme.
Actions or Comments	1. Some alternative methods of funding have been established and UFS has now purchased 289 large trees to be planted in 2012. We expect to plant many more street trees in 2012 and will hopefully meet the goal of 1000 large street trees this coming period.

Table 7 - Monitoring target for Historic Environment (Protection of buildings)

Historic Environment		
Local Output Indicator: Historic Environment: Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV27-29**	
Target	100% protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest.	
Achievements	1. No statutory listed buildings have been added to the statutory list 2010 –2011. No historic buildings have been lost.	
Actions or Comments	1. The Council will continue to protect buildings of historic or architectural interest.	

Table 8 - Monitoring target for Historic Environment (Conservation Area Management)

Historic Environment		
Local Output Indicator: Conservation Area Management: Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV29**	
Target	5 to be prepared by April 2009	
Achievements	1. There have been no new Conservation Area Character Appraisals or Management Plans completed in 2010-11.	
Actions or Comments	1. This target was achieved and reported in the 2008/9 AMR.	

Table 9 - Monitoring target for Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy		
LDF Core Output Indicator E3: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 9) Renewable Energy capacity installed by type.		**R**
LDF Policy		
Target		
Achievements	1. 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 schemes to be recorded where they do not require planning permission.	
Actions or Comments	1. The BCCS was adopted by the Council in February 2011. Monitoring of BCCS policies will take place in the Council's 2012 AMR to enable implementation of policies to be monitored over the course of a full monitoring year since adoption of the BCCS. This will include a new Local Output Indicator for Policy ENV7: Renewable Energy, to measure the proportion of eligible developments delivering measures to off-set residual energy demand.	

Table 10 - Monitoring target for Water Resources, Water Quality and Flood Risk.

Water Resources, Water Quality, Flood Risk.		
LDF Core Output Indicator E1: (previously LDF Core Output Indicator 7) Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood risk or water quality.		**G**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy ENV40**	
Target	None.	
Achievements	1. There were no planning applications approved by the Council that were contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood risk grounds or water quality grounds during this monitoring period. Further details can be found in Appendix B.	
Actions or Comments	1. Continue to apply the policy and to take account of Environment Agency advice.	

ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

7.3 Green Belt - Local planning policies within the UDP Environment section are still proving effective in their control of development in the green belt. Where planning permission was granted for development in a green belt location, the majority of developments were considered to be ‘appropriate development’ as defined by Planning Policy Guidance Note 2 and UDP Policy ENV2. In the only instances where development would be regarded as ‘inappropriate’ but permission was granted, justification was provided either through the submission of very special circumstances, because the principle of development in this location had already been determined through an approved planning application in a previous monitoring year, or because the proposed sites were designated for redevelopment under UDP Policy ENV4.

7.4 Biodiversity - No losses to SACs, SSSIs, LNRs or SINCs occurred in 20010/11. However, one previously unreported planning permission was monitored which showed a small loss of the Goscote Wedge SLINC, equating to 0.13 ha or less than 0.1% of the total Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation resource.

7.5 Whilst it has not been possible to identify whether the Biodiversity Action Plan targets were met for monitoring year 20010/11, the Birmingham and Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan has been revised, greatly simplifying the actions and targets required. Securing the expansion of habitat resource through the creation of key habitats can only occur on large sites where conditions are suitable for the target habitats. This monitoring year has not seen any suitable sites come forward to pursue this aim.

7.6 The Urban Forestry Strategy target of 1000 large street trees being planted in the last year has not been achieved, largely due to cuts in funding. However significant achievements have been made in relation to improvements to urban forestry in the Borough. In addition, a Tree Board has now been established allowing members of the public to have significant input into how the people of Walsall want their trees to be managed.

7.7 Renewable Energy – There are still difficulties in obtaining the necessary data where planning permission is not required for certain small scale renewable energy installations. The adopted BCCS has introduced a new Local Output Indicator to measure the proportion of eligible developments delivering measures to off-set residual energy demand, and this will be reflected in the 2012 AMR.

7.8 Water - No planning permissions were granted contrary to Environment Agency advice in 2010/11, and planning conditions were imposed on planning permissions where suggested by the Environment Agency. This shows a commitment to, and effective application of, UDP Policy ENV40 in determining planning applications. Further information on the environment and amenity is available in Appendix B.

JOBS AND PROSPERITY

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

Table 11 – Detailed Breakdown of Achievement

Amount of floorspace developed for employment land use (sq metres) – 2010 monitoring year					
Core Output Indicator	**B1a**	**B8**	**B1b, B1c, B2 or B8 combined**	**Sui generis**	**Total**
BD1 – Gross floorspace sq m	**360**	**890**	**1140**	**7116**	**8,601**
BD2 – Gross floorspace on previously developed land	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 12 - Implementation of Economic Policy (Land developed for employment uses)

Economy		
Local Output Indicator: Land developed for employment uses.		R
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy JP1**	
Target	13 ha per annum (UDP Target)	
Achievements	5.88ha	
Actions or Comments	Rather poor result due to continuing effects of recession and lack of large site availability	

Table 13 - Implementation of Economic Policy (Proportion of Brownfield development)

Economy		
Local Output Indicator: The proportion of development that takes place on Brownfield Sites		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy JP1**	
Target	95% of all land developed (UDP Target)	
Achievements	100%	
Actions or Comments		

Table 14 - Implementation of Economic Policy (Employment Land Supply)

Economy		
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
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy JP1**	
Target	91% of the total area.	
Achievements	New Employment Sites mostly protected with the exception of the following sites transferred out of B1b/c/B2/B8 employment use since 2005: Bescot Crescent (hotel) Hollyhedge Lane (residential) Green Lane/Cable Drive (office/B1); this takes account of flexibility of Policy JP4.1 and JP 4.2).	
Actions or Comments		

JOBS AND PROSPERITY PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

7.10 In Walsall, as elsewhere, there was a split between poorly performing consumer services and the public sector, which are laying off staff, on one hand, and a very strong recovery from manufacturing industry on the other, led by surging exports. Manufacturing companies re-employed staff laid off in the 2008-09 recession to cope with the upturn in demand. Between 2009 and 2010, according to the 2010 Business Register and Employment Survey, the overall employment picture was flat, but manufacturing took on 0.8% more workers whilst the service sector lost 0.9%. More recently however, this improvement appears to be tailing off.

7.11 Core Strategy. In terms of planning for employment land, the Core Strategy was adopted in February 2011, and its policies, notably EMP1-5 (dealing with employment land) and DEL2 (managing change of redundant employment land to other uses) are now part of the development plan.

7.12 Walsall Employment Land Review 2010 & 2011. The Council also published an Employment Land Review (ELR) in 2010; this was carried out by Roger Tym & Partners and is currently being updated. This derived from the Core Strategy evidence base and applied the Core Strategy requirement on an area-specific basis. It classified Walsall's employment land into 8 categories:

- retain as existing High Quality employment land;
- retain as potential High Quality employment land;
- retain as local quality employment land
- consider for release in the medium to long term to other uses(subject to safeguards)
- release to other uses now
- planning permission for housing since 2005
- housing under construction
- housing completed since 2005.

7.13 Further information and the ELR findings can be found in **Appendix C.**

STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES

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

7.18 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. All figures are gross internal area (GIA) unless specified.

Table 15 – Strengthening our Centres (Amount of A1, A2, B1a and D2 development)

LDF Policy	**UDP Policy S1-S7**				
Target	No specific target.				
Achievements	**A1**	**A2**	**B1(a)**[27]	**D2**	**Total**
Gross (m^2)	10961	60	5052	1655	17728
Net Additional (m^2)	6624.8	- 192.8	5052	282	11766
Actions or Comments	1. The largest A1 completion included in the table above was the new Tesco completion in an edge-of-centre location following the relocation from a smaller unit in the Old Square Shopping Centre in the primary shopping area of the town centre. 2. The trend for small A1 units to be converted into other town centres uses (particularly A3 uses) continued with a loss of 219.6m2 GIA. The loss of an A2 unit to A3 (Hot food takeaway) resulted in a loss of A2 floorspace overall. 3. The Tesco redevelopment also provided 2959m2 GIA B1(a) development. In addition to this the Stan Ball Centre offices were completed along with other smaller developments resulting in a larger amount of office floorspace being completed in the Borough than in the previous year. 4. The D2 developments were mostly gyms or banqueting facilities with industrial areas.				

[27] Excludes ancillary or temporary uses.

Table 16 – Strengthening our Centres (Amount of A1, A2, B1a and D2 within established Centres)

LDF Policy	**UDP Policy S1-S5**				
Target	No specific target.				
Achievements	**A1**	**A2**	**B1a**	**D2**	**Total**
Gross (m^2)	0	60	492	0	552
Net Additional (m^2)	0	- 192.8	492	-1373	
Actions or Comments	1. The key major development was the Tesco redevelopment on an edge-of-centre location. This accounts for significant investment in retail and offices outside of Walsall Town Centre established centre. 2. The loss of D2 in an established centre is due to loss of a Casino to D1 (a training facility – also a town centre use).				

Table 17 – Strengthening our Centres (Proportion of development in established Centres)

Local Output Indicator - Proportion of development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses that takes place in established centres.						**R**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy S1-S5**					
Target	At least 90% of all development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses to take place in established centres (UDP target).					
Achievements	**A1**	**A2**	**B1(a)**	**D2**	**Other**	**Combined**
In centre development	0%	100%	9.70%	0%	80%	12.1%
Actions or Comments	1. The proportion of A1 and B1(a) development that took place in the Borough's centres is significantly under the UDP target of 90%. This percentage is skewed by the Tesco development in an edge-of-centre location. If as with previous years AMR's edge-of-centre development where included as development within established centre's the A1 percentage would actually be 97.6% simply from the inclusion of the Tesco completion. 2. In terms of 'Other' town centre uses (e.g. A3, A4, A5 and sui generis uses attracting a significant number of trips), 2333.4m^2 of floorspace was completed in the borough and 1867.4m^2 within centres. The proportion of development that took place in centres fell just below the UDP target as a result of out-of-centre developments for a hot-food takeaway, restaurant and pub serving local needs.					

Table 18 – Strengthening our Centres (Shopping Centres)

Local Output Indicator- Shopping Centres: Amount of vacant floor space in centres.		R
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy S1-S7**	
Target	Vacancies to be at or below the national average (UDP Target).	
Achievements	1. The Council was unable to monitor vacancy rates in all of the centres during 2009-10. However, the Local Data Company's 'Mid-Year Shop Vacancy Report 2010' (published) indicates that at the end of 2010 Walsall had the highest retail vacancy rate amongst large and medium-sized centres in the region, at 26.8% (up 8.2% in 12 months) against the West Midlands average of 19%.	
Actions or Comments	1. Consider monitoring the vacancy rates in the borough's centres in conjunction with work on the Land Allocations DPD and the Town Centre Area Action Plan. Also liaise with other teams within the Council to monitor vacancies on a regular basis, particularly in the town and district centres.	

STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

7.19 The amount of completed floorspace recorded for all of the town centre uses was higher than in 2009/10, the majority of this was edge-of-centre or out-of-centre. There was increased development of offices and in some areas of leisure, including a trend of out-of-centre gyms located within Employment Land.

7.20 The proportion of development especially in regards in A1 that took place in established centres was extremely low. This is mainly the result of counting the Tesco development as out-of-centre and not in Centre. The figures have been calculated this way to show the impact of large edge-of-centre retail schemes on the amount of overall development within centres and to highlight the issue of decreased investment within the heart of Walsall's centres.

7.21 In terms of in-centre vacancy rates, Walsall Town Centre is recorded as having the highest retail vacancy rate amongst large and medium-sized centres in the region, at 26.8% (up 8.2% in 12 months) against the West Midlands average of 19%. It is also the second highest vacancy rate for large towns in the country (national average is 16.9%) (LDC 2010 Local Data Company (2010) Terminal Illness or Gradual Decline? A review of GB shop vacancy in 2010.[28]).

[28] Local Data Company (2010) Terminal Illness or Gradual Decline? A review of GB shop vacancy in 2010. Available to view at: LDC 2010

7.22 The forthcoming Site Allocation Document and Town Centre Area Action plan should help to address the issues highlighted by this years centre figures.

HOUSING

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

7.23 ***<u>HOUSING CORE OUTPUT INDICATORS</u>***

<u>Table 19a - Housing Land Supply</u>

COI H1 (also an indicator for UDP Policy H1 and BCCS Policy HOU1)		**G**
Target	Following the adoption of the Black Country Core Strategy during the year, future housing targets are now set at a sub-regional level by policy HOU1. Table 7 attached to this policy includes indicative phased net housing targets for Walsall as follows: 2006-16: 5,067 dwellings (of which 2,774 had been completed by end-March 2011 and 3,043 had been completed by end-September 2011) 2016-21: 2,300 dwellings 2021-26: 4,600 dwellings	
Achievement	As at 1 April 2011, the remaining capacity on sites with a valid planning permission or allocated in the UDP for housing was **4,844** dwellings. Permissions granted since 2006 but which had subsequently lapsed without being implemented would have provided sites for a further 1,000 dwellings. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment revealed that other potential housing sites had capacity for a further 8,951 dwellings.	
Actions or Comments	The SHLAA used a base date of 1 April 2009. A small number of the sites in the SHLAA have subsequently been granted planning permission during 2009-2011 so there is a slight overlap between these two figures. In view of the fact that the supply is so far in excess of the 5 year requirement to 2016 however, this overlap is not significant. It is intended to update the SHLAA during 2011-12 to rectify this. A schedule of the sites that currently have planning permission or remain allocated in the UDP and where no construction has commenced is attached below.	

SITES ALLOCATED IN UDP OR WITH PLANNING PERMISSION FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Only sites where no construction has started are included in Table 19b below. Situation is as at 1 December 2011.

ALP: Allocated in UDP
FPP Full planning permission
OPP Outline planning permission

Table 19b – Allocated Residential Sites and Sites with Planning Permission

ADDRESS	STATUS	CAPACITY OF SITE (DWELLINGS GROSS)
FMR 61-83 SHAKESPEARE CRESCENT, BLOXWICH	ALP	14
GORWAY ROAD	ALP	25
HIGHBRIDGES, PELSALL	ALP	30
HOWDLES LANE/CASTLE STREET, BROWNHILLS	ALP	40
LAND AT ALDRIDGE ROAD, STREETLY	ALP	16
LICHFIELD ROAD, LITTLE BLOXWICH	ALP	25
OFF SANDWELL AVENUE	ALP	45
R/O PINSON ROAD	ALP	15
43 FOLEY ROAD EAST,WALSALL,B74 3HR	FPP	2
3A,ABLEWELL STREET,WALSALL	FPP	2
71 Hall Lane, Pelsall, Walsall	FPP	4
ROMNEY WAY, GREAT BARR	FPP	16
R/O 22 PARTRIDGE AVENUE, DARLASTON, WALSALL	FPP	1
COLTHAM ROAD	FPP	2
LAND BETWEEN 20 & 22 CASTLE ROAD,WALSALL,WS9 9BY	FPP	1
31 BRADFORD STREET,WALSALL,WS1 3QA	FPP	3
Keepers Cottage off Nether Hall Avenue, Great Barr, B46 1JU	FPP	1
180 HALL LANE,WALSALL WOOD,WALSALL,WS9 9AR	FPP	3
16 BROADWAY WEST	FPP	1
LAND ADJ. 30 LUDLOW LANE,WALSALL,WS2 8YB	FPP	1
192 LICHFIELD ROAD, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL	FPP	8
R/O 16 ARBORETUM LODGE	FPP	1
LAND AT BEDDOWS ROAD AND RUTLAND STREET, WALSALL	FPP	96
27 GILLITY AVENUE,WALSALL,WS5 3PJ	FPP	1
ADJ 1 HALEY STREET	FPP	1
FISHER STREET	FPP	2
LAND AT BENTLEY ROAD NORTH,WALSALL,	FPP	144
LAND AT BROCKHURST CRESCENT, WALSALL	FPP	69
FORMER ST JOHN'S SCHOOL AND NO. 11 LICHFIELD ROAD,WALSALL WOOD, WALSALL, WS9 9NP	FPP	22
PARGETER STREET(CORNER OF WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD),WALSALL,WS2 8RQ	FPP	6
326 BIRMINGHAM ROAD,WALSALL,WS5 3NE	FPP	4
LYSWAYS STREET	FPP	5
482 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD (east side of existing dwelling))	FPP	1
35 PRINCES AVENUE,WALSALL,WS1 2DG	FPP	1
FOREST GATE LIBRARY,FOREST GATE,WILLENHALL,WV12 5LF	FPP	6
MOAT STREET WOOD STREET	FPP	128
REAR OF 203/205,FOLEY ROAD WEST,STREETLY,WALSALL	FPP	1

FOXHILL FISHERIES,PINFOLD LANE	FPP	1
RUSHALL HALL,LEIGH ROAD,WALSALL,WS4 2DS	FPP	1
37-38 BRADFORD STREET	FPP	20
Duke of Wellington P.H.,46 Birmingham Street, Walsall, WS1 3DH	FPP	4
CAR PARK OF 136 WALSALL ROAD,WILLENHALL,	FPP	4
43 LICHFIELD ROAD,BLOXWICH,WALSALL,WS3 3LT	FPP	1
LAND ADJACENT 6 FORGE ROAD, WILLENHALL,WV12 4HD	FPP	2
LAND CORNER OF PLECK ROAD AND IDA ROAD,WALSALL,WEST MIDLANDS	FPP	22
VILLIERS STREET,	FPP	9
LAND AT 59 WHITEHORSE ROAD, BROWNHILLS, WS8 7PE	FPP	4
74 LICHFIELD ROAD,BLOXWICH,WALSALL,WS3 3LY	FPP	1
ROYAL OAK PUBLIC HOUSE, LORD STREET, WALSALL	FPP	5
1 ABLEWELL STREET,WALSALL,WS1 2EQ	FPP	4
61 SNEYD LANE,WALSALL,WS3 2LW	FPP	2
LAND AT,TAMWORTH CLOSE, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL,WS8 7QQ	FPP	7
Land to the r/o 47 & 41 Clarendon Street, Bloxwich, Walsall	FPP	2
321-323 PLECK ROAD,WALSALL,WS2 9HD	FPP	2
R/O 47 BESCOT ROAD	FPP	1
60 PINFOLD STREET,DARLASTON,WS10 8TE	FPP	2
3 HARDEN CLOSE,WALSALL,WS3 1BU	FPP	1
LAND TO REAR OF 170-174 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD AND 1-11 PARGETER STREET,WALSALL,	FPP	1
35 ARBORETUM ROAD,WALSALL,WS1 2QH	FPP	5
BEACON VIEW,LITTLE ASTON ROAD,WALSALL,WS9 0NN	FPP	3
LAND BETWEEN 2 & 4 WELLS AVENUE, DARLASTON, WS10 8QN	FPP	1
LAND BETWEEN 4 AND 5 HERBERTS PARK ROAD, WEDNESBURY, WS10 8QL	FPP	1
122 PELSALL ROAD,WALSALL,WS8 7DP	FPP	1
18-23 Stafford Street, Willenhall, WV13 1TG	FPP	4
87,SKIP LANE,WALSALL,WEST MIDLANDS,WS5 3LP	FPP	1
SANDBEDS ROAD	FPP	1
LAND OFF SOMERFIELD CLOSE, R/O 152 LICHFIELD ROAD, SHELFIELD, WS4 1PW	FPP	1
Mill Green Farm, 724 Chester Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0LR	FPP	5
LAND OFF ESSINGTON ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV11 2RA	FPP	2
LAND BETWEEN STATION STREET/NAVIGATION STREET AND MARSH STREET, WALSALL.	FPP	31
LAND TO THE SIDE OF 14 PARK HALL ROAD, WALSALL	FPP	2
16A STAFFORD STREET, WILLENHALL, WV13 1TG	FPP	1
5 BESCOT ROAD,WALSALL,WS2 9AD	FPP	4
SPRING LANE	FPP	9
2 GREEN LANE, WALSALL, WS3 2BP	FPP	1
THE FREE TRADE INN P.H.,WOOD LANE,PELSALL,WALSALL,	FPP	3
LAND TO THE REAR OF 55-59 SKIP LANE, ADJACENT 1 WOODFIELD CLOSE, WALSALL	FPP	2
5 & 6,DOVERIDGE PLACE,WALSALL	FPP	2
158,LICHFIELD ROAD,SHELFIELD	FPP	1
SITE OF THE CAVALCADE P.H.,STROUD AVENUE,WILLENHALL,WV12 4DH	FPP	23
70 FIBBERSLEY	FPP	1
23 Green Lane, Walsall Wood, Walsall	FPP	1
LAND BETWEEN 1 & 3 AND BETWEEN 9 & 11 CRICKET CLOSE, WALSALL, WS5 3PU	FPP	1
FORMER LIBRARY, BRICKILN STREET	FPP	5

140 THORNHILL ROAD	FPP	2
350 CHESTER ROAD,WALSALL,WS9 0PH	FPP	2
COMMONSIDE SERVICE STATION, WALSALL ROAD, PELSALL	FPP	2
SITE ADJACENT 1 WALLACE ROAD,WALSALL,WS8 7JF	FPP	4
44 STRINGES LANE	FPP	9
FORMER WALSALL WOOD LIBRARY, LICHFIELD ROAD, WALSALL WOOD	FPP	7
CHARNWOOD CLOSE	FPP	5
10 LEACROFT CLOSE,WALSALL,WS9 8RX	FPP	1
LAND AT MILLFIELD AVENUE	FPP	2
48 SKIP LANE	FPP	1
LAND CORNER OF LEVE LANE/JOHN STREET,WILLENHALL,WALSALL	FPP	12
FORMER ROYAL NAVY CLUB, 120 ELMORE GREEN ROAD	FPP	10
BOURNEVALE MOTORS, LICHFIELD ROAD, SHELFIELD	FPP	8
EAGLE PUBLIC HOUSE, CRESSWELL CRESCENT	FPP	17
233 WALSALL ROAD, ALDRIDGE	FPP	1
77 LICHFIELD ROAD AND LAND ADJ 81 LICHFIELD ROAD, SHELFIELD	FPP	2
LAND CORNER OF TAME DRIVE, WALSALL ROAD, WALSALL, WS3 4DE	FPP	1
LAND AT SILVER STREET	FPP	36
At corner of Old Birchills and Reedswood Close - to rear and side of Rose and Crown Public House,Old Birchills,Walsall.	FPP	1
11-15 Pooles Lane, Willenhall, WV12 5HH	FPP	6
27 CHESTER ROAD NORTH, BROWNHILLS, WS8 7JW	FPP	3
LAND BETWEEN 51-53,WILLENHALL STREET,WEDNESBURY, WS10 8NG	FPP	8
LAND REAR OF 54 REGENT STREET, WILLENHALL, WV13 1DL	FPP	1
MILL LANE, WILLENHALL, WV12 4JU	FPP	7
118 LITTLE HARDWICK ROAD, WALSALL, WS9 0SF	FPP	2
Rear of 62 & 64 Foley Road East, Walsall, B74 3JD	FPP	1
HINGLEYS COTTAGE, OFF LINDROSA ROAD, STREETLY, B74 3JZ	FPP	1
LAND ADJ. 31 HILLSIDE, WALSALL WOOD, WS8 7AF	FPP	1
BTWN 269 271 LICHFIELD RD, RUSHALL	FPP	1
33 WOODLANDS AVENUE, WALSALL, WS5 3LN	FPP	1
EURO HOUSE, DOG KENNEL LANE, WALSALL, WS1 2BU	FPP	4
138 CORONATION ROAD, PELSALL, WALSALL, WS4 1BA	FPP	2
263 LICHFIELD ROAD	FPP	8
13 REEVES STREET, WALSALL, WS3 2DQ	FPP	2
LAND ADJACENT FURLONG HOUSE, LANTON CLOSE, BLOXWICH	FPP	2
ADJOINING 18 BENTLEY LANE,WILLENHALL,WV124AA	FPP	1
219 LICHFIELD ROAD, RUSHALL, WALSALL, WS4 1EA	FPP	8
FORMER ROYAL EXCHANGE P.H, 41 WOLVERHAMPTON STREET, WEDNESBURY, WS10 8UG	FPP	5
LAND BTWN 15 & 19 GOSCOTE ROAD, WALSALL	FPP	1
39 LYSWAYS STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3AG	FPP	2
THREE CROWNS P.H.,SUTTON ROAD,WALSALL,WS5 3AX	FPP	4
FORMER TANNERY P.H.,BURROWES STREET,WALSALL,WS2 8NX	FPP	12
THE HAWTHORNS,HIGHGATE DRIVE,WALSALL,WS1 3JW	FPP	13
WILLIAM HOUSE,MARSH LANE,WALSALL,WS2 9LN	FPP	60
ROWLEY STREET	OPP	3
LAND ADJ. 1 SEEDS LANE,BROWNHILLS,WALSALL,WS8 6HU	OPP	1
15 & 16 HODSON AVENUE,WILLENHALL,WALSALL,WV13 2HS	OPP	2
BILSTON LANE	OPP	90

REAR OF 454 SUTTON ROAD, WALSALL, WS5 3AZ	OPP	1
LAND ADJACENT 33 HIGH STREET,PELSALL,WALSALL,WS3 4LX	OPP	1
TAME STREET EAST	OPP	4
R/O 163A CLOTHIER STREET	OPP	5
77 & 78 KING CHARLES AVENUE,WALSALL,WS2 0DN	OPP	4
1 NEW STREET,WALSALL,WS1 3DF	OPP	9
Queslett Centre, Lakeview Close, Walsall, B43	OPP	7
116 LICHFIELD ROAD,SHELFIELD,WALSALL,WS4 1PS	OPP	2
LAND BETWEEN STATION STREET/NAVIGATION STREET AND MARSH STREET, WALSALL.	OPP	210
THE RECTORY, THE GREEN, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 8NH	OPP	8
FORMER CURL & DYE PREMISES, 182 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, WALSALL, WS2 8RQ	OPP	1
THE MILESTONE PUBLIC HOUSE, ESSINGTON ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV12 5DT	OPP	6
16 POOLES LANE, WILLENHALL	OPP	1
FORMER CHAMBERLAIN & HILL, REEVES STREET	OPP	43
2 RIVERBANK ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV13 2SA	OPP	1
LAND AT BERKLEY CLOSE AND COTTLE CLOSE, REAR OF 31-59 EDINBURGH AVENUE,BENTLEY,WALSALL	OPP	16
LAND TO THE REAR OF 112-156 WILKES AVENUE AND 200-220 CHURCHILL ROAD BETWEEN JANE LANE SCHOOL, CHURCHILL ROAD, AND QUALITY HOTEL, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD WEST	OPP	44
LAND AT CHURCHILL ROAD AND KENT ROAD TO THE REAR OF 2-14 KENT ROAD AND 201-205 CHURCHILL ROAD, BENTLEY, WALSALL	OPP	26
LAND BETWEEN 151 AND 157 MACKAY ROAD, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 3BX	OPP	4
LAND BETWEEN 3 AND 5, KING CHARLES AVENUE, WALSALL	OPP	2
BESCOT HOUSE, WALSTEAD ROAD WEST, WALSALL, WS5 4NY	OPP	8
SOUTH WOLVERHAMPTON STREET	OPP	152
LOWER LICHFIELD STREET	OPP	103

Table 20 - Dwelling Completions

COI H2 (also UDP Policy 6.3, but this is no longer relevant – see commentary above)	RAG see below

COI H2 is divided into three parts as follows:

H2(a) Net additional dwellings over the previous five year period (2005-2010)		**RAG N/A**
Target	See comments below. The transition between the UDP, RSS and BCCS targets means that there is no meaningful 5-year target for this period	
Achievement	**2242**	
Actions or Comments		

H2(b) Net additional dwellings for the current year (2010-11)		**G**
Target	450 net (based on RSS 1)	
Achievement	**825**	
Actions or Comments		

H2(c) Projected net additional dwellings up to 2026		**RAG N/A**
Target	a) Net additional dwellings 2011-2026 **8930** b) Hectares 2012-2017 **71ha** c) Target dwelling numbers 2012-17 **2484**	
Achievement	Not applicable	
Actions or Comments	The numbers of dwellings stated above are derived from the BCCS targets, after taking account of dwellings that have already been completed. There is no target in the BCCS for the land area to be used for new housing development: the above figure is therefore an estimate of the area that will be required, assuming an average density of 35 dwellings per hectare as referred to in policy HOU2.	

H2(d) Managed delivery target		**RAG N/A**
Target	**460 dwellings per annum**	
Achievement	Not applicable	
Actions or Comments	This is derived from the BCCS target for 2016-21 (see table 19 above), after subtracting dwellings already completed in 2006-11	

Table 21 - Dwellings on Previously Developed Land

COI H3: Percentage of New and Converted Dwellings on Previously Developed Land (also UDP Policy H1)		**G**
Target	Planning Policy Statement 3 sets a target of 60%. UDP policy H1 sets a target of 95%.	
Achievement	Nearly 100% of completions recorded during the year were on previously developed land.	
Actions or Comments	Only 4 completions out of 826 were on greenfield sites. All 4 involved former garden land. Prior to the revision of PPS3 in June 2010, garden land was defined as previously developed.	

Table 22 - Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers

COI H4: Additional Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers (there is no "saved" UDP policy for this indicator)		**A**
Target	Prior to the adoption of the BCCS towards the end of the	

	monitoring year, there was no adopted development plan target for this indicator.
Achievement	Planning permission to retain the siting of a residential caravan for a gypsy family at Railswood Nurseries, Pelsall, was granted on appeal during the year.
Actions or Comments	Policy HOU 4 of the BCCS incorporates the results of the Black Country Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment. The latter identified a requirement for 39 residential pitches and 35 travelling showpeople plots to be provided in Walsall over the period 2008-18, together with 10-12 transit pitches in the Black Country as a whole. These figures will therefore form a target for future years. The results of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Survey, that was commissioned by the Council during 2009-10 to identify potential new sites, will be incorporated into the preparation of the Site Allocation Document

Table 23 - Affordable Housing

COI H5: Gross Affordable Housing Completions (UDP Policy H4)	**A**
Target	UDP Policy H4 seeks 3,600 additional affordable homes over the period 1991-2011. The 2009-10 AMR stated that 2,425 homes had been provided by 2009, leaving a total of 1,175 homes to be provided in 2009-11. However, CLG figures (http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/xls/2001249.xls) indicate that a total of 3,630 affordable homes had been provided by 2009. The difference compared with the Council's figures is caused primarily by the numbers recorded by the Council for the period prior to 2002 being lower than those recorded by CLG. For future years, the BCCS (policy HOU3) sets a target of 11,000 affordable dwellings across the Black Country, equivalent to 15% of the target gross housing completions between 2006 and 2026.
Achievement	540 affordable dwellings were provided during the monitoring year.
Actions or Comments	The large amount of new affordable housing that was provided during the year, which accounted for a high proportion of the overall housing supply, was largely the result of public subsidy, including the completion of extra care schemes. It is unlikely that this level of subsidy will be available in future years.

	However, the Council is seeking to reinvest payments from the New Homes Bonus, which have been received as a reward for the high level of housing completions in the last two years, to provide continued support to housing developments in future.

Table 24 - Building for Life Assessments

COI H6: Building for Life Assessments (there is no directly relevant UDP policy, although parts of GP1, GP2, GP6 and ENV32 contain some elements)	**R**
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.
Actions or Comments	Although the national Core Output Indicators have been abolished, a similar indicator has been introduced for BCCS policy ENV3.

7.24 ***HOUSING LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS***

These comprise those indicators in the housing chapter of the UDP that are not also Core Output Indicators and referred to above.

Table 25 - Vacancy Rates in Existing Housing Stock

UDP Policy H1	**A**
Target	Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011
Achievement	The vacancy rate as of April 2011 was 3.3%, down from the rate of 3.8% reported in April 2010.
Actions or Comments	The vacancy rate is derived from the Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (HSSA). The figure is the lowest for some years. It was 5.2% in 2006, at a time when a large number of social housing units, principally tower blocks, were awaiting demolition. However, although the HSSA is a national dataset, its use for calculating the vacancy rate may not provide an accurate figure. This is because the total housing stock recorded in the HSSA is simply based on adding dwelling additions during the year to the previous year's figure, rather than carrying out a full survey of all dwellings, and around half the vacancies are for less than 6 months: short term vacancies may not be fully reported by dwelling owners. Nevertheless, vacant dwellings could potentially provide an important addition to the dwelling stock. Reducing the number of vacant dwellings is also one of the factors that contributes to the size of New Homes Bonus paid to local authorities. Although this local output indicator "expires" in 2011,

	consideration will be given to continuing its inclusion in future monitoring reports.

Table 26 - Housing Windfall Sites

UDP Policy H1		**G**
Target	Annual average of 275 dwellings per annum to be on windfall sites	
Achievement	1. 706 out of the 826 gross completions were on windfall sites	
Actions or Comments	1. It is to be expected that the proportion of housing development that takes place on windfall sites would increase as the development plan becomes more out of date. However, of the sites allocated in the UDP (proposal H2), the majority still remain to be developed. 2. Proposal H2 allocates sites for 613 dwellings. Of these, sites shown as having an estimated capacity of 248 dwellings have been completed (the actual number of dwellings granted planning permission and built does not always equal the estimated capacity in the UDP: notably, the former Council Depot site, which was granted planning permission and on which construction started this year, has planning permission for 264 dwellings compared with the notional capacity of 160 referred to in proposal H2), whilst allocated sites with a capacity of 304 dwellings were under construction during the monitoring year. 3. Sites allocated in the UDP only account for a small proportion of the total number of sites needed to meet the housing requirements in the RSS and BCCS. Work has now begun on the Site Allocation Document to ensure that sufficient sites are identified to meet future needs.	

Table 27 - Density of New Development

UDP Policy H9		**G**
Target	Overall average density of new residential development during the year to be at least 30 dwellings per hectare.	
Achievement	The average net density of development on sites that were completed during the year was 50 dwellings per hectare. This is an increase from the figure of 40 dwellings per hectare recorded in 2009-10, and reflects the completion of a large number of Extra Care apartments	
Actions or	This figure only includes sites that were fully completed	

Comments	during the year. Some sites, particularly larger ones, can take several years to complete so many of the completions actually took place in previous years. The average density of sites that were granted planning permission during the year was 30 dwellings per hectare. This is a reduction from the figure of 46 recorded in 2009-10. The figure has been distorted to some extent by a small number of very low density developments.

Table 28 - Mix of Dwelling Types

UDP Policy H9	**A**
Target	To achieve a mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances at the time the dwellings are constructed.
Achievement	The mix of dwelling types completed was as follows: (see table below)
Actions or Comments	A large proportion of the flats were in Extra Care developments. The Housing Needs Assessment was updated during the year. This confirmed that the estimated requirement for future homes is distributed fairly evenly between two, three and four bedroom properties. There is very little demand for one bedroom units.

Flats				**Houses and Bungalows**			
1 Bed	**2 Bed**	**3 Bed**	**4+ Bed**	**1 Bed**	**2 Bed**	**3 Bed**	**4+ Bed**
146	339	2	0	2	96	177	64

HOUSING PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

Completions During Year

7.25 Despite the continuing difficult national and international economic conditions, housing completions during the year remained at a high level compared with the long-term trend over the last 20 years. However, a high proportion of the completions were for affordable housing and were supported by public funds, notably through the Homes and Communities Agency. This level of support is unlikely to be available in future years.

7.26 Last year's AMR reported that an audit of housing sites had taken place during the year that had identified under-recording of completions in previous years. These completions have now been added to the Council Tax Base, which is used to calculate the amount of New Homes Bonus that the council receives following the introduction of this scheme in 2010. The high number of confirmed completions over the last 2 years has resulted in the council receiving a substantial amount of payments under this scheme. The council intends to invest these payments in supporting further housing developments.

7.27 Apart from the Extra Care developments, the mix of dwelling types and sizes was more evenly balanced than last year. This balance reflects the requirements identified in the Walsall Housing Needs and Demand Study that was updated in early 2011.

Housing Targets.

7.28 The year remained a period of transition for housing targets. The target of 10,100 dwellings to be completed over the period 1991-2011, which formed the basis of the housing supply requirement in the UDP, was reached during 2008-9.

7.29 New housing targets were set by the Phase 1 Revision of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS1), which was issued in January 2008. These proposed an annual gross rate for Walsall of 500 dwellings. RSS1 was the only part of the statutory development plan to be in effect during the whole of the monitoring year that contained a relevant housing target.

7.30 The Phase 2 Revision of the RSS (RSS 2), the examination of which took place between April to June 2009, was intended to set housing targets at a Black Country wide level rather than at the level of individual local authorities. A net total of 61,200 dwellings for the period 2006-2026 was proposed. This total was increased to 63,000 dwellings in the Report of the Panel, which was published in September 2009.

7.31 Although RSS2 is now unlikely to proceed following the proposal of the Coalition Government to revoke Regional Strategies (which is intended to be carried out through the Localism Act that received Royal Assent in November 2011), the housing targets proposed in the RSS2 Panel Report have been incorporated in the BCCS, excepts that the latter breaks them down to indicative figures at local authority level and in 5 year periods.

TRANSPORT

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

Table 29 – Transport (New Residential Development)

Transport		
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
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy T12**	
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.	
Achievements	1. Baseline has changed as explained in appendices. Has fallen since 2008 however revised Target for 2010/11 was 378,857 so was achieved:	
Actions or Comments	1. Target met in 2011, however slide in figures needs to be arrested.	

Year	Total Population
2005 Baseline	252,571
2006	402,540
2007	428,941
2008	450,731
2010/11	434,312

Table 30 – Transport (Increase Number of Bus Journeys)

Transport		
Local Output Indicator: Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target.		A
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy T2**	
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.	
Achievements	1. LTP Target interim milestone for 2008/9 **324m**. Passenger trips by bus in 2008-09 were **326.7**m. In 2009/10 this figure dropped to 319.9m which is below the target figure. Then in 2010/11 they dropped further to 300.2m passenger trips which is 54.8m below target These figures are for the whole conurbation. (Source: CST). In Walsall, biennial cordon surveys showed an 8.7% decrease in bus trips into Walsall Town Centre during the morning peak between 2005 and 2007. Cordon bus trips fell by a further 7.2% in 2009 and in 2011 have fallen by again by 2.25%. Although a further decrease it is	

	much smaller than previous decreases. 2. In 2010/11 Walsall completed the Wolverhampton and West Walsall Bus Network Review in conjunction with Centro, Wolverhampton City Council and operators following on from North Walsall Review in 2010. Centro figures show a 3.8% rise in this area compared to an 8% drop regionally according to DfT figures.
Actions or Comments	1. To progress this further need to continue work across metropolitan area through Bus Showcase, Bus Partnership Routes and Bus Network Reviews 2. Complete additional South Walsall Bus Network Review in conjunction with Centro.

Table 31 – Transport (Car Park Spaces)

Transport		
Local Output Indicator - Car parking provision for new housing development in line with standards in T13		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy T13**	
Target	Car park spaces to meet the standards within UDP Policy T13.	
Achievements	1. In line with target.	
Actions or Comments	1. Keep all new housing developments in line with parking targets.	

Table 32 – Transport (Traffic Growth)

Transport		
Local Output Indicator: Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy T4, T5**	
Target	LTP target is for no more than a 7% increase in road traffic mileage between 2004 and 2010.	
Achievements	1. 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 two 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. In 2010 this had dropped further to 98.85	

	A Base figure has been set at 2004 of 100. 2006 = 102.3 2008 = 101.1 (well ahead of target trajectory) 2010= 98.85 (Source: CEPOG Support Team) 2. 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. 3. Highway Improvements:Following the 51 Route receiving Red Route treatment during 2008, both the 529 and 301 schemes were incorporated into the Red Route initiative in 2010, and the Broadway Red Route scheme was completed in late 2011. This completed the first red route network in the West Midlands
Actions or Comments	1. Continue with 1500 point surveys. 2. Deliver improvements on congestion corridors included in LTP PSA target. 3. Continue to implement Decriminalised Parking Enforcement and look to gain powers for moving vehicle enforcement. 4. Monitor Red Routes & implement other management improvements as required.

Table 33 – Transport (Bicycle Trips)

Transport		
Local Output Indicator: Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target		**G**
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy T9**	
Target	LTP Target is 1% increase in cycling index between 2003/04 and 2010/11.	
Achievements	1. Although levels of cycling appear to have fallen, they	

	are still well above the target trajectory: 2. T9 2008/9 performance = 135.92 and target milestone = 95. 3. T9 2009/10 performance = 123.44 and target milestone = 97. 4. 2010/11 = 120.17 (target was 101 so achieved) Source: Core Support Team; Figures are for whole conurbation.
Actions or Comments	1. Continue to implement good quality facilities for cyclists as part of the authority's capital works programmes and through developers via planning conditions.

TRANSPORT PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

7.40 The first rail infrastructure improvements for a number of years were implemented in Walsall with the Chase Line Station Improvements. Further schemes are being campaigned for by Centro and Walsall Council.

7.41 The Walsall Town Centre Transport Package was completed in Spring 2009 providing highway infrastructure improvements around the northern and north-western side of Walsall Town Centre which has resulted in peak-time journeys being cut by an average of 96 seconds in the morning on the Wolverhampton Road to Pleck Road stretch and 52 seconds in the evening.

7.42 The number of bus journeys in 2010/11 has decreased in the West Midlands Metropolitan area and morning peak bus trips into Walsall Town Centre have consistently decreased since 2005. The recession is likely to have played a major part in the decline in bus trips has resulted in the current 2010/11 LTP target not being achieved. The Red Route initiative incorporated bus routes 529 and 301 in 2010 and in 2011 has been extended to the Broadway Scheme. Further transport data is available in Appendix D.

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

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

Table 34 – Leisure and Community (Green Flag Award)

Leisure and Community		
Local Indicator (formerly Core Output Indicator 4c): Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard		A
LDF Policy		
Target	Retention of existing Green Flag sites and award of new sites as per Green Space Strategy.	
Achievements	1. Retention of Palfrey Park, Willenhall Memorial Park, and Merrions Wood Local Nature Reserve as existing Green Flag sites	
Actions or Comments	1. Whilst the Council has retained its existing Green Flag sites, no further Green Flag awards have been made in this monitoring year. 2. However this does not reflect on the performance of UDP Policy LC1 as the management of parks and open space, and therefore the ability to achieve Green Flag Award designations, is beyond planning jurisdiction. 3. The government removed the Core Output Indicator in 2008 but encouraged LPAs to continue to monitor this indicator where they had signed up to the green flag scheme or had adopted a green flag local policy[29]. Whilst it has been included as a Local Indicator in this year's AMR, the Council will review whether to continue to include it in future AMRs.	

[29] http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/coreoutputindicators2.pdf

Table 35 – Leisure and Community (Protection of Urban Open Space)

Leisure and Community		
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy LC1**	
Target	100% protection (UDP Target)	
Achievements	1. 100% protection achieved	
Actions or Comments	1. Three applications were received concerning a loss of urban open space during the monitoring year. These applications were as follows: ▪ 10/1489/FL - granted permission for a use of land already established by an application determined in a previous monitoring year; ▪ 10/1535/FL – granted permission for the improvement of sporting facilities at a local cricket and sports club; ▪ 10/1606/FL – permission involved a small loss of an existing bund in which none of the functions of Policy LC1 were prejudiced, and replacement planting was provided as part of the application. 2. None of these three applications were contrary to UDP Policy LC1 and therefore the target of 100% protection has been achieved.	

Table 36 – Leisure and Community (Provision of New Urban Open Space)

Leisure and Community		
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Provision of new urban open spaces.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy LC2**	
Target	At least 24 hectares of new urban open space 1991-2011	
Achievements	1. 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.	
Actions or Comments		

Table 37 – Leisure and Community (Length of Greenways)

Leisure and Community		
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Length of greenways constructed.		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy LC5**	
Target	At least another 10 miles (16 km) 2002 - 2011 (UDP Target)	
Achievements	1. None in 2010/11 but 48 km previously, which is considerably higher than the original target.	
Actions or Comments		

Table 38 – Leisure and Community (Protection of Playing Fields and Sports Pitches)

Leisure and Community		
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of playing fields / sports pitches		G
LDF Policy	**UDP Policy LC6**	
Target	100% protection (UDP Target)	
Achievements	1. 100% protection achieved	
Actions or Comments	1. The target of 100% protection of playing fields has again been achieved, although this takes into consideration the 'caveats' (parts I and II) in UDP Policy LC6. 2. There was only one application approved concerning a loss or other effects on playing pitches. This was as follows: ▪ 10/0350/FL – proposal to annex part of school playing pitches, but at least equal compensatory provision provided (LC6 Part II), including new artificial pitch provision and secured community use.	

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY NEEDS PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

7.44 All of Walsall's Green Flag Award sites - Palfrey Park (6.5ha), Willenhall Memorial Park (20ha) and Merrions Wood Local Nature Reserve (12ha) – have retained their status during the 2010/11 monitoring year. However no new Green Flag Awards have been made.

7.45 Indicators concerned with the protection of 'leisure' land-use, such as the protection of urban open space (UDP Policy LC1) and the protection of playing pitches (Policy LC6), have been successful during this monitoring year, both reaching their 100% targets. A PPG17 compliant open space, sports and recreational survey of the existing provision and assessment of future provision was also completed and published during the 2010/11 monitoring year.

7.46 Other indicators promoting the expansion of leisure land-uses have had mixed successes. For example, the Council now has a commendable three Green Flag Award sites in the borough, but this is short of the intentions set out in the 2006-2011 Green Space Strategy.

7.47 Indicators covering the provision of additional urban open space and the extension of the greenway network are increasingly out-dated. While the targets for these indicators have been achieved over the UDP 'plan period', there has been no additional provision in the last monitoring year. The BCCS was adopted by the Council in February 2011. Monitoring of BCCS policies will take place in the Council's 2012 AMR to enable implementation of policies to be monitored over the course of a full monitoring year since adoption of the BCCS. This will include a new Local Output Indicator for Policy ENV6: Open Space, Sport and Recreation, to measure the proportion of accessible open space.

MINERALS

7.49 Policy Aim: To enable the Borough to meet its obligations to maintain supplies of minerals for industry within the region and to prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources which may be required to be worked in the future, to secure the satisfactory restoration of mineral workings for a suitable use and to safeguard the amenity of adjoining land uses, particularly residential and other sensitive areas (UDP paragraph 9.12).[30]

Table 39 – Minerals (Production of Primary Land Won Aggregates)

Minerals		
LDF Core Output Indicator (formerly 5a): Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority.		**R**
LDF Policy	**UDP (Minerals) - Strategic Policy Statement 9.9, Polices M2 and M3**	
Target	Annual production targets for sand and gravel and crushed rock are set at a national, regional and sub-regional level. These are in the form of national and regional guidelines and sub-regional "apportionments." Walsall is part of the West Midlands County sub-region, which has an apportionment for sand and gravel only. The RSS apportionments were reviewed during 2009/10. **The revised sand and gravel apportionment for the West Midlands County, recommended by the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party is:** • **0.550 million tonnes per annum** (Report to West Midlands Regional Assembly - Regional Planning and Environment Executive, 23/02/10, Option 1c).	
Achievements	1. In 2009 sand and gravel production in the West Midlands County was around 375,000 tonnes, significantly lower than the revised apportionment rate. 2. In 2009 permitted reserves of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County were around 5.062 million tonnes, equivalent to a landbank of around 10.00 years, compared to the 7 year landbank requirement set out in national policy guidance.	
Actions or Comments	1. **Black Country Core Strategy** – adopted by the Council in February 2011, includes an indicative target for primary sand and gravel production in Walsall (50,000 tonnes per annum), and identifies two areas of search containing around 3.8 million tonnes of sand and gravel resources, enabling Walsall to contribute appropriately towards West	

30 In February 2011 this UDP policy statement was superseded by Spatial Objective 10 of the Black Country Core Strategy.

	Midlands County supply requirements. The detailed boundaries of these areas will be defined in the Walsall Site Allocations DPD. 2. **Aldridge Quarry** – no sand and gravel was produced at Aldridge Quarry during 2009/10 or 2010/11 and restoration has not yet commenced. The Core Strategy identifies an area of search for sand and gravel extraction near the quarry which has the potential to provide further resources. However, no mineral applications have so far been received for working in this area. 3. **Branton Hill Quarry Extension Proposal** – the outstanding mineral application, which would provide around 1.2 million tonnes of sand and gravel, is still being progressed. The Core Strategy identifies an area of search for sand and gravel extraction covering this area. A revised scheme for a new access road (original scheme approved in 2008/09) was submitted in August 2011.

Table 40 – Minerals (Production of Secondary/Recycled Aggregates)

Minerals		
LDF Core Output Indicator M2 (formerly 5b): Production of secondary/recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority		**A**
LDF Policy	**UDP (Minerals) - Strategic Policy Statement 9.4**	
Target	There are currently no local or sub-regional targets for production of secondary/ recycled aggregates. However, the current national and regional aggregates guidelines[31] assume that 100 million tonnes of alternatives (secondary/ recycled aggregates) will be produced in the West Midlands region between 2005 and 2020. **The regional guideline for secondary/ recycled aggregates production equates to:** • **6.25 million tonnes per annum (27% of total regional aggregate production)**	
Achievements	1. The 2005 Capita Symonds survey has been supplemented by a recent national study on construction, demolition and excavation waste, and recent information on production at “urban quarry” sites in the Black Country. 2. A review of the available data in 2010/11 suggested that:	

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

	I. At 31 March 2011, fixed secondary and recycled aggregate production sites in the Black Country were estimated to be capable of processing up to 0.9 million tonnes of material per annum; II. At 31 March 2011, there were believed to be four fixed secondary and recycled aggregate production sites operating in Walsall, capable of processing up to 0.187 million tonnes of material per annum, around 20% of the total capacity in the Black Country; III. At 31 March 2011 there was an outstanding planning permission for a new recycling facility in Aldridge, capable of processing up to 50,000 tonnes of construction, demolition and excavation waste per annum; IV. In 2008/09, around 1.62 million tonnes of construction and demolition waste were estimated to have been produced in the Black Country, of which around 0.312 million tonnes were produced in Walsall; V. In 2008, around 0.742 million tones of inert waste with potential for recycling into aggregate was input into licensed waste management facilities in the Black Country, of which around 0.264 million tonnes was input into sites in Walsall (mostly into landfill sites.
Actions or Comments	1. **Monitoring Production at Secondary and Recycled Aggregates Processing Sites** – the 2010 aggregates survey has included a survey of production at known fixed secondary and recycled aggregates processing sites, but this has yielded no new information on production rates in Walsall. However, progress has been made on bringing forward new recycling facility in Aldridge, for which permission was granted in 2009/10 (see Waste section). This facility, to be operated by Interserve, will be capable of processing up to 50,000 tonnes of construction, demolition and excavation waste per annum. 2. **Monitoring Production from On-Site Recycling of Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste** - Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs) are now being requested with planning applications through the local validation checklist, but this has also yielded no useful data about on-site recycling of construction,

	demolition and excavation wastes in 2010/11. The practicality of monitoring this will be reviewed during 2011/12, as forthcoming policy changes may affect the level of information provided with applications. 3. **Need for New Secondary and Recycled Aggregate Processing Sites –** information currently available suggests that fixed sites in Walsall are currently producing only limited amounts of secondary and recycled aggregate, although capacity will increase once the new facility in Aldridge is built. The need/ scope for additional infrastructure will be explored through the Walsall Site Allocations DPD.

Table 41 – Minerals (Supply of Brick Clay)

Minerals		
Proposed New Local Indicator: Supply of clay to brick manufacturing plants		**R**
LDF Policy	**UDP (Minerals) Strategic Policy Statement 9.4**	
Target	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	1. At 31 March 2011 there were three operational brick manufacturing plants in Walsall, none of which had an identified 25 year supply of locally occurring clays (Etruria Marl and Fireclay). 2. At 31 March 2011 there were three operational quarries extracting brick clay (Etruria Marl), plus a small stockpile of fireclay. 3. During 2010/11, permission was granted for working at Sandown Quarry within a small area not covered by the previous mineral permissions – this has extended the life of Sandown Quarry to 2014/15, and possibly longer if supplemented by imports.	
Actions or Comments	1. **Black Country Core Strategy** – adopted in February 2011, identifies areas of search for Etruria Marl and Fireclay in Walsall, which have the potential to contribute towards long-term supplies of clays to brickworks and a local supplier of pot clay blends. The detailed boundaries of these areas will be defined in the Walsall Site Allocations DPD. 2. **Sandown Quarry Permission** – an application was	

	approved in 2009/10 for working the “causeway” - a former mineral railway line within the quarry, which is not covered by the original permission. This will help maintain supplies of Etruria Marl to Sandown Works to around 2014/15. 3. **Highfields South Application** – an application was submitted in July 2011 to extend the period allowed for extraction of clay at Highfields South. Further details will be reported in the next AMR.

MINERALS PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

The main recent developments in mineral planning are set out below and further details can be found in Appendix F.

7.50 New sub-regional aggregates apportionments were recommended in technical advice issued by the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (AWP) in March 2010, to meet the national and regional aggregates guidelines for aggregates issued by CLG in 2009.

7.51 The new apportionment for the West Midlands County is 0.550 million tonnes per annum, slightly higher than the previous apportionment set out in Policy M2 of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy 2008.

7.52 In 2009, production of sand and gravel in the West Midlands County was around 0.375 million tonnes, significantly below the level of the new apportionment - Walsall contributed very little towards this, as one of its quarries ceased operating in 2008. .

7.53 At 31 December 2009, the West Midlands County sand and gravel landbank was around 5.062 million tonnes, equivalent to 10 years of production at the new apportionment rates – but less than 5% of the permitted reserves that make up the landbank are in Walsall.

7.54 Deficiencies in sand and gravel reserves in Walsall have been addressed through the Black Country Core Strategy, which has identified areas of search containing resources which can contribute towards future supplies.

7.55 It is estimated that fixed secondary and recycled aggregate sites in the Black Country are capable of processing up to 0.9 million tonnes of material per annum and the four known sites in Walsall are estimated to be contributing around 20% of total capacity.

7.56 In 2008 significant amounts of waste suitable for re-use or recycling for aggregates were input into licensed waste facilities in Walsall (mostly landfill sites), suggesting there may be scope to divert more waste away from landfill and increase production of secondary and recycled aggregates.

7.57 Two of Walsall's three brickworks have supplies of Etruria Marl significantly below the 25 years required by national policy guidance, and none of the works have any identified local supplies of Fireclay apart from a small stockpile.

7.58 Deficiencies in the supply of sand and gravel and brick clays have been addressed as far as possible by the Black Country Core Strategy, which identifies broad locations for "areas of search" containing resources that could be worked – the boundaries of these areas are to be defined in detail in the forthcoming Walsall Site Allocations DPD.

7.59 Deficiencies in the supply of Etruria Marl to local brickworks have been addressed in the short-term through a planning permission to extend Sandown Quarry (approved in 2010/11), and through a proposal to extend the time limit for extraction at Highfields South Quarry/ Landfill Site.

WASTE

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

Table 42 – Waste (Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities)

Waste		
LDF Core Output Indicator WM1: Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority (by type)		G
LDF Policy	**UDP (Waste Management): Policies WM1 - WM3**	
Targets	No specific targets were set in the UDP (2005) or in the current municipal waste management strategy (2004) for provision of new waste management facilities. However, the Black Country Core Strategy, adopted in February 2011, has now replaced the UDP strategic policy statement on waste and all of the UDP waste policies. The Core Strategy sets targets for the provision of waste management infrastructure in the Black Country, aimed at achieving net "self-sufficiency" in management capacity by 2026. Policy WM3 also identifies a number of "strategic" waste management proposals, five of which are in Walsall.	
Achievements	1. Total capacity of new waste management planning permissions granted in Walsall during 2010/11: I. Hazardous Waste Treatment - 50,000 TPA. 2. The following **new waste management facilities*** were developed in Walsall during 2010/11: I. New material recovery facility (Triple R Solutions) to recover raw materials from redundant electric meters, other waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and carpets at Rose Hill in Willenhall (net gain in capacity = 22,500 tonnes per annum); II. New treatment facility for drummed oily rags and liquid hazardous and non-hazardous wastes (Envirosol) at Coppice Side in Brownhills (net gain in capacity 50,000 tonnes per annum). 3. The following **waste management facilities** were under construction at 31 March 2011: I. New Council depot in Brownhills (to replace North Walsall Depot at Birchills); and	

	II. New Interserve material recovery facility in Aldridge (to replace existing transfer station). * New waste management facilities are defined as those which have gained planning permission and have been operable within the reporting year.
Actions or Comments	1. **Black Country Core Strategy** – adopted by the Council in February 2011 - identifies requirements for new waste management infrastructure to be developed in Walsall between now and 2026 across all waste management streams. As well as quantifying the capacity required (where possible), the strategy identifies a need to broaden the range of facilities currently available, given that the existing infrastructure is dominated by metal recycling and hazardous waste treatment. 2. The Core Strategy requirements for Walsall will be taken forward and implemented through the DIP, the development management process, and through the Site Allocations DPD and Town Centre AAP, which can allocate specific sites and/ or identify areas suitable for the development of waste management “clusters.” Existing “strategic” waste management sites to be safeguarded from encroachment by incompatible developments can also be identified in the Site Allocations DPD. 3. New monitoring arrangements for the Core Strategy are also being put into place. The Council will continue to monitor capacity of new waste management infrastructure coming forward, and new waste management capacity implemented. The Council will also monitor the impact of development on “strategic” waste management sites, with regard to significant net losses in capacity.

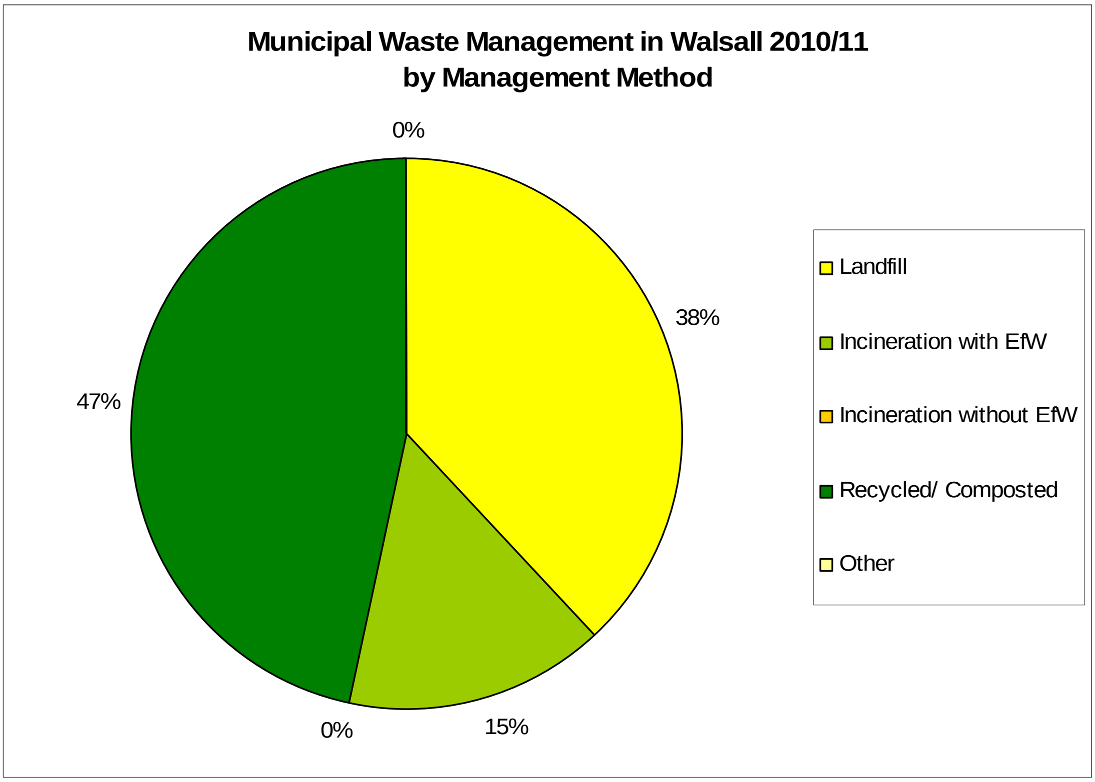
7.60 Applications for new waste management developments are continuing to come forward, and nine new applications came forward in 2010/11. Seven applications were approved during 2009/10, only one of which involved a net increase in waste management capacity. Appendix G provides further details of new waste management capacity approved and implemented during 2010/11.

Table 43 – Waste (Municipal Waste)

Waste		
LDF Core Output Indicator WM2: Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority		**G**
LDF Policy	**UDP (Waste Management): Strategic Policy Statement**	

	10.1, Policies WM1 and WM4
Target	The Core Strategy aims to manage municipal waste in line with the current national waste strategy targets. The Waste Strategy for England 2007 sets the following **national targets for municipal waste recovery:** • **53% by 2010** • **67% by 2015** • **75% by 2020** However, the national waste strategy is currently under review, and the new strategy (expected to be published in 2012) is likely to update the above targets in line with the new targets set by the Waste Framework Directive.
Achievements	1. Figure 4 below illustrates how Walsall's municipal waste was managed in 2010/11; 2. Walsall's municipal waste recycling and composting performance is continuing to improve – in 2009/10 the Borough achieved a rate of nearly 47%; 3. Walsall has also continued to reduce reliance on landfill as a means of managing its municipal waste, sending just over 38% to landfill in 2009/10 (a slight increase on the 2009/10 rate).
Actions or Comments	1. **Relocation of North Walsall Depot** – a new Council depot in Brownhills was nearing completion at 31 March 2011, and the Council's waste management fleet and offices relocated to the new site in May 2011 (just into the 2011/12 monitoring year). 2. **W2R Energy Recovery Project, Four Ashes, South Staffordshire** – there has been further progress on bringing forward this project with the approval of a revised scheme in February 2011. By 2012/13 this facility will be managing up to 60,000 tonnes of the Borough's residual municipal waste per annum, addressing a significant gap in current provision, and enabling the Council to divert more of its municipal waste away from landfill. 3. **Municipal Waste Management Strategy Review** – a review of the 2004 strategy is underway, but progress has been put on hold pending the national waste strategy review. An update on the situation will be included in the 2012 AMR.

Figure 4 – Waste (Municipal Waste)



Source: Walsall Council Street Pride/ WasteDataFlow, November 2010

7.61 Re-use, recycling and composting rates have continued to rise in Walsall. In 2009/10 a rate of nearly 47% was achieved. Whilst this is a significant achievement, it still falls short of the rates achieved by the best performing authorities who are now recycling and composting more than 60% of their municipal waste.

7.62 The proportion of municipal waste sent to landfill has also continued to fall, although it went up slightly in 2010/11 compared to the rate achieved in 2009/10. The tonnages of municipal waste landfilled have fallen dramatically since annual monitoring began, from 97,902 tonnes in 2004/05 (75.1% of total arisings) to 46,843 tonnes in 2009/10 (around 38% of total arisings).

7.63 At 31 March 2011, further improvements to Walsall's municipal waste infrastructure were planned. These included the relocation of the Council's waste management depot (completed in May 2011), and the W2R energy recovery facility in South Staffordshire (to be implemented in 2012/13), which will be managing up to 60,000 tonnes per annum of Walsall's residual municipal waste.

7.64 A review of the Council's municipal waste management strategy is also underway but has stalled pending the national waste strategy review. Once it has got underway again, this will identify future requirements for municipal waste collection and management, over and above what is already planned.

Table 44 – Waste (Sustainable Waste Management)

Waste		
Local Output Indicator: Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets.		**G**
LDF Policy	**UDP (Waste Management): Strategic Policy Statement 10.4 and 10.6**	
Target	The main targets for waste are for the amounts of biodegradable Municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS), and targets relating to the National Indicators (NIs) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) to 2011. **The 2010/11 waste targets for Walsall were as follows:** • **LATS allowance – maximum 49,961 tonnes of BMW sent to landfill;** • **NI191: maximum 697.00kg residual household waste per head of population (also LAA target);** • **NI192: minimum 41.00% household waste re-used, recycled, composted; and** **No target was set for NI193: municipal waste sent to landfill.**	
Achievements	1. In 2010/11 the Council met its LATS allowance as predicted, sending 32,449 tonnes of BMW to landfill, significantly less than the amount permitted. 2. LAA and NI targets for 2010/11 have all been exceeded. Walsall generated 517.75 kg of residual household waste per head of population, and re-used, recycled and composted 48.61% of its household waste. 3. In 2010/11, Walsall once more achieved a higher rate for re-use, recycling and composting of household waste than any of the other West Midlands Metropolitan authorities.	

Actions or Comments	1. **Future of NI and LAA targets** – in April 2011 the National Indicator set was replaced with the "Single Data List" setting out the information that councils are required to provide to the Government. The Government also confirmed that LAAs would no longer be required after April 2011. However, the targets previously included in LAAs may be replaced by other locally set targets through the review of the Walsall Sustainable Community Strategy. 2. **National Waste Strategy Review** – launched June 2010; policy review documents published June 2011, likely to set new national targets for waste management in line with the revised Waste Framework Directive (WFD) which will need to be addressed at a local level. The draft strategy – which is expected to include a revised version of PPS10 - is expected to be published for consultation in 2012.

WASTE PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

The main achievements during 2010/11 are set out below and further information is available in Appendix G.

7.65 Permission was granted for 50,000 TPA of new waste recovery/ recycling capacity (expansion of Envirosol facility in Brownhills), which was implemented during the 2010/11 monitoring year;

7.66 A new material recovery facility (additional capacity around 22,500 TPA) was implemented in 2010/11 in Willenhall (Triple R Solutions);

7.67 Walsall exceeded its 2010/11 LATS allowance, and is continuing to landfill less than 40% of its municipal waste, although the amount of waste sent to landfill increased slightly in 2010/11;

7.68 Walsall exceeded all of its NI and LAA targets and achieved a household waste re-use, recycling and composting rate of 48.61% - the highest within the West Midlands Metropolitan area.

8. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

9.1 The key area of community involvement during this monitoring year was the consultation in late 2010 on Walsall Councils first Local Validation Checklist, a guidance document to assist applicants in understanding the information required to be submitted alongside planning applications. Although consultation with the business community took place just outside of this monitoring year (summer 2011) regarding the Business Friendly Planning initiative, it is important to mention it because of the pledges that were adopted by the Black Country Authorities, in particular the pledges to develop a joint Black Country Local Validation Checklist (consultation due early 2012) and to develop and continue to update Walsall's Local Development Framework (LDF) to give clarity and certainty over development opportunities, and help inform investment decisions. Walsall Council is committed to the pledges and has already undertaken consultation with the community outside of this monitoring year (September 2011) on:

I. **Review of the Statement of Community Involvement** - a document that explains how we involve people in the preparation of planning policies and the determination of planning applications;

II. **Call for Sites** - an invitation for landowners, developers and others who may have interests in the area to submit details for any site that they consider capable of accommodating new development, to be considered for inclusion in the Site Allocations Document or Area Action Plan; and

III. **Sustainability Appraisal Scoping report** – a report setting out how the Council proposes to carry out a sustainability appraisal of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and Town Centre Area Action Plan.

9.2 Table 45 below sets out the average number of neighbours who were consulted on planning applications received within the associated monitoring year which shows a significant increase in 2007/8 and has continued to rise year on year to an all-time high in monitoring year 2009/10 evidencing Walsall Council's commitment to engaging wider public participation in the planning process. The average has dropped for this monitoring year but is still above 30 per application. There is no significant variation in the number and type of applications received between 2009/10 and 2010/11 and the decrease in the average is therefore likely to be because the number of neighbours consulted is also dependant on their proximity to each development site.

Table 45 – Planning Participation

Monitoring Year	**2004/5**	**2005/6**	**2006/7**	**2007/8**	**2008/9**	**2009/10**	**2010/11**
No. of neighbours consulted.	41,544	37,655	29,549	50,293	45,472	43,054	36,834
No. of 'valid'	2,455	2,104	1,972	2,181	1,407	1,192	1,193

Planning Applications.							
Average No. of neighbours consulted per application.	**16.9**	**17.9**	**15.0**	**23.06**	**32.3**	**36.1**	**30.9**

9.3 Whilst the new requirements of the Localism Act do not have any bearing on the monitoring year covered within this AMR, it is important to mention that the Localism Act was given Royal Assent in November 2011 and it is recognised that LPAs will be required to facilitate and enable local communities to develop Neighbourhood Plans and future AMR's will seek to monitor this.

9.4 Whilst outside of this monitoring year, it is important to set out the planned consultations in late February 2012 for the Site Allocation Document (SAD) that will allocate uses for sites and areas across the entire Borough (excluding the town centre) and the Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) that will set out a framework to allocate land uses in Walsall town centre. These consultations will provide the community (and others with an interest) with an opportunity to participate in the development of the documents and ultimately help to shape the Borough. Further information can be found at http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/planning_policy/local_development_framework.htm

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.

Aggregates. Minerals used for construction purposes, of which there are two types: sand and gravel and hard rock. Aggregates can be “primary land won” (virgin materials quarried from the ground) “primary marine dredged” (virgin materials extracted from beneath the sea), “secondary” (produced as a by-product of other mineral working or industrial processing), or “recycled” (Produced from recycled waste). The main types of aggregate occurring in Walsall are primary land won sand and gravel and processed secondary and recycled aggregate.

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.

Apportionments. Annual production targets for the supply of aggregate minerals, usually expressed as tonnes per annum. Apportionments are currently set in regional spatial strategies for each mineral planning authority or sub-region with aggregate mineral resources.

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.

Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). 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 has been produced jointly with the other 3 Black Country authorities and is known as the Black Country Core Strategy.

Brick Clays. Clays used by brickworks to manufacture bricks, tiles and other ceramic products. There are two main types of brick clay occurring in Walsall: Etruria Marl and fireclay.

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

Capacity (Waste Management). The amount of waste that a waste management facility can handle, usually expressed as tonnes per annum for waste treatment, recovery or transfer facilities. The capacity of landfill sites can be expressed in terms of total “void space” (volume) in cubic metres, or maximum cubic metres or tonnes permitted to be filled per annum.

Composting. The biological treatment of green garden waste or horticultural and forestry waste, to produce compost. There are two main methods of commercial composting: open windrow composting (which requires a large open site) and in-vessel composting (an enclosed process carried out in a building). The end product is a compost or similar material which can be used on land for agricultural or horticultural purposes. There are no commercial composting facilities currently operating in Walsall.

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

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.

Hazardous Waste. Types of waste which have the potential to be harmful to the environment or to human health. The properties of waste which render it hazardous are defined in the European Waste Framework Directive. Hazardous waste includes a wide range of wastes which are potentially explosive, flammable, irritant, toxic or corrosive, or have other potentially harmful properties. Hazardous waste facilities are regulated by the Environment Agency, and all facilities handling such wastes must have an appropriate permit or licence.

Household Waste. All waste collected by the Council in its capacity as waste collection authority. Household waste comprises waste from the weekly/ fortnightly collections from households in Walsall Borough (i.e. general waste (grey bin), recyclable waste (green bin), and green garden waste (brown bin)), waste collected through street cleaning, and waste deposited at the Council’s two household waste recycling centres (Civic Amenity Sites) at Fryers Road (Bloxwich) and Merchants Way (Aldridge).

Landbank. The total available supply of permitted reserves of minerals (usually aggregates), expressed in terms of the number of years’ supply. The landbank is worked out by dividing the total amount of permitted reserves by the annual apportionment. This gives the number of years’ supply available, assuming that the annual production target is met.

Landfill. A method of disposing of waste or pre-treated waste residues without attempting further re-use, recycling or recovery. Most landfill sites are former quarries where the waste is used to fill the void and help restore the site to a beneficial end-use (restoration by infilling is normally a condition of the mineral permission).

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. “Saved” policies in the UDP form part of the LDF until they are deleted.

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.

Municipal Waste. All of the waste collected by Walsall Council, which the Council is responsible for managing in its capacity as waste disposal authority. Municipal waste includes household waste (see definition above), as well as other waste collected by the Council from traders and other small businesses in Walsall Borough, waste collected by the Council from fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, and any other wastes collected by the Council, which it is responsible for managing.

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.

Permitted Reserves. The estimated tonnage of viable mineral remaining in areas covered by a valid planning permission for mineral extraction.

Recovery (of Waste). Any operation whose primary objective is to make waste serve a useful purpose by replacing other materials, which would otherwise have been used, including the preparation of waste to serve such a function (as defined in the European Waste Framework Directive). There are various types of operations for treating waste which fall under the recovery definition. It can include the primary use of waste as a fuel or to generate energy, the reclamation of oils and solvents, the recycling and reclamation of organic materials such as composting and the recycling/ reclamation of metals, metal compounds and other inorganic materials. There are a number of waste recovery facilities operating in Walsall, including the Empire Treatment Works (Aldridge) which treats a wide range of liquid hazardous wastes, and European Metal Recycling (Darlaston) which recovers metals from scrap, including redundant vehicles and electrical appliances.

Recycling. Any waste recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances, for the original or other purposes (as defined in the European Waste Framework Directive). It includes the reprocessing of organic material (e.g. composting) but not energy recovery, the production of fuels from waste, or the production of materials used for back-filling operations. The most significant recycling facilities currently operating in Walsall are the Greenstar Recycling Facility (Aldridge) which segregates and recovers raw materials from dry waste paper, card, plastics, glass and cans, and G&P Batteries (Darlaston) which recycles batteries.

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.

Re-Use. Any operation by which products or components that are not wastes are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived, with little or no treatment involved (as defined in the European Waste Framework Directive).

Significant Effects Indicators. An indicator that measures the significant effects of the plan.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). SSSIs are the country's very best wildlife and geological 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 (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). 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.

Waste Hierarchy. A system for ranking options for waste management, in terms of their impact on the environment. At the top of the hierarchy (the most effective environmental solution and therefore the most preferable option) is waste reduction, followed by re-use, then recycling and composting, then energy recovery, and at the bottom, disposal of waste to landfill. The concept of the waste hierarchy comes from the European Waste Framework Directive, and is also reflected in the national waste strategy (Waste Strategy for England 2007) and in national planning policy guidance on waste (PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management).

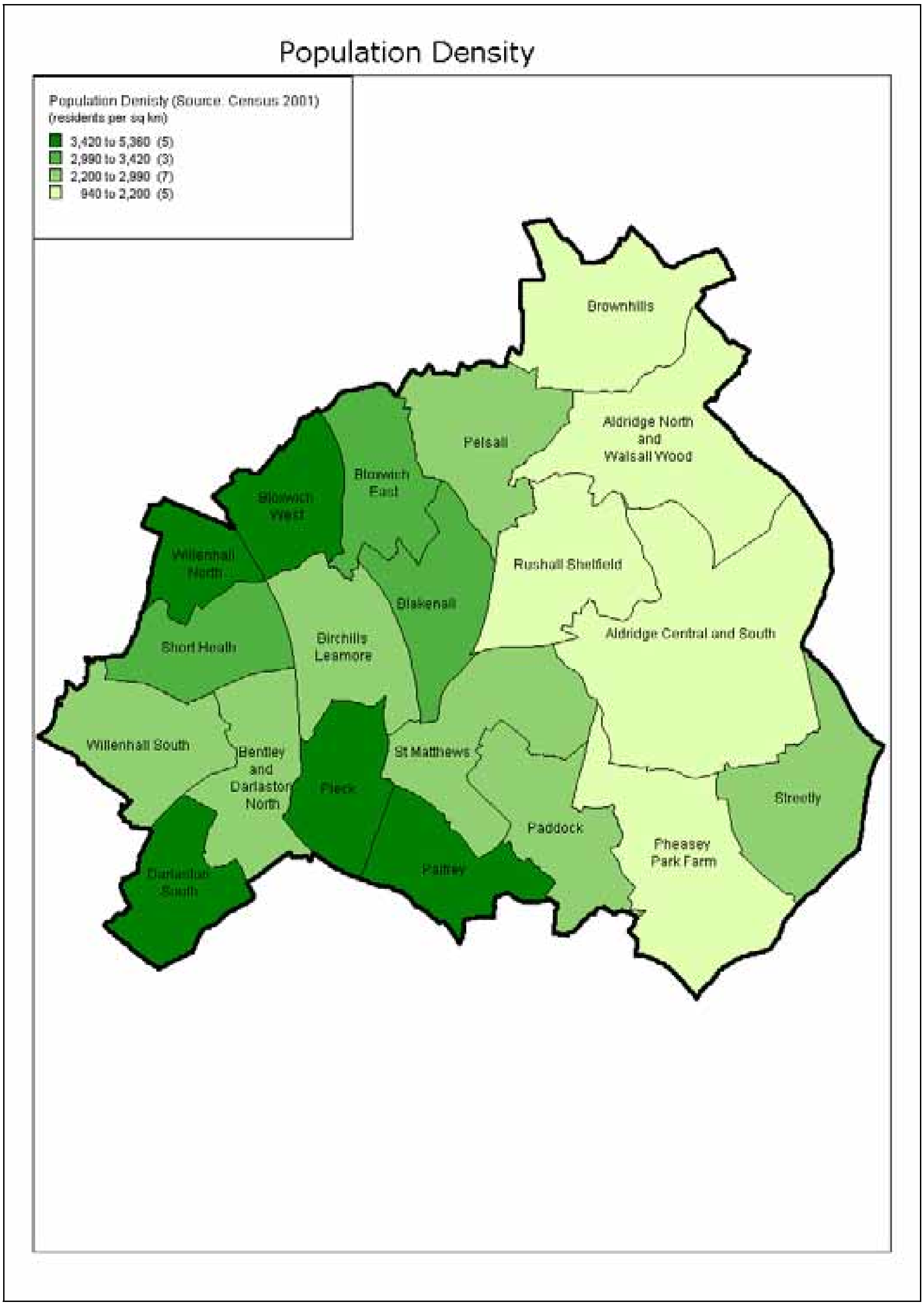
Waste Transfer/ Waste Transfer Facility. Facilities for sorting, segregation and temporary storage of waste pending onward transportation to another facility for re-use, recycling, recovery or disposal. The Council has a waste transfer facility at Fryers Road in Bloxwich, adjacent to the household waste recycling centre (Civic Amenity Site). This is used for sorting and segregating municipal waste pending onward transfer to the facilities where it is managed. There are a number of other commercial waste transfer facilities operating in Walsall, which collect waste from domestic or commercial customers. Some transfer facilities specialise in handling particular types of waste, such as hazardous materials. They may also recover potentially useable and saleable materials such as metals.

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).

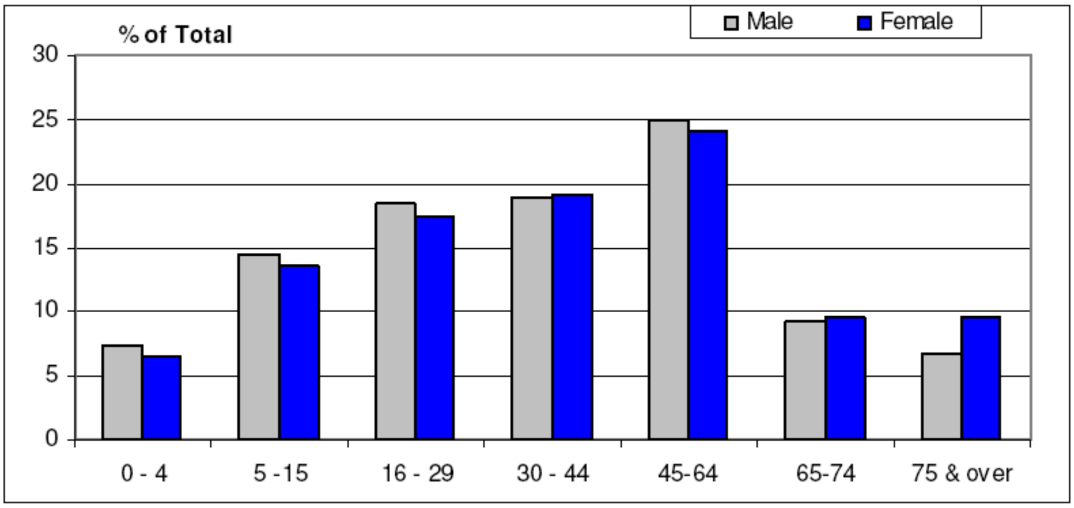
DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

As of August 2010 the working age changed to 16-64 for both men and women whereas previous analysis would have been based on 16-64 for men and 16-59 for women. This means that associated analysis may not be wholly comparable with previous AMRs.



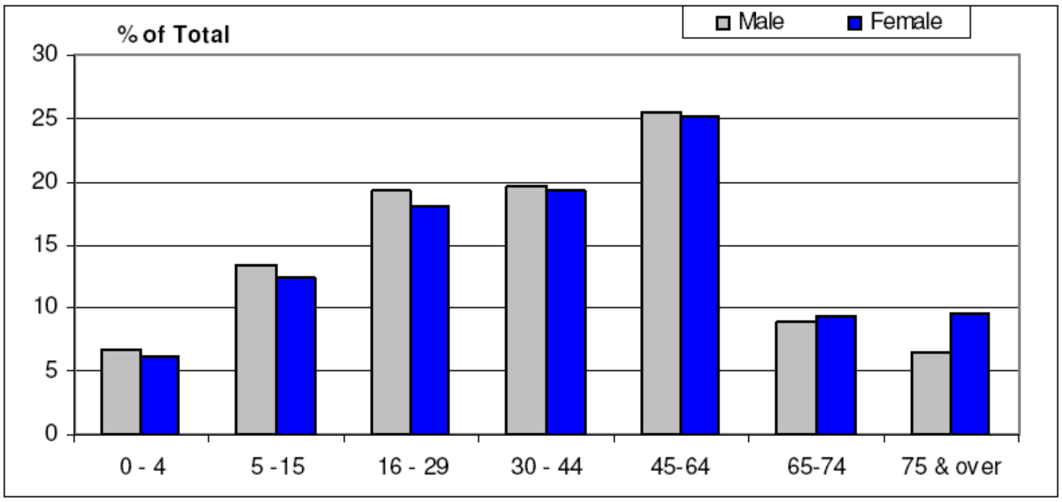
Source: Census 2001

Chart 3: Population in Walsall by Broad Age Group and Gender, 2010



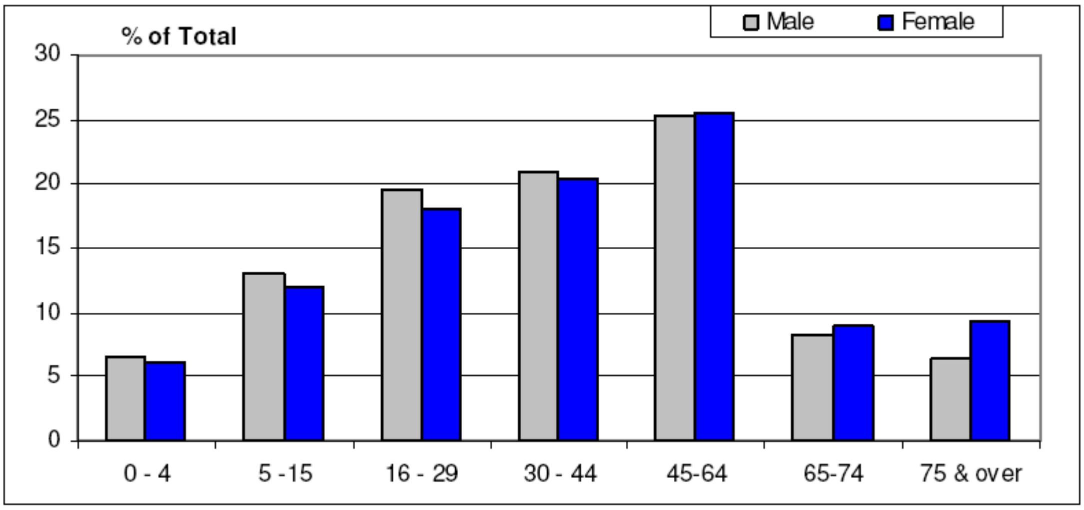
Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, Mott MacDonald Summary

Chart 4: Population in the West Midlands by Broad Age Group and Gender, 2010



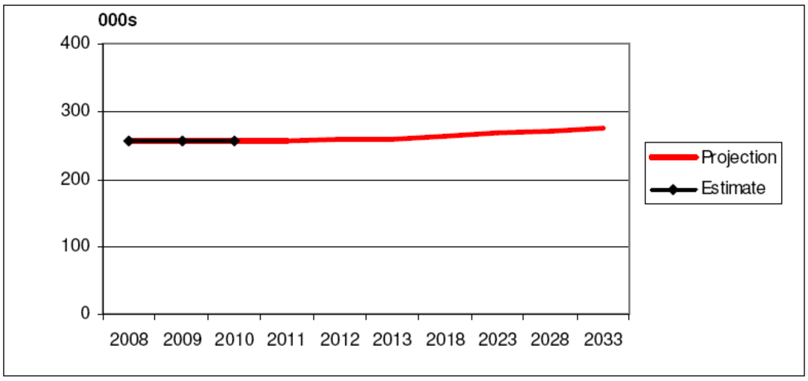
Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, Mott MacDonald Summary

Chart 5: Population in England by Broad Age Group and Gender, 2010



Source: Mid-Year Population Estimates, Mott MacDonald Summary

Charts 3 to 5 above show each age group in Walsall, the West Midlands and England as a percentage of each gender. Walsall has a higher proportion of men than women in the 0 to 29 and 45 to 64 broad age groups. The West Midlands has a higher proportion of men in the ages up to 64 years. The Walsall chart is skewed slightly more towards the middle age groups as is the case in the West Midlands and in England[32].

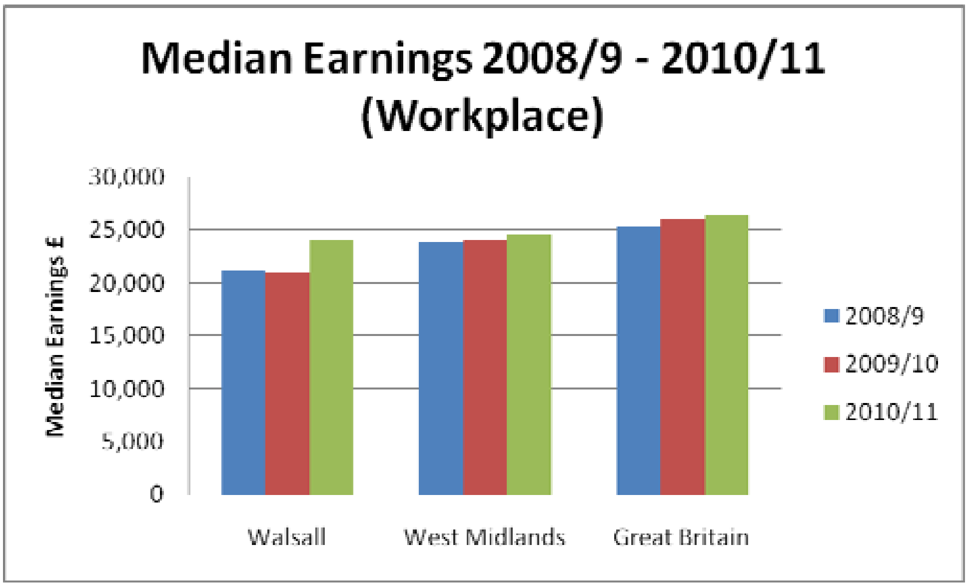
Contextual Indicators	**Performance 2010/11**
Population	256,900 (2010 mid-year population estimates)
Net in/out migration	+ 1000 (2010 mid year population estimates)
Demographic Structure of communities[33]	BME 14% - Mixed 1.4% Asian 10.4% Black 1.4% Chinese 0.4%
Projections / forecasts of population growth[34]	

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS	
Contextual Indicators	**Performance 2010/11**
Percentage of area classified as urban open space / green space	20.3% (Source: Walsall MBC).
Amount of Derelict Land[35]	67.9ha 2010/11, 64.8ha 2009/10.
Air quality / percentage of area covered by AQMA	100% for NO_2 Specific area declared within Chuckery for PM_{10} Particles.
Number of sites on the Contaminated Land register	None (Source: Walsall MBC)

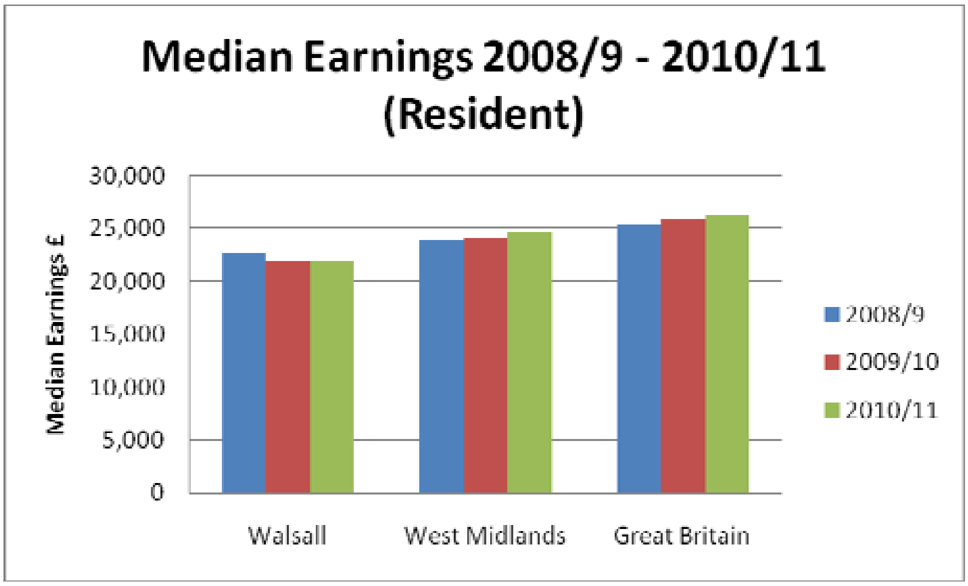
[32] Mott MacDonald summary report of ONS mid-year population estimates 2010.
[33] 2001 Census.
[34] Mott MacDonald summary report of ONS mid-year population estimates 2010.
[35] Based on derelict sites over 0.1ha in Walsall MBC NLUD database 2009/10 and 2010/11.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS	
Contextual Indicators	**Performance 2010/11**
Percentage of people who are economically inactive[36]	Walsall - 29.3% West Midlands – 25.8% Great Britain – 23.8%
Unemployment[37]	Walsall - 6.5% West Midlands – 4.6% Great Britain – 3.7%
Gross Value Added per head (£)	£15,824 (Walsall and Wolverhampton), £17,335 (West Midlands), £21,049 (England). £21,103 (United Kingdom). (National Statistics 2008 – no update can be found for 2010/11).
New business registration rate (the proportion of business registrations per 10,000 resident population aged 16 and above).	37.9 - Walsall 47.6 - West Midlands 57.2 - England (National Indicator 171 Figure 2008 – no update can be found for 2010/11).
Count of Active Enterprises[38]	7,205
Percentage of small businesses in an area showing employment growth	14.1% - Walsall 14.4% - West Midlands 14.2% - England (National Indicator 172 Figure 2008 – no update can be found for 2010/11).
Median earnings (£) for full time employees working in Walsall[39]	£23,984 (WM – £24,550 UK – £26,244)
Median earnings (£) for full time employees living in Walsall	£21,821 (WM – £24,568 UK – £26,244)

[36] NOMIS - http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431970/report.aspx#tabwab
[37] NOMIS - http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431970/report.aspx#tabwab
[38] http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/bus-register/business-demography/2010/index.html
[39] http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/publications/re-reference-tables.html?edition=tcm%3A77-235202



Median Earnings - Workplace Based
The chart above shows whilst median earnings for Walsall dropped slightly in 2009/10 (to £21,000), they have increased to £23,984 in 2010/11. This is encouraging but is still below the regional and national averages (£24,550 and £26,244 respectively).

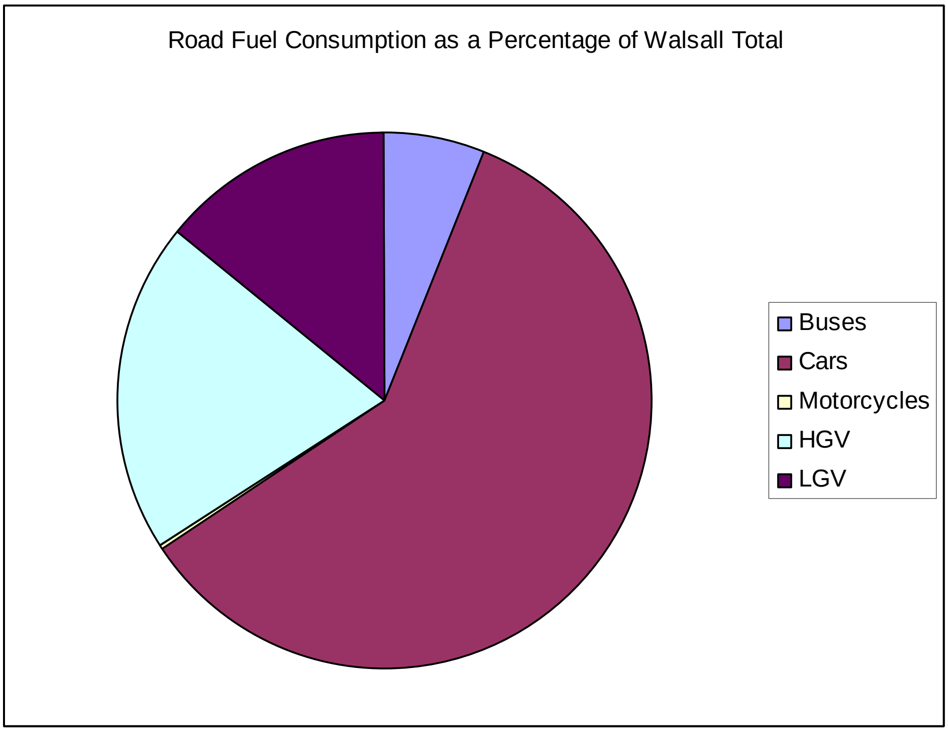


Median Earnings - Resident Based
The chart above shows a continued decrease in median earnings for Walsall since 2008/9, at its lowest in 2010/11 (£21,821) which also places Walsall considerably below the regional and national averages (£24,568 and £26,244 respectively).

SKILLS AND EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS	
Contextual Indicators	**Performance 2010/11**
Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths[40].	Walsall - 49.5% England – 53.5%
% of the working age population qualified to NVQ level 4+.[41]	Walsall – 18.2% West Midlands – 26% Great Britain – 31.3%
% of the working age population with no qualifications.[42]	Walsall – 19.5% West Midlands – 15.1% Great Britain – 11.3%
Local Authority average point score per student for School and College Key Stage 5.	Walsall – 650.5 (England – 744.9)[43].
Local Authority average point score per examination entry for School and College Key Stage 5.	Walsall – 202.0 (England – 214.4).
% of companies affected by Technical / Skilled skills gaps and shortages now.	29% (Source: Walsall Business Survey 2010).
% of companies who will be affected by Technical / Skilled skills gaps and shortages in the future.	48% (Source: Walsall Business Survey 2010).

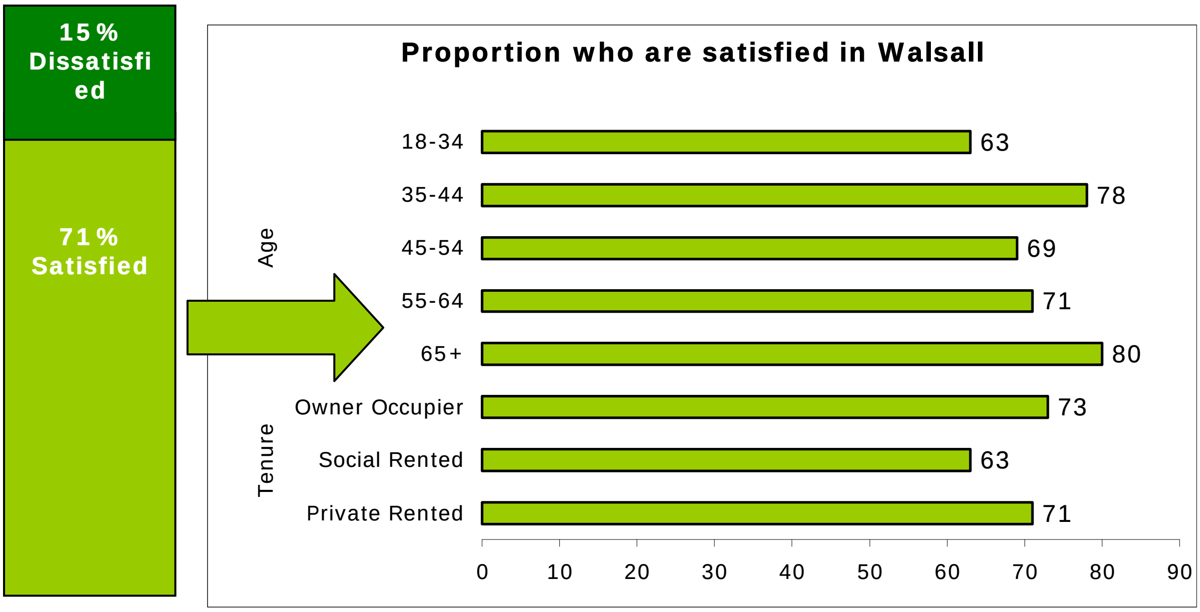
[40] http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/performancetables/group_10.pl?Mode=Z&Type=LA&Begin=s&No=335&Base=g&Phase=1&F=1&L=50&Year=10&Key=4&Order=asc
[41] NOMIS - http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431970/report.aspx#tabwab
[42] NOMIS - http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431970/report.aspx#tabwab
[43] http://www.education.gov.uk/cgi-bin/performancetables/group_10.pl?Mode=Z&Type=LA&Begin=s&No=335&Base=c&Phase=2&F=1&L=50&Year=10&Key=6&Order=asc

TRANSPORT INDICATORS



Contextual Indicators	Performance 2009[44]
Average duration / distance of journeys to work.	% who work at home – 7.5 % travel <2km – 20.8 % travel 2km to <10km – 47.3

OUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS



[44] No data available for 2010/11.

<table>
<tr><th>Contextual Indicators</th><th>Performance 2009</th></tr>
<tr><td>Patterns of deprivation / proportion of population suffering from multiple deprivation[45]</td><td>24% of Walsall neighbourhoods live in the 10% most deprived areas in England.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Proportion of People who are satisfied with Walsall</td><td>71% Satisfied
15% Dissatisfied
(Place Survey 2008/2009[49])</td></tr>
<tr><td>Structure of housing stock[46]</td><td>Owner occupied - 75%
Rented – 25%</td></tr>
<tr><td>House prices</td><td>October 2011[50]:
Walsall Metropolitan District - £106,956
West Midlands Region - £129,500
England and Wales - £159,999</td></tr>
<tr><td>Levels of crime and people's perceptions of crime[47]</td><td><table>
<tr><th></th><th>2008/09 Baseline</th><th>2009/10 Actual</th><th>2010/11 Actual</th></tr>
<tr><td>Total Recorded Crime</td><td>20,874</td><td>19,063</td><td>20,112</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Life expectancy and mortality rates[48]</td><td><table>
<tr><th></th><th>Walsall</th><th>West Midlands Region</th><th>England</th></tr>
<tr><td>Males</td><td>76.3</td><td>77.5</td><td>78.3</td></tr>
<tr><td>Females</td><td>81.9</td><td>81.9</td><td>82.3</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

[45] Obtained from the Walsall State of the Borough Report 2011
[46]http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingresearch/housingstatistics/housingstatisticsby/stockincludingvacants/livetables/
[47] Obtained from the Walsall State of the Borough Report 2011
[48] http://www.statistics.gov.uk (no update for 2010/11)
[49] The results from the 2010 Place Survey do not appear to be available at the time of publishing this AMR.
[50] http://www.landreg.gov.uk/house-prices

APPENDIX B - ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITY

GREENBELT

Table 1 – Applications approved concerning 'inappropriate development' in the Green Belt

Application Reference	Location	Reasons for Approval	Decision Date
09/1086/FL	Walsall Arboretum, Lichfield Street	Erection of new visitor centre – not inappropriate development as facility is essential for encouraging people to open space of borough-wide importance for outdoor recreation	02/08/2010
10/0342/FL	Calderfields Golf Club, Aldridge	Inappropriate development but very special circumstances demonstrated in accordance with UDP Policy ENV2 and PPG2	02/11/2010
10/0531/RM	Foxhill Fisheries, Pinfold Lane, Aldridge	Principle of development in Green Belt already determined in outline application (07/1197/OL/E11) in a previous monitoring year	28/06/2010
10/0866/FL	Beacon View, Little Aston Road	Principle of development in Green Belt already determined in outline application (09/1134/OL) in a previous monitoring year	11/10/2010
10/1011/FL	Land at Cartbridge Lane South, Rushall	Major developed site in the Green Belt (UDP Policy ENV4) - principle of development already determined	11/03/2011
10/1096/FL	Mill Green Farm, Chester Road, Aldridge	Inappropriate development but demonstration of very special circumstances in accordance with UDP Policy ENV2 and PPG2	23/12/2010
10/1262/OL	Queslett Centre, Lakeview Close	Major developed site in the Green Belt (UDP Policy ENV4 and ENV8) - principle of development already determined	12/11/2010
10/1424/FL	Beacon View, Little Aston Road	Amendment to above application – 10/0866/FL	06/12/2010

WATER AND FLOOD RISK

Table 1 - Summary of Environment Agency Objections and outcomes.

Planning Application Reference	Location	Environment Agency Objection	Local Authority Decision	Contrary to EA Advice?
10/0958/FL	THE WINDMILL PUBLIC HOUSE, ASTON ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV13 3DH	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Withdrawn	N/A
10/0242/FL	FORMER MASON'S WOODYARD, LAND BETWEEN RAILWAY LANE AND ROSE HILL, WILLENHALL	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – issues overcome with planning condition
10/0361/FL	60 BARR COMMON ROAD, WALSALL, WS9 0TE	PPS25/TAN15 - Request for FRA/FCA	Refused	No
10/0373/OL	FORMER REDHOUSE JMI SCHOOL, GORSEY WAY, ALDRIDGE, WALSALL, WS9 0EQ	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	No Decision	N/A
10/0375/FL	TESCO STORES LTD, SILVER STREET, BROWNHILLS, WS8 6DZ	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – issues overcome with planning condition
10/0461/FL	CAR PARK OF 136 WALSALL ROAD, WILLENHALL	Development next to a watercourse / flood defence	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – EA objection withdrawn
10/0695/FL	JOSEPH LECKIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WALSTEAD ROAD WEST, WALSALL, WS5 4PG	No sequential test Part C of Exception Test not passed Risk to life and. or property Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – issues overcome with planning condition
10/0881/RM	BROCKHURST CRESCENT AND WALSTEAD ROAD WEST,BESCOT,WALSALL,WS5 4AX	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – issues overcome with planning condition
10/1011/FL	LAND AT CARTBRIDGE LANE SOUTH, RUSHALL, WALSALL	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Granted Subject to Conditions	No – issues overcome with planning condition
10/1624/RM	Grace Academy, Darlaston, Herberts Park Road, Darlaston, Wednesbury, WS10 8QJ	Unsatisfactory FRA/FCA submitted (Surface Water)	Approve Reserved Matters	No – EA objection withdrawn
11/0005/FL	LAND BETWEEN	Unsatisfactory	Granted Subject	No – EA

	RIVER TAME & RAILWAY, DARLASTON ROAD, WALSALL	FRA/FCA submitted	to Conditions	objection withdrawn

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT: BIODIVERSITY 2010-2011

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 5 years to establish baseline data relating to priority habitats and species. However, it has not been possible to quantify losses to these habitats and species outside designated sites.

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, the UDP review in 2005 and the adoption of the Black Country Core Strategy within the reporting period. 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 and, more recently the Black Country Core Strategy 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 2010 AND 31 MARCH 2011

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

Details	Total resource (%)
None	None

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

Details	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

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

Details	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

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

Details	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

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

Details	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.

Details (ha.)	Proportion of total resource (%)
None	None

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

Details	Proportion of total resource (%)

Goscote Wedge SLINC (planning application 09/0067/FL) loss of approximately 0.13 ha to showman's accommodation development granted 23/9/09. Core interest unaffected but little mitigation secured. (Not reported in previous AMR)	<0.1%

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

Details	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 2010 and 31 March 2011.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Sites of Special Scientific Interest are designated by Natural England. The borough has eight Sites of Special Scientific Interest covering 102.7 ha, including the Cannock Extension Canal which is also a SAC. Within the reporting period the Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI was notified by Natural England on part of Brownhills Common SINC.

There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011.

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.

No new sites have been declared since 1 April 2010.

There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are local sites designated by the local authorities in collaboration with the Birmingham and the Black Country Local Sites Partnership. 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. This total will change following the designation of part of Brownhills Common as Site of Special Scientific Interest. This part of the Site of Importance for Nature

Conservation will formally be deleted from the Local Sites schedule at a future date.

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

Between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011 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 within the reporting period.

Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are also local sites designated by the local authorities in collaboration with the Birmingham and the Black Country Local Sites Partnership. 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 2010 and 31 March 2011 one extant planning permission was granted which resulted in the loss of a small part of the Goscote Wedge SLINC. Details are set out in Table 1. The council is not aware of any extant permissions which were granted 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 aimed to have 95% of all SSSI in favourable or recovering condition by 2010. Three Walsall sites have been monitored since the previous AMR report, including the newly notified Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI.

Walsall's SSSIs have improved statistically since the previous report due largely to the notification of a new Site of Special Scientific Interest which was in a recovering condition. In the previous report 80.34% of the sites assessed were favourable or recovering. This is now 88.76%. The situation within the West Midlands County is that 94.8% of site units are in a favourable/recovering condition. This was virtually unchanged from the previous year.

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 Council-owned Sites of Special Scientific Interest tend to be in favourable or recovering 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 Local Sites Partnership which designates the sites. It is impractical to carry out qualitative change 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 40.7% of Local Sites were surveyed in the last 5 years and 42.59% in the last 10 years. The figures for the previous reporting period were 38.9% and 42.6% respectively. More detailed data is provided below.

TABLE 2: SURVEY EFFORT ON LOCAL SITES BETWEEN 1 APRIL 2010 AND 31 MARCH 2011				
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.	27	346.73	71.05	68.93
2009-10 reporting period.	24	225.7	63.2	47.8
2008-9 reporting period.	21	221.9	52.5	44.0
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 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.	6	21.28	15.79	4.23
2009-10 reporting period.	8	26.2	21.1	5.2

2008-9 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	68.62	24.29	15.05
2009-10 reporting period.	18	117.7	25.7	25.8
2008-9 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.	40	187.26	57.14	41.07
2009-10 reporting period.	38	186.72	54.3	40.9
2008-9 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.	44	415.35	40.7	43.31
2009-10 reporting period.	42	358.9	38.9	37.3
2008-9 reporting period.	39	341.6	36.1	35.6
2007-8 reporting period.	28	184.6	25.6	19.2
2006-7 reporting period.	57	345.32	52.8	42.97
	No of sites surveyed in last	Area of sites surveyed in last	Percentage of total site	Percentage of total site area.

	5-10 years.	5-10 years. (ha)	number.	
Current reporting period.	46	208.54	42.59	21.74
2009-10 reporting period.	46	212.92	42.6	22.2
2008-9 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. Considerable survey work was undertaken in the reporting period in support of the preparation of the Local Development Framework. Consequently the figures are much improved compared with the previous reporting year.

Surveying is resource-intensive and cannot be carried out in-house because of a lack of capacity. Surveying tends to be carried out when resources become available and is therefore not evenly spread over the years. In the current reporting year, little survey work has been completed and therefore the figures are likely to be the same or worse than the current years.

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. This has not been possible this year.

Species Indicators

No species were assessed during the study period.

Habitat Indicators

No habitats were assessed during the study period.

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.
- 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 when resources are available.

- Establish baseline schedules of designated sites, particularly SINCs and SLINCs. This is complete but already needs revision.
- Increase capacity to monitor biodiversity indicators. This continues to be a priority task.
- 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 has been 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.

Walsall Employment Land Review 2010 & 2011

The ELR findings are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 - Employment Land Review Findings 2010

	Core Strategy EMP1 (2009 figures)	2010 ELR	2011 ELR*	Core Strategy 2016 target	Core Strategy 2026 target
Existing High Quality	53	98	95	149	317
Local Quality (potential high quality)		255	261		
Local Quality (retain)		330	354		
Local Quality (consider for release)		124	100		
Local Quality (release now)		38	23		
Total Local Quality	682	747	739	519	294
Total employment land stock	735	845	834	658	611

*provisional figures

As can be seen from table 1, the ELR totals for each category of land are higher than those of the Core Strategy. The ELR includes some smaller parcels of land missed by the original Core Strategy evidence base, as well as changes since the evidence base was completed, but this is mostly land that is unlikely to be suitable for industry in the longer term and should be considered for release. For the purposes of the AMR, the ELR view is followed as it provides the most up-to-date starting point to monitor the Core Strategy. The ELR update will take account of further changes since April 2011 and will be published in December 2011.

High quality employment stock is 95ha compared with 53ha as found by the Core Strategy evidence base. However, Walsall needs to have another 54ha of high quality stock to meet the 2016 target, and a further 168 ha to reach the high quality target of 317ha in 2026. This would come from a pool of current local quality land that has the potential to upgrade. At the moment this pool is 255ha. To reach 317ha, 221 ha of this pool would therefore be needed by 2026. Upgrading this amount of land will clearly be challenging.

In relation to local quality land, at least 519ha are needed by 2016, reducing to a minimum of 294 ha by 2026. At the moment the ELR has identified 739ha. However, some of this will be upgraded to high quality and some can be released immediately as it is vacant and judged to be of no use to industry.

Assuming that, by 2016, 54ha has upgraded to high quality and 23ha has been released, this will leave 662ha of local quality land. This consists of the ‘retain’ and ‘consider for release’ categories. The total ‘consider for release’ stock is 100ha. This leaves 560ha, as compared with the minimum requirement of 519ha.

In theory, all this could be released without harm to the total. But this would have two adverse practical implications: first, releasing too much land too early in the plan period would reduce flexibility for the later period between 2016 and 2026. Secondly, this stock is mostly occupied at the moment and would need to be relocated in order to continue to function, and for the employment base to be protected at a time of high unemployment. But presently there is not enough readily available land to absorb this scale of relocation (see further below). The ELR therefore states that a cautious approach should be taken towards the release of these sites, especially given there is enough capacity for housing to meet the five year requirement in PPS3; and there is no need to release them before 2016 at the earliest. .

In relation to the qualitative assessment, for the most part the ELR view concurs with the GVA 2009 Employment Sites Assessment work that formed part of the Core Strategy evidence base. However there are a small number of cases where the ELR view differs from the GVA. In particular, it considers that there is rather more actual and potential high quality land than GVA does. The cases where there is a difference are set out in Table 2 below:

Table 2 – ELR Differences with GVA Assessment

ELR no	Site	GVA 2009	ELR 2010
5	Lindon Rd, Brownhills	LQ	PHQ
11	Westgate, Aldridge	PHQ	EHQ
30	Council Depot, Walsall	LQ	DEL2 release*
66	Ezekiel Lane, Willenhall	DEL2 release	LQ
85	Willenhall Rd/Queen St, Darlaston	DEL2 release	LQ
87	Willenhall Rd/FMR Garrington's, Darlaston	LQ	DEL2 release
96	Whitworth Close	PHQ	Housing pp
97	Heath Rd/Acerinox, Darlaston	PHQ	EHQ
98	Cemetary Rd, Darlaston	PHQ	LQ
99	Station St/Heath Rd, Darlaston	LQ	PHQ
106	James Bridge/Park Lane, Darlaston	LQ	PHQ
107	James Bridge/W of Railway Line, Darlaston-	LQ	EHQ
108	James Bridge/Steelman's Rd, Darlaston	LQ	PHQ
119	Abbachem, Darlaston	DEL2 release	PHQ

* now pp for housing

Most of these fourteen cases are in Darlaston. Five are where, on balance, the ELR considers that the GVA local quality designation should be upgraded. There is one converse case, where the ELR (no 98) considers that some land in Darlaston should be downgraded to local quality. The ELR, being more up-to-date than GVA, was also able to take into account the forthcoming Council depot relocation (no30) and the resolution (contrary to recommendation) to grant permission for housing at Whitworth Close in 2009 (no 96).

Roger Tym also considered that Walsall has a problem reaching the minimum 46ha necessary to maintain its minimum reservoir as required by Core Strategy policy EMP4. At the time of publication in November 2010 there was only 19.3ha readily available land plus 2.5ha borderline cases. Most of these sites were below 2ha. Roger Tym concluded that there is a real danger that Walsall will run out of reasonably sized available sites for industry, and industry has to leave the Borough to find premises of the right size.

Employment Land 2009-11

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(a) total supply

Total Employment Land in Walsall 1st April 2009	**827.05**
Total Employment Land in Walsall 1st April 2010	**825.12**
Total Employment Land in Walsall 1st April 2011	**832.97**

(b) change in supply 2010-11

Planning ref	**Site name**	**Description/comment**	**Area (ha)**	**Change (ha)**
09/1499	FMR Moxley Tip, Moxley Rd, Moxley, Darlaston	Open space-empt; (potential high quality)	7.9	+7.9
10/0659	AJM Buildings Villiers St Willenhall	Empt-residential	0.17	-0.17
10/1489	Watery Lane, Willenhall	Open Space- MOT/car repair (retrospective; local quality)	0.12	+0.12
				+7.85

The large Former Moxley Tip site, transferred forward from open space via a Committee resolution in April 2010. The total industrial stock rose by around 8ha, from 825 to 833ha.

(d) Vacant Employment land

Total vacant employment land in Walsall, March 31st 2009	**104.92ha**
Total vacant employment land in Walsall, March 31st 2010	**107.58ha**
Total vacant employment land in Walsall, March 31st 2011	**123.1ha**

The increase in vacant land partly reflects the severe recession of 2008-09 and the low take up rates in these years. It also includes the large former Wesson Ductile Site in Moxley, which has now been cleared, and the former Moxley Tip Site (transferring to the industrial land supply out of open space). Neither of these sites however are at present readily available.

(e) Readily Available Vacant Land at 1st April 2006-11

site	***2004***	***2005***	***2006***	***2007***	***2008***	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**
FMR Wagon, Pelsall Rd, Brownhills	-	-	-	-	-	4.76	4.76	-
Willenhall Lane, Bloxwich**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6
N of Newfield Close, Walsall **	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.31	2.31
Walsall Enterprise Park (various sites)	*5.6*	*5.6*	*4.8*	*3.99*	*3.01*	3.01	1.59	-
Central Point Willenhall Rd, Darlaston**	-	-	-	-	-	2.29	2.29	2.29
Tempus 10 South, Junction 10, Walsall	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	2.1	2.1	2.1
Steelman's Rd Darlaston	*2.06*	*2.06*	-	-	-	-	-	-
FMR Corby Windows, Aldridge	--	--	*2.01*	*2.01*	-	-	-	-
Green Lane/Cable Drive, Walsall	*1.98*	*1.98*	*1.98*	-	-	-	-	-
Tempus 10 North, Junction 10, Walsall	*1.95*	*1.95*	*1.95*	*1.95*	*1.95*	1.95	1.95	1.95
N of Maybrook Rd, Brownhills	-	-	-	-	*2.33*	2.33	2.33	1.93
FMR Garrington's, Willenhall	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.91	-

Rd, Darlaston								
FMR Jack Allen, Middlemore Lane, Aldridge	*1.8*	*1.8*	-	-	-	1.8	1.8	1.8
FMR Box Pool Site, Darlaston	--	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.67
Wharf Approach Aldridge (Otokoumpu)	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	-	-	-	-	-
Bescot Cres (Middleton Paper)	*1.6*	*1.6*	*1.6*	-	-	-	-	-
Aldridge Park, Aldridge Rd, Aldridge**	*1.51*	*1.51*	*1.51*	*1.51*	*1.51*	1.51	1.51	1.51
Rossway Business Park, Aldridge	*1.46*	*1.46*	*1.46*	*1.46*	-	-	-	-
Anglian Rd Aldridge	-	-	-	*0.85*	*0.85*	0.85	-	-
Adj Ibstock Brick, Aldridge	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.77	0.77*
Linley Lodge, Aldridge	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.7*	0.7	0.7	0.7
Sadler Rd/Lichfield Rd, Brownhills	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	-
Vigo Place Aldridge	*0.78*	*0.78*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fairground Way, Walsall	*0.77*	*0.77*	-	-	-	-	-	-
N of Westacre, Willenhall	*0.63*	*0.63*	*0.63*	*0.63*	*0.63*	0.63	0.63	0.63
Anson Jn, Darlaston	*0.53*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adj Blakemore's, Darlaston Rd, Darlaston	-	-	-	*0.41*	*0.41*	0.41	0.41	0.41
Talbot Close, Walsall	*0.38*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tintagel Way, Aldridge	*0.33*	*0.33*	*0.33*	*0.33*	-	-	-	-
Rose Hill Industrial Estate, Willenhall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.33
Adj Ikea, Steelman's Rd, Darlaston**	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.21	0.21
FMR Crescent Works Willenhall Rd Darlaston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2*
Woods Bank Woden Rd W, Darlaston	*0.29*	*0.29*	*0.29*	*0.12*	*0.12*	0.12	0.12	0.12
Total Readily Available *likely to be developed in 2011/12 **borderline case estimated readily available land is in italics	***26.3***	***25.4***	***21.2***	***17.4***	***15.2***	**22.0**	**26.2**	**22.5**
No of sites	***18***	***16***	***13***	***12***	***10***	**13**	**17**	**17**
Average site size (ha)	***1.5***	***1.6***	***1.6***	***1.5***	***1.5***	**1.7**	**1.5**	**1.3**

The definition of readily available land is set out in Core Strategy Appendix 9 and is as follows:

To be readily available, land must meet all the following criteria:

- it either has planning permission or an allocation in the development plan for employment uses as defined above, or is subject to any other Council resolution promoting or safegurading it for employment uses
- there are no major problems of physical condition
- there are no major infrastructure problems in relation to the scale of development/activity proposed
- it is being actively marketed for employment uses, or there is evidence that there is a willing seller or that the owner wishes to retain all or part of the site for employment uses

Walsall needs to have 46ha of readily available land at any one time. The figures show that the amount of land that is readily available was falling gradually until 2008; then moved upwards in the recession of 2009-10, mainly because of industry vacating and clearing sites. However this is now dropping again partly because take-up is recovering and due to the effect of some sites having been taken off the market, again because of the recession. The amount of land that is readily available remains well below the Core Strategy requirement.

(f) Employment Land 15 Year Historic Take-Up

year	**Amount (ha)**	**B1/B2/ B8**	**B8 logistics**	**other**	**5 year rolling average**
1996-97	*8.25 (source: UDP p71)*	-	-	-	-
1997-98	*18.09 (source: UDP p71)*	-	-	-	-
1998-99	21.63 (start of new series)	8.93	3.38	9.32	-
1999-00	23.19	6.75	9.55	6.79	-
2000-01	22.84	8.62	11.3	2.92	18.8
2001-02	10.75	6.44	1.42	2.89	19.3
2002-03	11.2	5.42	-	5.78	17.9
2003-04	6.35	3.22	0.23	2.90	14.7
2004-05	8.87	1.91	6.43	0.53	12.0
2005-06	7.21	1.33	2.06	3.82	8.9
2006-07	9.55	5.02	1.9	2.63	8.6
2007-08	5.63	3.4	-	2.23	7.5
2008-09	5.68	3.88	-	1.8	7.4
2009-10	4.38	2.49	0.6	1.29	6.5
2010-11	5.88	0.48	-	5.4	6.2
Projected 2011-12	*11.91*	*3.54*	*3.12*	*5.24*	*6.7*
Projected 2012-13	*14.34*	*3.98*	*3.11*	*6.25*	*8.4*
Average 96/7-10/11		**4.45**	**3.69***	**4.83***	
Average 01/2-10/11		**3.36**	**1.26**	**3.22**	

*1998-2010

Table 3 - Progress 2010-11

Planning ref	**site**	**description**	**ha**	**Progress**
BC5421P	Ancol House, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich	B2 extn	0.2	Completed
07/2282	Network Rail, Adj Corporation St West, Walsall	Training facility	1.0	Completed
08/1254	Chemtech, Collier Cl, Brownhills	Extn to waste teatment	0.19	Completed
09/1370	A&R Vehicle Services, Darlaston Rd Darlaston	Car repair	0.01	Completed
09/1772	FMR Garrington's, Willenhall Rd Darlaston	Office/depot/ training	1.91	Completed
10/0626	Unit 9 Coppice Side Brownhills	B1 extn	0.04	Completed
10/0748	Land at Brockhurst Cres, Walsall	Storage depot	0.4	Completed
10/0749	EG Haniel, Heath Rd, Darlaston	B2	0.04	Completed
10/0764	FMR Mason's Woodyard, Longacres, Willenhall	Waste Management facility	0.66	Completed
10/1172	Surespan, Leamore Close, Bloxwich	B2 extn	0.01	Completed
No record	Daisy House, Anglian Rd, Aldridge	Depot/storage	0.85	Completed
No record	Ashmore Lake Way	Lorry parking	0.57	Completed
08/1839	Valen House, Westgate, Aldridge *	B2 extn	0.18	In progress
10/0315	N Of Maybrook Ind Est, Maybrook Rd, Brownhills	New B2	0.4	In progress
10/0367	FMR Wagon (east), Pelsall Rd, Brownhills	Relocation of Council depot	3.06	In progress

10/1606	FMR Reedswood Engineering, Stephenson Ave, Walsall	Redevelopment B2	0.12	In progress
10/0682	Newman Business Park, Moxley, Darlaston	Redevelopment B2	0.2	In progress
Rail pd	Tasker St, Walsall	New project office & access	0.72	In progress
10/1294	Kepston, Coppice Lane, Aldridge	B2	0.04	In progress
06/1026	Aspect 2000, Bentley Mill Way	B1/B2/B8	2.92	pp 06/04/06
06/1617	Adj Gasholders site, Darlaston Rd, Darlaston	storage	2.81	pp 13/12/06
08/1425	Woods Bank, Woden Rd W, Darlaston	B2/B8	0.2	pp 24/10/08
08/1815	Fryers Rd, Bloxwich	B1/B2	0.55	pp 07/01/09
08/1603	Adj Blakemore's, Darlaston Rd, Darlaston	Lorry Park	0.41	pp 09/11/09
09/0605	Tempus 10 North, Walsall	B1/B8	1.95	pp 17/11/09
09/1823	Interserve, Brickyard Rd, Aldridge	Materials Recycling facility	0.9	pp 08/03/10
09/0079	FMR Moxley Tip, Moxley	B1/B2/B8	7.9	Res 01/04/10
10/1055	Crescent Works, Willenhall Rd Darlaston	B1/B2/B8	0.2	pp 04/10/10
07/1281	Tempus 10 South, Walsall	B8	2.1	pp 22/10/10
10/1346	Central Point, Willenhall Rd, Darlaston	B2/B8	2.29	pp22/10/10
10/1404	Castings, Lichfield Rd, Brownhills	B2/B8	1.5	pp 02/02/11

*erroneously counted as completed in 2009/10

The employment land take up figures have been slightly revised compared with last year, mainly to take account of unauthorised developments and retrospective permissions. There were essentially two phases in the last 15 years. First, the boom associated with the construction of the BCR and the surge in B8 investment in the Willenhall and Darlaston areas from 1997-2000. Then came a long period of decline when the total take-up, averaged over a 5 year period, tended to drift down. This was partly due to the recession in the 2008-0 period, but also because of the poor supply of readily available land, which would itself constrain take-up in future years. Last year there was very little B2 or B8 investment; most of the take-up came from other kinds of employment development. There are however signs of a recovery in B2 investment, connected with the strong recovery of manufacturing industry that started in the second half of 2010.

Table 3 above sets out the details of completions, extant planning applications and sites under construction between April 2010 and March 2011.

Table 4 - Implementation of LDF Economic Policy: Revised Core Output Indicators

CORE OUTPUT INDICATOR	ACHIEVEMENT
BD1: Total Amount of Additional Employment Floor Space	**8601m2 (net)**
BD2: Total Amount of Employment Floor Space On Previously Developed Land	**8601m2 (net)**
BD3: Employment Land Available by Type	**850ha**

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. As of March 2011 Local Transport Plan 3 is now in force so there will be new monitoring targets in the next Annual monitoring report.

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. Following the 51 Route receiving Red Route treatment during 2008, both the 529 and 301 schemes were incorporated into the Red Route initiative in 2010, and the Broadway Red Route scheme was completed in late 2011. This completed the first red route network in the West Midlands

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 2009/10 this figure had risen to 40 million. The 2009/10 figures represent an increase of 75.4% on 2000/01, giving a 6.4% rise from 2008/9 (37.6 million). Figures are not yet available for 2010/11. Inbound trips to Walsall have continued to rise, having risen from 287 in 2009 to 337 in 201, a rise of 17.4%

During 10/11 the Plan has impacted on the development of Network Rail's: Rail Utilisation Strategies, The West Midlands Rail Development Plan and Centro's Public Transport Prospectus and other Centro proposals. Previously 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 Wolverhampton to Walsall service. These have now been reported and funding streams and timescales are being investigated.

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 are only 2 years 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, and 98.85 by 2010. This is well ahead of target trajectory although the effect of the recession needs to be taken into account.

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 **326.7**m. In 2009/10 this had dropped to 319.9m which is below the target level. And by 2010/11 the last year of the targets it has dropped to 300.2m which is 54.8m below the required level. This has coincided with a recession in the UK economy and a fall in bus trips nationally outside London. These figures are for the whole conurbation. (Source: Centro ASR 2008-09).

In Walsall, biennial cordon surveys showed an 8.7% decrease in bus trips into Walsall Town Centre during the morning peak between 2005 and 2007. Cordon bus trips fell by a further 7.2% in 2009 and in 2011 have fallen by again by 2.25%. Although a further decrease it is much smaller than previous decreases. This fall again coincides with a nationwide fall in bus patronage due to the recession. Walsall has worked in conjunction with Centro and Bus operators on the North Walsall Bus Network Review in 2010 and in 2011 the Wolverhampton and West Walsall Bus Network Review was completed. These reviews aim to provide a modern network and to remove links which are now redundant and to provide services which they are needed. In the first year of the North Walsall review Centro claim there has been a 3.8% rise in bus patronage in that area, which compares very favourably to the rest of the region and country.

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 2009/10 this figure had risen to 40 million. The 2009/10 figures represent an increase of 75.4% on 2000/01, giving a 6.4% rise from 2008/9 (37.6 million). No patronage figures for Walsall station are yet available for 2010.

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, Walsall to Rugeley line electrification and the Stourbridge to Walsall rail line

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 2009/10 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 (Sat: 668)
Council	Long	859 (Sat: 738)
Private (but public use)	Short	3218
Private (but public use)	Long	0
	Total	**4624**

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): (Counts taken on single days in Nov 2010)

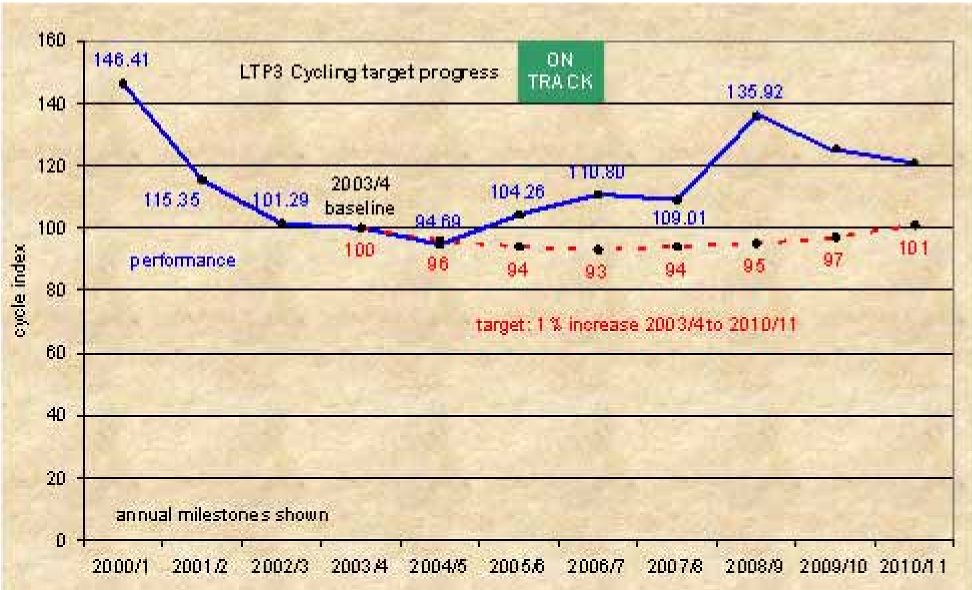
Type	Average for Wed	Average for Fri (Market Day)	Average for Sat (Weekend)
Council Short Stay	54% (2009 = 70)	64% (64)	39% (46)
Council Long Stay	54% (74)	51% (69)	35% (49)
Private Short Stay	66% (56)	73% (63)	72% (67)
Total Spaces	**64% (61)**	**68% (65)**	**61% (61)**

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 2010/11, 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. There was then a dramatic recovery in 08/09. There was another fall to 123.44 in 09/10; and again this year to 120.17 however this is still far above the LTP target.

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 the Regional Spatial Strategy: 100% of schools to have travel plans by 2011. In March 2008 Walsall, exceeded the LTP target and the Met Area wide performance with 79% or 102 schools with travel plans. In 2011, 127 schools had completed travel plans bringing the overall total to 98%,unfortunately the financial incentive to produce a travel plan has been removed so this is unlikely to improve in the near future.

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 that 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. In 2010 this has reduced to 28.6% well within the target figure of 29.4% that was set for the 2009/10 out-turn. The final target for NI 198 was 28.4%. In 2011 Walsall met this target exactly.

The A*STARS (Active School Travel and Road Safety) Project is a joint initiative between Walsall Council and Walsall NHS. Initially launched as a 2-year pilot project in 2009 we have now introduced it in 14 schools for the 2011/12 academic year.

Aimed at reducing the obesity levels in children, the project encourages walking or cycling by promoting a range of activities and incentives. Each school has nominated pupils as ambassadors (sheriffs) for the project whose role will be to encourage all pupils to use sustainable travel. Children in years 5&6 have been supplied with an individual travel diary and will accumulate points by travelling in a sustainable way that can be converted into rewards. Younger children in years 1-4 are taking part in Living Streets National WoW project where they can collect Olympic themed badges by walking or cycling to school.

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. Walsall currently has no dedicated TravelWise officer so we are unable to ascertain whether the levels of Travel Plan take up have changed. Some Travel Plans have been submitted but have not yet been assessed so the presumption is that the levels have stayed the same at 22.9%.

UDP Policy T1: Helping People to Get Around. The Shopmobility scheme within Walsall has continued through 2009/10 and Centro have continued to support bus services within the borough through their Socially Necessary

Services Fund. In 2011 Centro have 36 contracts operating in Walsall on 34 different services.

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. Our NI175 figure (population within 30 minutes of a main hospital by "accessible" public transport" – largely our Bus Showcase routes) is calculated using Accession. However we have recently discovered that Accession was permitting trips to walk between successive bus stops not served by Showcase routes, where the distance between those stops was less than 400 metres. The upshot of this was that the isochrone was being expanded to an extended walk catchment of up to 30 minutes. In terms of measuring access to hospitals, it is not appropriate to include such an extensive walk distance in the isochrone. Therefore, to obviate this problem, stops not served by Showcase routes were removed from the Accession data set. The result of this is a considerably smaller 30 minute isochrone, but one which more accurately reflects acceptable walk distances to accessible Showcase services. The catchment population is also consequently reduced, and we've had to recreate Accession isochrones on the new basis for all years since 2005 and effectively rebase the target.

Therefore instead of our "old" but inaccurate data (2005-6 - 580,000, 2006-7 - 700,566, 2007-8 - 789,460, 2008-9 - 791,437) we propose:

Year	Total Population
2005 Baseline	252,571
2006	402,540
2007	428,941
2008	450,731
2010/11	434,312

The 301, 529 red route/bus showcase and Broadway Red Route will help to further improve this further as they were finished in 2010/11.

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. Table 1 below compares the amount of completed floorspace (GIA) for 2010-2011 with the amount of floorspace (GIA) completed in the previous year.

Table 1 – Gross increase in completed floorspace.

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)	
	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11	09-10	10-11
Retailing (m^2)	7,759	10961	7,664	0	98.8%	0%
Offices B1(a) (m^2)	150	5052	150	492	100%	9.70%
Leisure (m^2)	686	1655	0	0	0%	0%
Total (m^2)	8,595	17668	7,814	492	90.9%	2.8%

Whilst the out-of-centre or edge-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 2010-2011 there was a significant increase in the amount of A1 floorspace but this was located edge-of-centre. Office and leisure developments have also been implemented in edge-of-centre or out-of-centre locations. 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 only allowed where fully justified. The planning strategy for the borough should be strengthened through work on the Local Development Framework, in particular the adoption and implementation of the Black Country Core Strategy and work is about to start on identifying development opportunities for the Land Allocations DPD and the Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP).

Retail

The town centre provides over 650 comparison and convenience shops, as well as service outlets, occupying over 215,000 sq.m (2.3 million sq ft) gross floorspace (GVA Grimley 2009). These include large department / variety stores for Debenhams, Marks and Spencer, and Boots, and there is a very large market. The town centre also has a number of shopping centres, including the Old Square, Saddler's Centre, Park Place, and Crown Wharf.

In 2010 a survey of the centre found the retail land uses as shown in the table below (GVA Grimley 2010[51]). At this time 76% of the floorspace in the town centre fell into A1 use class, which includes shops, hairdressers, travel agencies, post offices, sandwich bars, and internet cafes. However, 13% of floorspace in the town centre was vacant at this time. This has since risen to 26%. There are also substantial convenience shopping facilities in the town centre, including Tesco, Asda and Morrisons, as well as other local shops and services.

Location	**A1 Sq m**	**A2 Sq m**	**A3 Sq m**	**A4 Sq m**	**A5 Sq m**	**Other (non-retail) Sq m**	**Vacant Units Sq m**	**Total Sq m**
Crown Wharf Retail Park	16,690	0	410	0	0	0	0	**17,100**
Park Street (excl. Saddlers Centre & Quasar Centre)	12,860	1,150	0	150	690	0	520	**15,370**
Quasar Centre	7,200	0	0	0	0	0	750	**7,950**
Saddlers Centre	10,760	0	290	0	0	0	1,540	**12,590**
Rear of Park Street	180	0	40	0	0	410	260	**890**
Station Street	500	110	0	0	0	0	0	**610**
The Bridge/ Bridge St (incl. former Tesco)	5,980	2,570	0	100	0	380	740	**9,770**
Bradford Street/ Bradford Place (excl. Digbeth Arcade)	7,240	520	0	430	0	100	100	**8,390**
Digbeth Arcade	1,040	0	110	0	0	0	490	**1,640**
Digbeth (incl. Market Store)	3,280	210	0	0	0	580	6,060	**10,130**
Lower Hall Lane	700	0	80	0	90	0	590	**1,460**
High Street (incl. Asda)	7,520	0	550	310	0	0	530	**8,910**
George Street (excl. Asda)	770	0	0	0	0	0	640	**1,410**
Goodall Street	230	30	250	0	0	760	580	**1,850**
Old Square Shopping Centre (excl. former Tesco)	4,790	0	0	0	90	0	750	**5,630**
Freer Street	70	70	0	0	370	180	290	**980**
Total (Sq m)	***79,810***	***4,660***	***1,730***	***990***	***1,240***	***2,410***	***13,840***	***104,680***
Total (%)	***76.2%***	***4.5%***	***1.7%***	***1%***	***1.2%***	***2.3%***	***13.2%***	

[51] GVA Grimley (2010) St Matthew's Quarter, Walsall. Update of Evidence Base for Market Relocation.

Offices

The office market in Walsall is currently poor with only 246,000sqm of office stock in 2004. In addition much of the in-centre market is predominantly 1960s/70s buildings with limited new developments (GVA Grimley 2009[52]). New office buildings as part of the Tesco redevelopment has improved the centre's offer but these remained vacant for sometime showing that the real issue is the creation of demand. The Black Country Core Strategy requires 220,000 additional office floorspace by 2026, but further understanding is needed around the demand for offices in Walsall and how the centre can compete with other centres and out-of-centre office developments. The development of a strong office market is crucial for the strength of the centre and can act as a way to improve the spending power within the town, Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) should help to address these issues.

The Health of Existing Centres

The under-performance of Walsall town centre is clarified by the following indicators:

- Walsall is deemed to be "failing" – it is one of the centres nationally where the spread of vacancies and falling rents are destroying the high street (Colliers 2011[53])
- Walsall's economy has significantly under-performed against the national and regional average over the past 10 years – between 1998-2008 Walsall experienced economic decline whilst the national economy was growing (Ekosgen 2010[54])
- It has one of the least affluent catchments, ranking 187th out of 200 comparable centres (GVA Grimley 2010[55]) – 42.8% of residents in the town centre catchment area are categorised in the 'hard pressed' demographic, which is almost twice the national average (LSH 2007[56])
- There is a relatively low demand for space; in mid-2009 there were 8 retail requirements for Walsall (below the average of 21 for other centres), ranking the town 150th out of 200 (GVA Grimley 2009[57])
- At the end of 2009, prime rents in the town were £95 psf, which is significantly below the UK major town average of £123 psf (GVA Grimley 2010[58])
- At the end of 2010 Walsall had the highest retail vacancy rate amongst large and medium-sized centres in the region, at 26.8% (up 8.2% in 12 months) against the West Midlands average of 19%. It is also the second

[52] GVA Grimley (2009) Black Country Centres Study (Joint study on behalf of the Black Country Authorities).
[53] Colliers International (2011) Midsummer Retail Report.

[55] GVA Grimley (2010) St Matthew's Quarter, Walsall. Update of Evidence Base for Market Relocation.
[56] Lambert Smith Hampton (2007) Walsall Leisure Demand Study.
[57] GVA Grimley (2009) St Matthew's Quarter – Relocation of Walsall Market, Final Report.
[58] GVA Grimley (2010) St Matthew's Quarter, Walsall. Update of Evidence Base for Market Relocation.

highest vacancy rate for large towns in the country (national average is 16.9%) (LDC 2010[59]).

- A survey in 2001 concluded that the town centre only attracted 24% of the comparison retail expenditure in its catchment area. This reflects the high level of competition from nearby centres such as Birmingham, Wolverhampton, West Bromwich, Brierley Hill, Lichfield, Cannock and Sutton Coldfield (Roger Tym 2001[60])

[59] Local Data Company (2010) Terminal Illness or Gradual Decline? A review of GB shop vacancy in 2010.
[60] Roger Tym and Partners (2001) Walsall Retail Capacity Study.

APPENDIX F - MINERALS

During 2010/11, all of the Walsall UDP mineral policies except for one (M7) were replaced by policies MIN1 – MIN5 of the Black Country Core Strategy, which was adopted in February 2011. The Core Strategy identifies the general extent of a mineral safeguarding area (MSA) covering much of Walsall Borough, and identifies broad locations for "areas of search" for sand and gravel and brick clay extraction. The boundaries of these areas will be defined in detail in the forthcoming Walsall Site Allocations DPD.

From 2011/12, the AMR will be monitoring mineral production and supply through the indicators identified in the Core Strategy. In the meantime, significant changes to mineral supply and production requirements are identified below.

Primary Aggregates

For aggregates monitoring, Walsall is part of the West Midlands County sub-regional area.[61] The only authorities in the West Midlands County producing primary aggregates are Solihull and Walsall. Both authorities produce sand and gravel only. The only operational aggregates quarry in Walsall, at Branton Hill, is mainly producing building sand.

The West Midlands County no longer produces any crushed rock. The last hard rock quarry (in Sandwell) closed in 2007, and since 2005 there has been no requirement for the West Midlands County to contribute towards crushed rock supplies.

Targets for Primary Aggregate Production – Recent Changes

Sub-regional targets (apportionments) for primary aggregate production are currently set out in the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy 2008 (WMRSS). The sub-regional sand and gravel apportionment for the West Midlands County to 2016 is 0.506 million tonnes per annum.[62]

The RSS apportionments were reviewed during 2009/10 following the issue of the "National and regional guidelines for aggregates provision 2005-2020" in June 2009. Technical advice issued by the West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (AWP) early in 2010 proposed an apportionment ("Option 1c") of 0.550 million tonnes per annum for the West Midlands County. A slightly different apportionment was approved by the former West Midlands Regional Assembly (WMRA) in an Interim Policy Statement on Construction Aggregates issued in March 2010.

[61] The West Midlands County comprises the Metropolitan unitary authorities of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

[62] See Policy M2, West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (January 2008), West Midlands Regional Assembly.

No targets for annual production were set in the Walsall UDP (2005). Towards the end of the 2010/11 monitoring year, the UDP policies on aggregates were replaced by Policy MIN2 of the Black Country Core Strategy, which was adopted in February 2011. Policy MIN2 aims to maintain sand and gravel production at the rates achieved in recent years, and plans to provide an appropriate share of the West Midlands County sand and gravel apportionment recommended by the AWP.

The current sand and gravel supply requirements for the West Midlands County and the provision made in the Core Strategy are explained in more detail below.

Performance in 2009 - Primary Aggregate Production and Supply

Primary aggregate supply and production in the West Midlands is monitored through annual surveys co-ordinated by Warwickshire County Council on behalf of the West Midlands AWP. Aggregates monitoring has always covered calendar years (1 January – 31 December) rather than normal LDF monitoring years (1 April – 31 March). Information is published in the AWP annual reports which are available on the CLG website. The latest available survey data is set out in the 2009 Annual Report, published in April 2011 and covers the calendar year 2009.

For monitoring purposes, aggregate sales are regarded as equivalent to production. Table F1 below summarises aggregates sales in the West Midlands County during 2009. Around 0.375 million tonnes of sand and gravel were sold, which is significantly lower than production in previous years, and is also below the production rate assumed in the AWP apportionment. The AWP annual report attributes the general decline in sand and gravel sales across the region to the economic downturn, but in the West Midlands County, the fact that one of Walsall's quarries was not operating may have made a small contribution.

Table F1: Primary Aggregate Sales in the West Midlands County (including Walsall), 2008[63]

Type of Aggregate	Crushed Rock	Sand and Gravel	Total
Amount produced	0	375,000	375,000

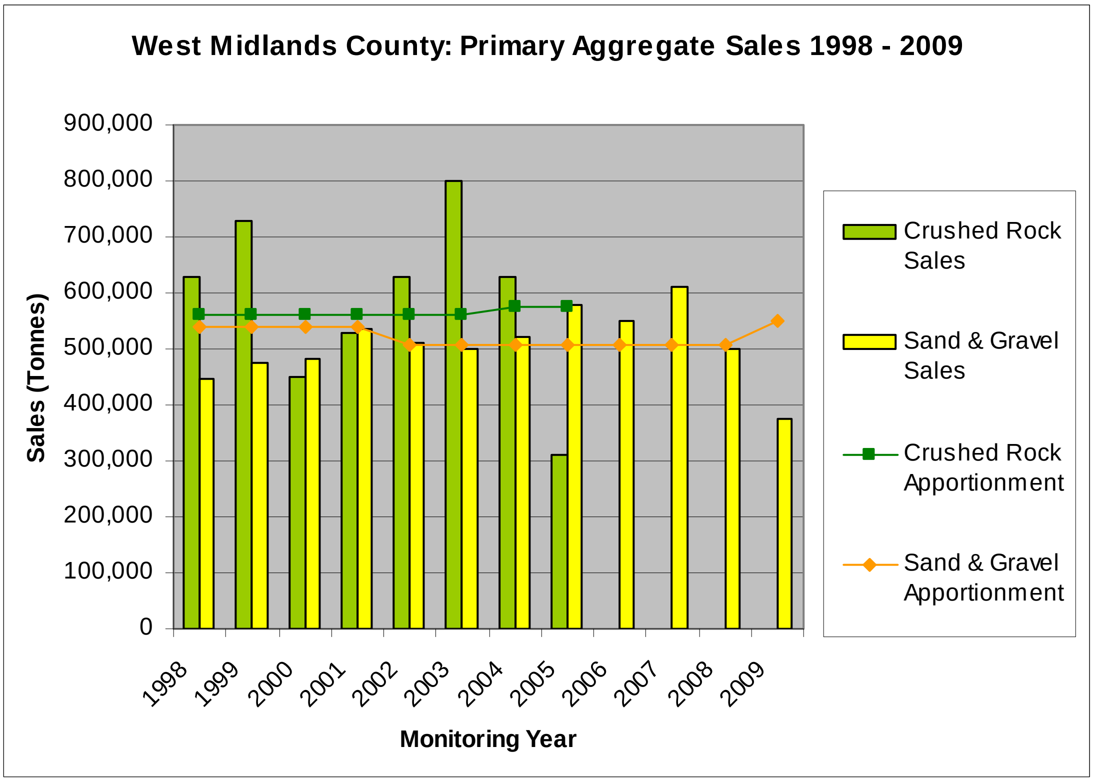
Trend data from AWP Annual Reports 1998 – 2009 shows that average production during the last 12 years has been around 0.507 million tonnes per annum (see Figure F1 below). Between 2001 and 2007, annual sand and gravel sales in the West Midlands County were slightly higher than the RSS sub-regional apportionment in place at the time, but since then, sales have fallen. The new AWP apportionment for the West Midlands County is also

[63] Source: West Midlands AWP Annual Report 2009 (April 2011), available on CLG website: http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningbuilding/planningresearch/researchreports/mineralswasteresearch/aggregateworkingparties/awpannualreports/westmidlandsawp/

slightly higher than the RSS apportionment, which has increased the gap between sales and annual production requirements still further.

Up to 2008, Walsall contributed around 10% of sub-regional sand and gravel sales, but its contribution was even lower in 2009 because one of its production sites closed during 2008. We are unable to disclose data on actual production rates in Walsall during 2009 for reasons of commercial confidentiality, because only one site was operational.

Figure F1: Primary Aggregate Sales



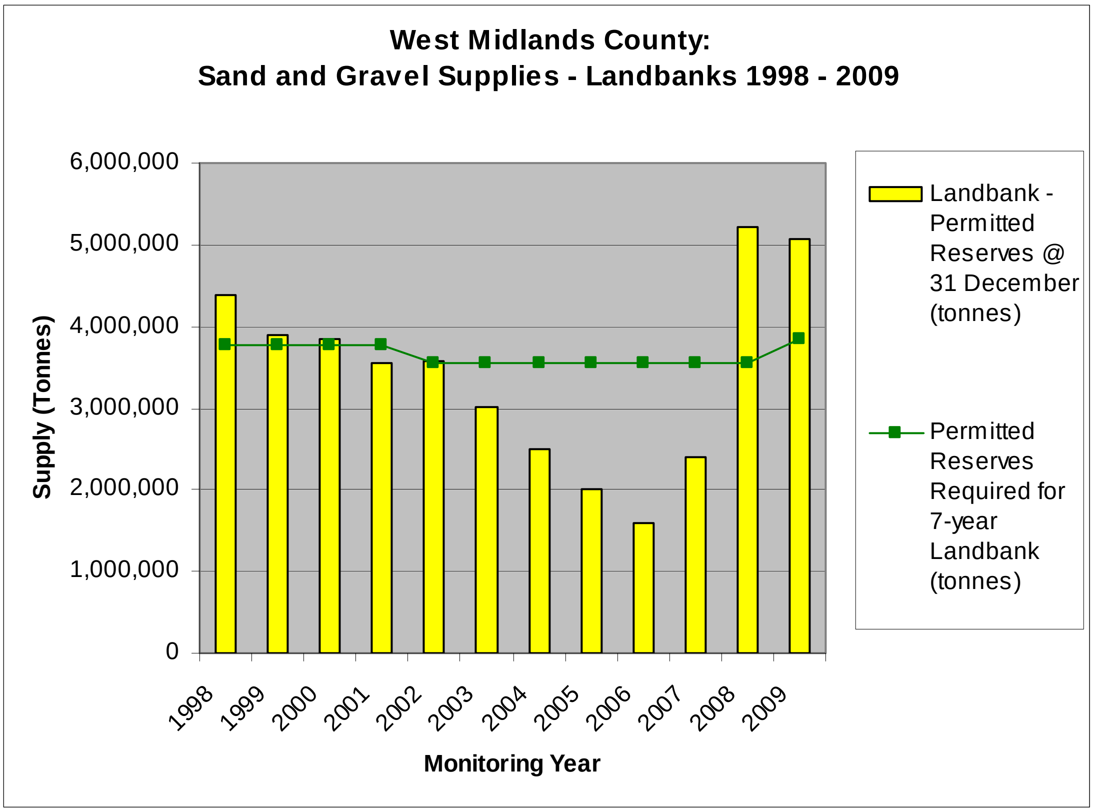
Source: West Midlands AWP Annual Reports 1998 – 2009

National policy guidance requires mineral planning authorities to maintain a minimum 7-year landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves, at the annual rates set out in apportionments. Table M1a above indicates that at 31 December 2009, the West Midlands County needed to identify around 3.850 million tonnes of permitted reserves to provide a landbank. The landbank requirement has therefore been met for now, but it will not be maintained in the long-term unless further supplies can be identified in development plans.

Figure F2 below shows how the West Midlands County sand and gravel landbank has changed over the last twelve years from 1998 to 2009. Until 2007, supplies of sand and gravel reserves were not keeping pace with production and the landbank declined. In 2007 the landbank increased, as a result of new permissions being granted in Solihull. At 31 December 2009, the West Midlands County sand and gravel landbank was estimated to be 5.062 million tonnes. This is equivalent to a landbank of 10.00 years at the new apportionment rates.

Permitted sand and gravel reserves in Walsall remain at a very low level. The baseline information used in the Black Country Core Strategy estimates indicated that permitted reserves were around 0.2 million tonnes at 31 December 2008, less than 5% of the total West Midlands County landbank, and there has been a further decrease since then.[64] Walsall is therefore only making a very small contribution towards the West Midlands County landbank, the bulk of which is provided by Solihull.

Figure F2: Sand and Gravel Supplies



Source: West Midlands AWP Annual Reports 1998 – 2009

To maintain supplies in the long-term, development plans are expected to maintain a “rolling” landbank throughout the plan period, at the annual rates assumed in the apportionment, plus 7 years beyond. As the apportionments have recently changed, the Black Country and Solihull Core Strategies must make provision for future sand and gravel supplies in line with the new requirements. Both Core Strategies will have an end date of 2026.

Table F2 below updates Table 19 of the Black Country Core Strategy, and shows the amount of sand and gravel resource that Solihull and Walsall need to identify over and above the already permitted reserves, to demonstrate a 7-year “rolling” landbank running from the next monitoring year (2010) through to 2026 – around 8.138 million tonnes. This represents the “residual requirement” for the West Midlands County which needs to be planned for in the authorities’ LDFs.

[64] Core Strategy Policy MIN2, Table 20.

Black Country Core Strategy Policy MIN2 addresses Walsall's share of this requirement by identifying two "areas of search" for sand and gravel extraction in the Aldridge area (Proposals MA1: Birch Lane and MA2: Branton Hill). These are based on the mineral safeguarding areas identified on the Walsall UDP Proposals Map, and on information provided by mineral operators. It is estimated that there are around 3.8 million tonnes of sand and gravel within these areas.[65] This is sufficient to provide around 47% of the total sub-regional residual requirement.

Table F2: West Midlands County Sand and Gravel Apportionments and Landbank Requirements @ December 2009 (million tonnes/ MT)

Annual Production Required	Permitted Reserves Required for 7-year Landbank @ 31.12.09	Total Permitted Reserves @ 31.12.09	Permitted Reserves Required for Landbank to 2026 (31.12.09 – 31.12.26 + 7 years = 24 years)	Shortfall to be planned for in Solihull and Walsall LDFs
0.550 MT	3.850 MT	5.062 MT	13.200 MT	8.138 MT

Source: Table 19 of Black Country Core Strategy (2011), updated to reflect the 2009 survey data set out in the 2009 AWP Annual Report (2011).

It is proposed that the boundaries of the "areas of search" will be defined in the forthcoming Walsall Site Allocations Development Plan Document. This will enable Walsall to make an appropriate contribution towards the West Midlands County sand and gravel supply requirements, subject to suitable proposals coming forward and being approved by the Council. The paragraphs below summarise the progress that has been made in bringing forward these resources to date.

Primary Aggregates - 2010/11 Update

Sand and gravel production ceased at Aldridge Quarry during 2008 and no production took place in 2009 or 2010 according to the most recent survey information. This means that Branton Hill Quarry is now the only active sand and gravel quarry in Walsall.

No new permissions for sand and gravel working were granted in Walsall during 2010/11. The application for an extension to Branton Hill Quarry, (application reference: BC64995P) reported in previous AMRs was still not determined at 31 March 2011. However, a revised scheme for the proposed new access road to Branton Hill Quarry and relocation of the aggregates recycling facility was submitted in August 2011 (application reference: 11/0943/FL), after the end of the 2010/11 monitoring year.

Secondary and Recycled Aggregates

[65] See: Black Country Core Strategy Policy MIN2 (Policy Justification), Table 20.

Secondary and recycled aggregates are defined as follows:

- Secondary aggregates – aggregates produced as a by-product of mining and quarrying or of industry

- Recycled aggregates – aggregates produced from recycling of waste, in particular, construction, demolition and excavation waste (CD&EW)

There is some evidence that significant quantities of alternatives to primary aggregates (secondary and recycled aggregates) are being produced in the West Midlands County area.[66] The latest national survey suggests that in England as a whole, around 85% of construction, demolition and excavation waste is either recovered or beneficially re-used without further processing.[67] However, evidence for production of secondary and recycled aggregates at a local level is still lacking.

Secondary and recycled aggregates can be produced at a fixed facility ("urban quarry"), such as a recycling facility or an aggregates processing plant, or through on-site recycling of waste on large redevelopment sites. Whilst we have some information about the capacity of fixed facilities in Walsall and the wider Black Country, information about on-site recycling through local redevelopment schemes is currently lacking.

At the present time, it is only possible to provide estimates of secondary and recycled aggregate production at fixed sites in Walsall. The West Midlands AWP has attempted to monitor secondary and recycled aggregate production at these sites from time-to-time, including in 2008, 2009 and 2010. However, this has so far not yielded any useful results because not all operators return the survey forms, and none of the operators of sites in Walsall has so far returned any data.

There are currently no quarries in Walsall producing aggregates as a by-product of quarrying other minerals. At the end of March 2011, the Borough was believed to have four permitted operational secondary and recycled aggregate production sites:

- Bace Groundworks Ltd, Coppice Lane, Aldridge
- Bliss Sand and Gravel Company Ltd, Branton Hill Quarry, Aldridge
- DSM Demolition Group, Triangle Site, off Bescot Road*
- Rosehill Industrial Estate, Willenhall*

* omitted from Black Country Core Strategy in error.

The facility at Rosehill appears to have been implemented in 2004/05, but it is not clear whether this is still operational, and if so, who the operator is. Based on information provided with planning applications and data on inputs

[66] See: The Sustainable Use of Resources for the Production of Aggregates in England (2006), WRAP

[67] Construction, demolition and excavation waste arisings, use and disposal for England 2008 (April 2010), WRAP

into licensed waste facilities (where available), it is estimated that at 31 March 2011 the four sites listed above were capable of processing up to 0.187 million tonnes of material per annum.

A fifth site in Walsall is also known to be producing recycled aggregates, but has not been included in previous aggregates surveys, as it may not be lawful (the Council is investigating). In addition, there is an outstanding planning permission for a new facility in Aldridge to be developed by Interserve. Permission was granted in 2009/10 (permission reference: 09/1823/FL) for a recycling facility capable of processing up to 50,000 tonnes of construction, demolition and excavation waste per annum.

The above information suggests that Walsall does not currently have the fixed infrastructure to produce significant quantities of secondary and recycled aggregates, although capability will increase once the new Interserve facility is built. A significant amount of secondary and recycled aggregates production is also happening at fixed sites outside Walsall Borough, elsewhere in the West Midlands Metropolitan area (e.g. Coleman & Company in Birmingham, Tarmac and Network Rail at Bescot Sidings in Sandwell) and in Staffordshire (e.g. Cranebrook Quarry at Muckley Corner).

Technical work undertaken for the Black Country Core Strategy early in 2010 (reported in the 2010 AMR) has been updated during 2011 to provide an overview of the situation in the Black Country as a whole. This information suggests that:

- Fixed secondary and recycled aggregate processing sites in the Black Country are currently capable of processing up to 0.9 million tonnes of secondary and recycled aggregate per annum – this includes the above sites in Walsall which provide around 20% of total capacity;

- In 2008, around 0.742 million tonnes of material with potential to be re-used or recycled as aggregate was input into licensed waste management facilities in the Black Country, of which 0.264 million tonnes was input into facilities in Walsall (mostly landfill sites);

- In 2008, around 0.449 million tonnes of material with potential to be re-used or recycled as aggregate was exported from licensed waste management facilities in the Black Country, of which around 0.082 million tonnes was exported from facilities in Walsall;

- In 2008/09, as much as 1.62 million tonnes of construction and demolition waste may have been produced in the Black Country, and it was estimated that around 0.31 million tonnes may have been produced in Walsall;

- The amount of construction and demolition waste produced in Walsall could rise to around 0.520 million tonnes by 2025/26 if the levels of demolition and redevelopment assumed in the Core Strategy take place.

While Black Country Core Strategy Policies MIN2, WM1, WM4 and WM5 encourage production of secondary and recycled aggregates by promoting on-site recycling of waste and by identifying broad locations suitable for development of new processing facilities, the evidence available at the time it was prepared was not considered robust enough to support local targets for future production.

Secondary and Recycled Aggregates - 2010/11 Update

Known secondary and recycled aggregate sites in Walsall were surveyed by the Council in 2011, but no returns had been received at the time this report was prepared. We therefore have no new data to report from this source. There has been progress on bringing forward the new Interserve recycling facility in Aldridge. Preparatory ground works were undertaken during 2010/11, and construction began in late summer 2011.

The need for further secondary and recycled aggregate processing facilities will be explored through the forthcoming Walsall Site Allocations DPD. The Council will also consider whether it is feasible to allocate specific sites or areas of search for the development of such facilities.

With regard to on-site recycling, the Council's Local Validation Checklist published in December 2010 now includes a requirement for applicants to provide information about waste management, including copies of interim Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs) where available (item V22 on the Checklist). Although SWMPs were never meant or designed to be a planning tool, they were cited in previous AMR guidance as a source of information on secondary and recycled aggregate production. However, where applicants have been able to provide such information, it has not always been useful.

Reliable data on recycling rates can only be obtained from the final version of a SWMP prepared after the development is completed, as this should record what was actually recycled. However, the Council does not have the resources to contact every developer or contractor to request these documents. At best, we are likely to be relying on random sampling of sites to obtain data about on-site recycling.

Recent research published by WRAP indicates that many companies in the construction and demolition industry are now fully committed towards minimising waste and reducing the amount of residual construction, demolition and excavation waste sent to landfill.[68] As part of this commitment, the demolition industry has set a target to divert at least 90% of non-hazardous demolition waste arisings from landfill annually.[69]

This suggests that at a national level, England is likely to meet its national waste strategy target of a 50% reduction in the amount of construction, demolition and excavation waste sent to landfill by 2012 (from a 2008

[68] Construction, demolition and excavation waste arisings, use and disposal for England 2008 (April 2010), and WRAP Signatory Report 2011 (March 2011), WRAP

[69] NFDC's target for demolition waste (March 2010), National Federation of Demolition Contractors

baseline). In the light of this research, Defra announced in its Waste Strategy Review report (June 2011) that it would be reviewing the effectiveness of the SWMP Regulations in addressing the objectives of reducing costs for businesses, embedding resource efficiency and reducing fly-tipping. This is consistent with other recent announcements by the Government that it intends to reduce the burden of “red tape.”

At a local level, the Black Country “business friendly planning” initiative is also looking at minimising the amount of information that has to be provided with planning applications. Work has begun on developing a Black Country Local Validation Checklist, to replace the current Local Validation Checklist for Walsall published in December 2010. This is expected to be published for public consultation early in 2012.

Against this background, there is unlikely to be much appetite for requiring applicants to provide detailed information about on-site recycling of waste into aggregate. The Council will therefore review the scope for monitoring on-site recycling of aggregates during 2011/12 in the light of these developments.

Brick Clay

There are three operational brickworks in Walsall, which use the following types of locally occurring clays:

- **Fireclay** – a high quality buff coloured clay which occurs as layers beneath coal seams. There are resources of fireclay present in the Brownhills area of Walsall.

- **Etruria Marl** – a high quality red coloured clay. The main deposits in Walsall are in the Stubbers Green and Shelfield areas.

Both types of clay are nationally and regionally scarce. There are currently no locally available supplies of fireclay except for a small stockpile at the former Birch Coppice site, which is operated by Potters Clay & Coal Company Ltd.

The Black Country Core Strategy includes policies on the working of Etruria Marl and Fireclay and supplies of clay to brickworks in the Black Country (Policy MIN3). The Core Strategy has addressed deficiencies in supply of clay as far as possible, by identifying areas of search containing Etruria Marl and Fireclay resources in Walsall which have the potential to be exploited in future. Arrangements for monitoring implementation of these policies through the Council’s planning application database are now in place.

We have updated the information provided in the previous AMRs using information supplied by quarry operators and brick manufacturers and information provided with recent planning applications. The Etruria Marl supply situation at 31 March 2011 is summarised in Table F3 below.

Table F3[70]: Supply of Etruria Marl to Walsall Brickworks, March 2011

Brick Works	Operator	Main Source of Supply in Walsall	Estimated Supply @ March 2010 (years)
Aldridge	Ibstock	Highfields South (imports)	Less than 5
Atlas	Ibstock	Atlas	15 – 24
Sandown	Wienerberger	Sandown Highfields South (imports)	5 - 10

Brick Clay - 2010/11 Update

During 2009/10 the Council granted permission for clay working at the "causeway" site at Sandown Quarry (application reference: 09/1730/MI). This is a former mineral railway line extending into the quarry which is not covered by the original mineral permissions. As well as permitting the working of new material, this will also allow access to permitted reserves which are not currently accessible. The permission will enable the quarry to continue to supply Sandown Works to around 2014/15 and possibly longer, subject to availability of imported material.

Extraction of Etruria Marl at Highfields South Quarry also continued during 2010/11 concurrently with landfilling operations, which has helped to maintain supplies of clay to two local brickworks. However, in accordance with a condition attached to the approved restoration programme, extraction should have ceased on 30 September 2010. The operator was advised about this, and in July 2011 a retrospective application (reference: 11/0953/FL) was submitted, to allow continued clay extraction at Highfields South, and to extend the time limit for extraction up to 30 October 2013. Progress on this application will be reported in the next AMR.

[70] Source: Discussions with brick manufacturers and recent planning applications.

APPENDIX G - WASTE

The Black Country Core Strategy – A New Waste Planning Strategy

Until recently, the waste planning strategy for Walsall was provided by the Walsall UDP, and this did not include any specific targets or requirements for development of new waste management infrastructure or for the diversion of waste away from landfill.

However, the Black Country Core Strategy was adopted by the Council in February 2011. The waste management policies in the UDP have now been replaced by five new Core Strategy policies on waste and resource management.

The Core Strategy sets out indicative requirements for new waste management capacity across all waste streams (Policy WM1). These have been based on the most up-to-date information available on current and future waste arisings, existing waste management capacity and provision, and specific local needs, and take into account national minimum targets for diversion of waste away from landfill in the Waste Strategy for England 2007.

Policy WM3 identifies a number of "strategic" waste management proposals – specific projects expected to be implemented between now and 2026. These include the following proposals in Walsall:

- WP1: Aldridge Quarry – inert landfill facility;
- WP3: Fryers Road, Leamore – resource recovery park;
- WP6: Sandown Quarry – non-hazardous landfill facility;
- Darlaston/ Willenhall - new household waste recycling centre; and
- Replacement municipal waste management depot.

Excluding capacity expected to be provided by the identified major infrastructure projects specified above, the Core Strategy identifies the following residual requirements for new waste management infrastructure in Walsall to 2025/26:

- **Municipal Waste Recovery/ Treatment** – possible need for additional material recovery capacity and for new organic waste treatment capacity (municipal waste management strategy to determine);

- **Commercial and Industrial Waste Recovery/ Treatment** – minimum 110,000 TPA recovery/ treatment capacity;

- **Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste** Recovery/ Treatment – possible need for additional "urban quarries" / facilities for managing contaminated soils;

- **Waste Transfer** – minimum 35,000 TPA transfer capacity.

The above requirements will be met through new planning permissions and/ or site allocations in other plans. The Core Strategy identifies broad locations suitable for different types of operation and includes criteria for assessing the suitability of proposals under consideration (Policy WM4). This guidance will be reflected in any new site allocations or "areas of search" identified in the Walsall Site Allocations DPD and Walsall Town Centre AAP for waste management uses.

The Core Strategy also identifies sixteen "strategic" waste management sites in Walsall (see Waste Key Diagram and Appendix 6, Table WM2C), which together account for a significant proportion of the Borough's existing waste management capacity. Policy WM2 aims to safeguard the capacity of these sites where feasible, for example, by discouraging incompatible development on neighbouring sites. It is recognised that the loss of one of these facilities could have a major impact on the Borough's overall waste management capacity, generating a need for further new infrastructure over and above the residual requirements identified in Policy WM3. The impact of new development on "strategic" sites will therefore need to be monitored.

As well as making provision for new waste management infrastructure, and seeking to safeguard existing infrastructure as far as possible, the Core Strategy seeks to influence the way that material resources are managed in new developments. Applications for "major" development will be expected to provide supporting information on the management of waste generated by the development (Policy WM5).

Each Core Strategy policy has monitoring indicators and targets attached to it, many of which are related to the existing Core Output Indicators. Monitoring of the Core Strategy commenced in 2011/12, following its adoption, and the 2012 AMR will provide the first report on implementing the policies, against the indicators and targets identified..

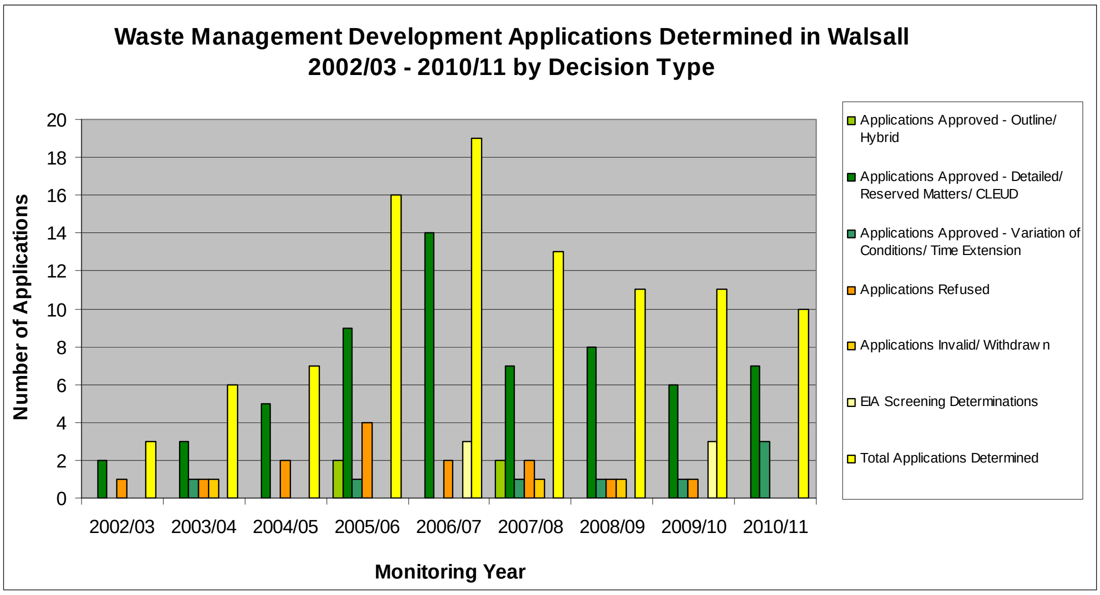
New Waste Management Capacity 2010/11

The number of waste management development applications[71] received by the Council varies from year to year. Nine applications were received during 2010/11, a slight rise on the numbers submitted in 2008/09 and 2009/10, but still less than the numbers submitted in 2006/07 and 2007/08. The overwhelming majority of applications submitted to the Council are approved, as will be apparent from Figure G1 below.

The figure below shows that some of the waste management applications submitted to Walsall Council relate to EIA screening opinions, and also to variation of conditions imposed on existing approvals, including applications to extend the time limit for implementation. Others relate to minor/ ancillary developments or improvements at existing waste management facilities with no net increase in capacity.

[71] These include applications for development at existing waste management sites as well as applications for new waste management developments.

Figure G1: Waste Management Applications



Source: Walsall Council Planning Register

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). In the past, this information has not always been provided by applicants but it is now a requirement to indicate the capacity of waste management developments on the standard application form.

Of the applications submitted during 2010/11, only one included a significant amount of new waste management capacity. This was for a new hazardous waste treatment facility (capacity up to 50,000 tonnes per annum), which was also implemented during the monitoring year (see below). Six of the nine applications submitted in 2010/11 were approved during the monitoring year, and the remaining three were not determined at 31 March 2011.

A total of seven waste management applications were approved during 2010/11, including one submitted in the previous monitoring year (2010/11). These are listed in Table G1 below. Only one of the approved applications involved a net increase in waste management capacity.

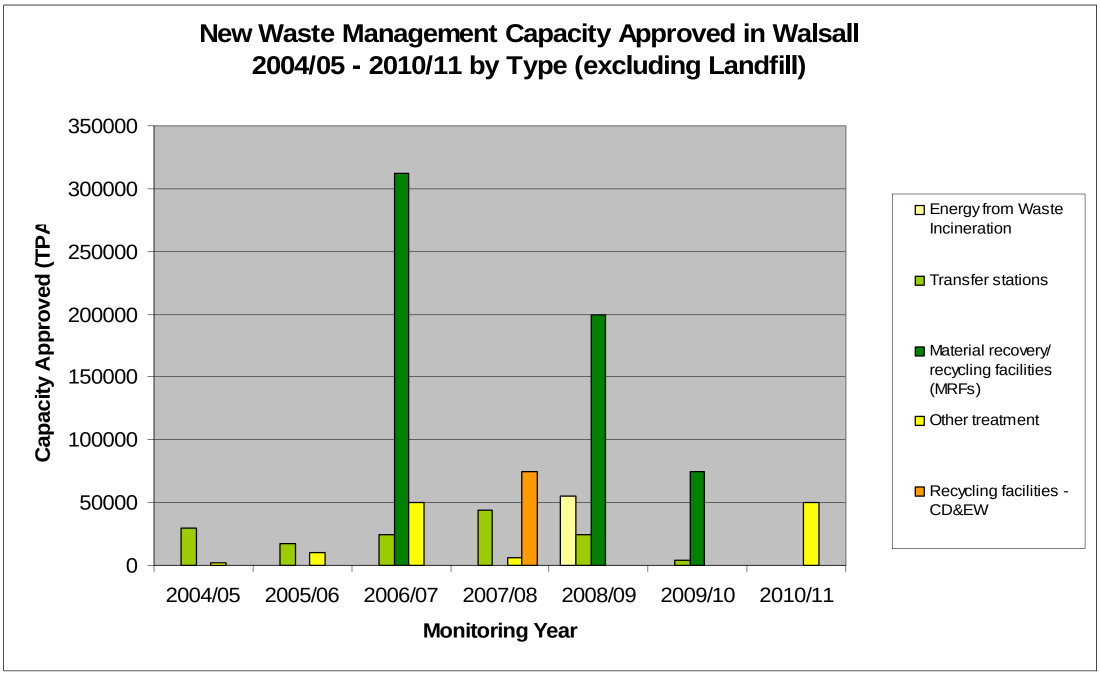
Table G1: Waste Management Development Applications in Walsall - Applications Approved 2010/11

Application Reference	Location	Summary	Capacity
10/0165/FL	Vigo/ Utopia Landfill Site, Coppice Lane, Aldridge, Walsall	Extension of time permitted to continue landfill operations at Vigo Utopia to 30 September 2011.	In accordance with original permission
10/0764/FL	Former Mason's Wood Yard, Land between Railway Lane and Rose Hill, Willenhall	Variation of Condition 10 of 10/0242/FL to allow a wider range of WEEE	N/A

10/0672/WA	Former Green Biodiesel Ltd Site, Collier Close, Walsall WS8 7EU	Change of use to transfer and treatment of hazardous and non-hazardous waste	50,000 tonnes (expansion of existing transfer facility)
10/0749/FL	E L G Haniel Metals Ltd, Heath Road, Darlaston WS10 8LU	Erection of storage building and portacabin	N/A
10/0763/FL	Site Formerly known as Walsall Depot, Norfolk Place, Bloxwich Road, Walsall	Redevelopment of former Council depot with housing	N/A
10/1408/FL	Willenhall Sewage Works (Severn Trent), Anson Road, Willenhall	Erection of a new control kiosk for underground services and tanks	Capacity of tanks not specified
10/1632/TE (registered 07/12/10)	Land off Fryers Road, Walsall	Time extension to 07/0449/OL/W7 and subsequent Reserved Matters under 08/1815/RM to allow additional time to implement the approved development	As specified in previous permissions

Figure G2 below summarises the theoretical net increase in capacity by waste management type from permissions granted 2004/05 – 2010/11 in Walsall where capacity is known. This shows that the main area of expansion has been in applications for material recovery capacity, most notably in 2006/07 when a CLEUD (certificate of lawfulness of existing use or development) was approved for the Greenstar (now Biffa) facility in Aldridge.

Figure G2: Waste Management Permissions



Source: Walsall Council Planning Register

Table G2 below summarises the new waste management capacity implemented in Walsall by type since 2004/05 where the capacity is known, excluding landfill capacity. The facility types are as listed at Section 22 of the Standard Application Form.

Table G2: New Waste Management Capacity Implemented in Walsall 2004/05 – 2009/10, by Type (Where Known) – Tonnes per Annum[72]

Year	Energy from Waste Incineration	Transfer Stations	Material Recovery/ Recycling Facilities (MRFs)	Other Treatment	Recycling facilities - CD&EW	Other Waste Management	TOTAL
2004/05	0	35,000	0	2,500	0	0	**37,500**
2005/06	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	0	**10,000**
2006/07	0	0	0	2,500	0	0	**2,500**
2007/08	0	25,000	62,400	0	74,920	50,000	**212,320**
2008/09	300	74,000	250,000	0	0	0	**324,300**
2009/10	0	3,650	0	0	0	0	**3,650**
2010/11	0	0	22,500	50,000	0	0	**72,500**

Source: Walsall Council Planning Register

The table shows that a significant amount of new waste capacity has been developed since 2004/05. Of the capacity identified above, none had been lost up to 31 March 2011, although one facility has since closed, which will be reported in the next AMR. Whilst transfer facilities still predominate, some recovery facilities have come forward. The most notable of these is the Greenstar MRF in Aldridge completed in 2008/09, which is believed to be the largest facility of its type in the country.

During 2010/11, the following new waste management developments were implemented:

- New material recovery facility (Triple R Solutions) recovering raw materials from redundant electric meters, other WEEE, carpets and redundant electrical cables – 22,500 TPA;
- Expansion of Envirosol hazardous waste transfer station at Coppice Side Industrial Estate in Brownhills into adjacent unit, to provide a wider range of treatments (including) – 50,000 TPA;
- New storage and ancillary office buildings for Chemtech in Brownhills and ELG Haniel Metals in Darlaston - no net increase in capacity indicated in applications.

At 31 March 2011, two new developments approved in 2009/10 were under construction: a new waste recovery facility for Interserve in Aldridge and a new Council depot in Brownhills, which was nearing completion (see section

[72] There are one or two variations in this table compared to similar tables published in previous AMRs, due to a recent review and correction of data from earlier years.

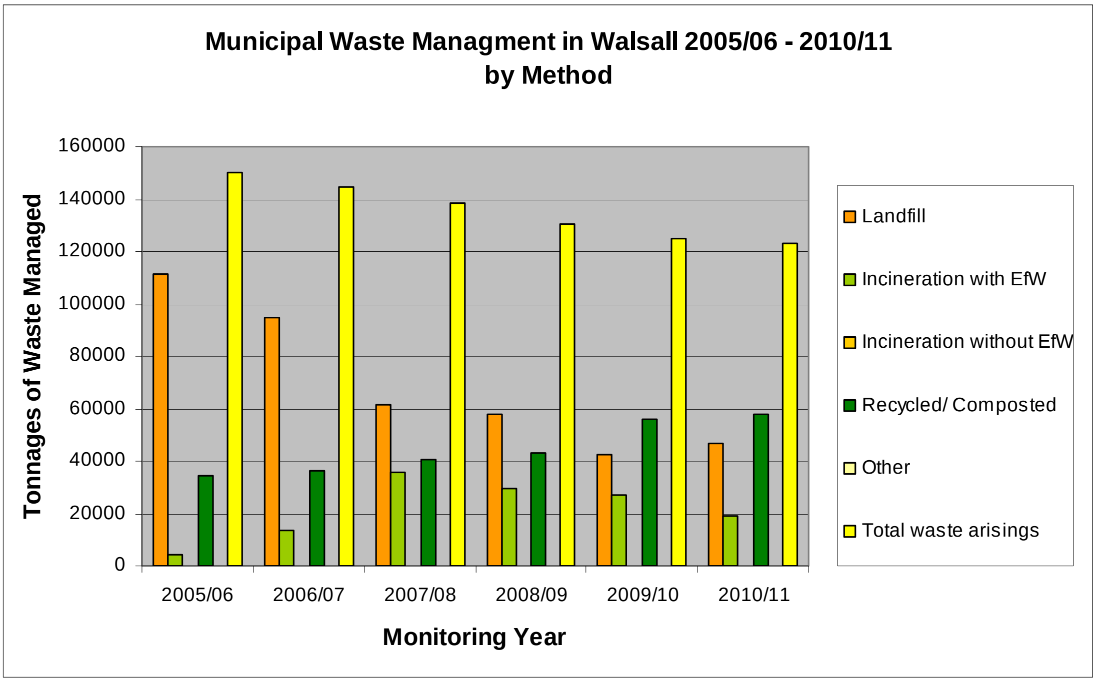
below for details of the depot scheme). Both developments were completed later in 2011. In addition, landfilling with waste finally ceased at Vigo Utopia during 2011, in line with permission 10/0165/FL. Further details of these developments will be reported in the next AMR.

Municipal Waste Management

Nationally, household waste represents only a small proportion of total waste arisings; around 11% in 2008 according to the latest data published by Defra.[73] Household waste accounts for most of the municipal waste collected and managed by councils. However, the term "municipal waste" may now be interpreted as including commercial and industrial wastes of a similar character to household wastes.[74]

Municipal waste arisings in Walsall have continued to fall year on year since 2005/06 (see Figure G3 below), although the decline during the last two monitoring years has been less steep than in previous years. Over this period the amount of municipal waste recycled has increased, and the amount of municipal waste landfilled has fallen.

Figure G3: Municipal Waste Arisings and Management



Source: Walsall Council Street Pride/ WasteDataFlow

In 2010/11, a total of 123,216 tonnes of municipal waste was collected by the Council, compared to 124,917 tonnes in 2009/10 and 130,254 tonnes in 2008/09. Table G3 below summarises municipal waste management performance in 2010/11.

[73] See: http://www.defra.gov.uk/statistics/environment/waste/wrfg01-annsector/

[74] See Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) and Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)

Table G3: Municipal Waste Management in Walsall 2010/11 by Management Method

Management Method	Landfill	EfW	Without EfW	Recycle/ Compost	Other	Total Waste Managed
Amount of waste arising (tonnes)	46,843	18,779	0	57,594	0	**123,216**
Proportion of total waste arisings (%)	38.02%	15.24%	0.00%	46.74%	0.00%	**100.00%**

Due to recent service improvements, Walsall's municipal recycling and composting rate has continued to increase, and in 2010/11 the Council achieved a rate of nearly 47%.

The proportion of Walsall's waste sent for energy recovery is falling, however, and was only 18% in 2010/11 compared to 21% in 2009/10, 23% in 2008/09 and nearly 26% in 2007/08. It should not be surprising that Walsall's municipal waste energy recovery rate is significantly lower than that of authorities with their own energy from waste facility who are typically achieving rates of more than 60%. Walsall's energy recovery performance should improve significantly once the W2R facility (see below) is operational.

Walsall is much less reliant on landfill for managing its municipal waste today than it was in the recent past, and there has been a dramatic fall in the amounts of waste landfilled during the last five years, although there was a slight increase in the amount of waste landfilled in 2010/11 compared to 2009/10. Nevertheless, the current rate of just over 38% represents a significant decrease on the proportion of waste landfilled in 2004/05 (more than 74%).

The Council has benefited from an improved waste collection service and from having contracts in place to send dry recyclable waste to merchant facilities outside the Borough, and green garden waste to composting facilities in Staffordshire (contracts were re-negotiated during 2010/11).

Further improvements to the Borough's municipal waste infrastructure are planned, of which the main projects in the pipeline are as follows.

Relocation of North Walsall Depot

Planning permission was granted for a new Council depot on the former Wagon Automotive site in Brownhills in August 2010. This will replace the existing North Walsall Depot off Green Lane. Work on the new depot started following the grant of permission, was nearing completion at 31 March 2011, and the relocation of the depot was completed in May 2011. During 2010/11, permission was also granted for the redevelopment of the former depot site with housing (in accordance with a UDP allocation).

W2R Energy Recovery Facility, Four Ashes, South Staffordshire

This project is being developed by Staffordshire County Council with three partners, including Walsall Council. Permission has been granted and the preferred bidder (Veolia) has been chosen. The facility is expected to be operational from 2012/13 and will be managing up to 60,000 tonnes of Walsall's residual municipal waste.

The formal partnership agreements were signed in August 2010. A revised planning application was submitted to Staffordshire County Council by Veolia and was approved in February 2011. The revised scheme includes access improvements, and has also been redesigned to have less visual impact than the original scheme, for example, the overall footprint and height of the building have been reduced and the stack has been repositioned. Construction work began in August 2011.

The proposed review of the Council's municipal waste management strategy (MWMS) has been delayed pending the national waste strategy review – see final section below for further details.

Waste Management Targets

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS)

The Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) sets the maximum amounts of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) that can be sent to landfill in each waste planning authority area. Statutory targets are set for each authority for the years 2009/10, 2012/13, aimed at meeting Landfill Directive targets for the UK as a whole.

The year 2009/10 was therefore the first LATS target year. Defra announced in September 2010 that the UK as a whole had met the 2010 statutory target. Walsall has consistently met its allowances for each monitoring year, including the 2010 target. Table G4 below shows that the amount of BMW landfilled by Walsall Council in 2010/11 was again within the allowance set for the authority, although it was higher than in the 2010 target year when only 29,996 of BMW was sent to landfill.

Table G4: Walsall LATS Target and Performance 2009/10: Tonnes of BMW Sent to Landfill[75]

LATS Allowance 2010/11 (tonnes)	Walsall Performance 2010/11 (tonnes)
49,961	32,449

[75] Source: LATS Public Register.

National Indicators (NIs) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs)

Local targets for waste management changed in 2008/09 when the National Indicators (NIs) and Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets replaced the previous Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI). The current LAA targets cover the period 2008/09 – 2010/11. Three of the NIs relate to waste management. These are:

NI191: Residual household waste per head of population (kg)
NI192: Percentage of household waste re-used, recycled or composted
NI193: Percentage of municipal waste landfilled

NI191 is a LAA indicator for Walsall, and targets have been agreed for 2008/09 – 2010/11. The targets have not changed as a result of the 2010 LAA refresh. The Council has also set performance targets for NI192 for the year 2009/10, but not for NI193. The three NIs for waste and the Walsall targets and performance for 2010/11 are in Table G5 below with the LAA target (NI191) highlighted in green.

The table clearly shows that Walsall is significantly exceeding all of the NI and LAA targets set for management of Municipal and household waste. The key achievement during 2009/10 was the significant decrease in the amount of residual household waste collected per head of population.

Table W4: Waste Management National Indicators and LAA Targets for Walsall – Performance in 2010/11[76]

National Indicator	Walsall Targets 2010/11	Direction of Target	Walsall Performance 2010/11
NI191: Residual household waste per head of population (kg)	697.00kg	Maximum (decrease) ⇩	517.75
NI192: Percentage of household waste re-used, recycled or composted	41.00%	⇧ Minimum (increase)	48.61%
NI193: Percentage of municipal waste landfilled	No target set	N/A	38.02%

Although Walsall's household recycling and composting rate continues to improve, other authorities are doing even better and many are now achieving rates in excess of 50%. In 2010/11, six authorities – Bournmouth Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, South Oxfordshire District Council,

[76] Source: Walsall Council Performance Data (unpublished) and Defra Municipal Waste Management Data 2010/11, November 2010, published on Defra website.

Rochford Borough Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council, and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council – achieved household recycling and composting rates of 60% or more.

Looking to the Future – New Policy Requirements and Targets

Local Policy Developments

The NI and LAA indicators and targets referred to above ceased to exist after April 2011. The set of national indicators (Nis) has been replaced by the new "Single Data List" and there is also no longer any requirement for local authorities to have a LAA. However, other targets may be set through the review of the Walsall Sustainable Community Strategy.

The current Walsall Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) published in 2008 includes an aspiration to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill (3.2.3). The Council's corporate plan for the period 2011/12 – 2014/15 (approved in April 2011) also includes an objective to encourage residents to recycle more waste. The SCS is now being revised by the Walsall Partnership Board to support the work of the six Area Partnerships and the Area Plans they are developing. However, at present it is not clear whether the revised SCS will include any specific targets for waste management.

The national waste strategy review (see below) has also affected progress on the review of the Council's municipal waste management strategy (MWMS). The Council was intending to produce a consultation document during 2011, but this has not been possible, and further work has been put "on hold" pending the publication of the draft national strategy. A further update on the situation will be included in the 2012 AMR.

Sub-Regional Policy Developments

At a sub-regional level, the adoption of the Core Strategy means that monitoring arrangements are being put into place, as indicated above. These will ensure a consistent approach towards data collection and management across the four authorities.

Walsall Council and the other Black Country authorities are also developing a common "business friendly" approach towards development management, an initiative that is being led by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). As part of this a joint Validation Checklist is being developed, linked to the Core Strategy policy requirements. This is expected to be published for public consultation early in 2012.

The overall objective is to make the process of submitting an application easier by minimising the amount of information that has to be provided. This approach is consistent with current Government objectives to reduce "red tape." However, future monitoring of waste management infrastructure could be made more difficult if applicants are no longer required to provide information on the capacity of proposed waste management schemes.

National Policy Developments

New national targets for waste management are likely to be set through the national waste strategy review, which was announced in June 2010. The review is aimed at implementing the provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC). New regulations to transpose the Directive into UK legislation came into effect in April and September 2011,[77] and the results of the "call for evidence" for the review (July - October 2010) were published in June 2011.

At the same time that the policy review documents were published, there were preliminary announcements on the future direction of Government policy on waste, including:

- Confirmation of a general commitment towards achieving a "zero waste economy;"

- A new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Strategy and Action Plan aimed at delivering an increase in AD infrastructure, because it is considered more environmentally beneficial than other waste to energy technologies;

- A proposal to end the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) in England after the 2012/13 target year because it is no longer the main driver for diverting waste away from landfill;

- A proposal to reduce the amount of data collected on household and municipal waste through the WasteDataFlow system; and

- A proposal to review whether the requirement for Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs) should continue.

The national waste strategy review is likely to result in new national targets for diversion of waste from landfill and for re-use and recycling of waste, reflecting the aspirations and targets of the Waste Framework Directive. These will in turn need to be reflected in any local targets set in future land use, waste management and neighbourhood plans.

It is not clear what effect these changes will have on local targets for waste, but it seems likely that new indicators and targets will need to be developed for Walsall Borough, possibly through the SCS and MWMS. The Site Allocations DPD may also refine the waste management indicators and targets for Walsall set out in the Core Strategy. Any new developments on waste targets and indicators at a national, sub-regional or local level will be reported in the 2012 AMR.

[77] The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011 No. 988): http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2011/988/contents/made

APPENDIX H – UDP POLICY ALLIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Walsall UDP 2005 Monitoring Indicators	Walsall Corporate Plan 2010/11 nine priorities	Walsall's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 - 2021 priorities	Summary
Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment • Accessible and sustainable places for business	The protection of Green Belt helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space. It also helps to maintain the environmental quality of the borough. In addition it encourages the sustainable location of development on brown field sites.
Tree planting	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment	Tree planting provides opportunities for outdoor recreation and leisure whilst protecting and providing for the natural environment. It can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change through reducing the urban heat island effect.
Progress towards the achievements of the targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment	The protection of wildlife in the borough is part of improving the quality of the environment and encouraging healthy lifestyles.
Protection of sites of nature conservation	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment	The protection of sites of nature conservation helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space while maintaining the environmental quality of the borough.
Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest	• Improving the quality of our environment	• Improving the quality of our environment • Vibrant Town and	The protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest provides educational potential and helps to

		Neighbourhood centres • Improving education and skills	maintain the environmental quality and vibrancy of the borough.
Land developed for employment uses	• Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential	• Developing strong and dynamic communities • Creating opportunity and potential • Research and development • Working with employers to create jobs and opportunities,	The development of land for employment land is fundamental in reducing worklessness and proving opportunities. It is needed to attract further investment into the borough and to ensure communities are dynamic.
The proportion of development that takes place on Brownfield sites	• Improving the quality of our environment	• Improving the quality of our environment • Accessible and sustainable places for business • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres	The development of Brownfield land is important in improving the environmental quality and sustainability of the borough.
The extent to which New Employment Sites allocated in Policy JP1 are successfully protected from loss to other inappropriate uses	• Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential	• Creating opportunity and potential • Accessible and sustainable places for business • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood	The protection of employment sites is fundamental in providing enough land of the right quality to meet the full range of employment needs. This helps to attract investment and reduce worklessness

		centres • Research and development	
Proportion of development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses that takes place in established centres.	• Improving the quality of our environment • Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential	• Creating opportunity and potential • Accessible and sustainable places for business • Improving the quality of our environment • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres • Research and development	Concentration of activities enhances the vitality and viability of the town centre and other established centres. This also ensures such services and facilities are accessible to the community. The viability of the Town and District centres directly impacts on investment throughout the borough.
Amount of vacant floor space in centres.	• Reducing crime and feeling safe • Improving the quality of our environment • Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential	• Creating opportunity and potential • Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment • Accessible and sustainable places for business • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres • Research and development	The amount of vacant floor space in centres indicates the vibrancy and viability of centres. Increased surveillance and quality of environment provided by reduced vacancy rate in centres helps to reduce crime and make residents feel safer in their neighbourhoods.

The reduction of vacancy rates in the existing housing stock	• Reducing crime and feeling safe • Developing strong and dynamic communities • Improving housing choice	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing choice • Improving the quality of our environment	The reduction of housing vacancy rates plays a role in meeting housing needs and improving the environmental quality of residential areas. Increased surveillance and quality of environment provided by reduced vacancy rate in housing stock helps to reduce crime and make residents feel safer.
Progress towards RSS target for the provision of additional dwellings	• Improving housing choice,	• Improving housing choice • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres	Meeting housing targets is crucial to meeting housing needs in the borough which it turn helps to ensure the vibrancy of town and neighbourhood centres.
The contribution of windfall sites to housing provision	• Improving housing choice	• Improving housing choice	Housing developments on windfall sites helps to meet housing needs in the borough which it turn helps to ensure the vibrancy of town and neighbourhood centres.
Provision of housing on previously developed sites	• Improving housing choice • Improving the quality of our environment	• Improving housing choice • Improving the quality of our environment,	The development of previously developed land is fundamental to improving the environmental quality and sustainability of the borough.
Affordable housing completions	• Improving housing choice • Developing strong and dynamic communities	• Improving housing choice	The provision of affordable housing is crucial in ensuring that housing needs of all the community are met within the borough.
The density of new development	• Improving housing choice • Developing strong and	• Improving housing choice	The density of housing is important in making the most efficient use of housing land in order to meet housing needs in

	dynamic communities		the borough. .
The types and sizes of dwelling built - aim to achieve a mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances	• Improving housing choice • Developing strong and dynamic communities	• Improving housing choice	Ensuring that there are a good mix of types and sizes of dwellings being developed within the borough is important in ensuring that all housing needs are met.
Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target	• Improving the quality of our environment • Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential • Developing strong and dynamic communities	• Creating opportunity and potential • Improving access to employment, services and facilities • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres	An increase in the amount of journeys made by bus can help increase the sustainability of the borough and therefore improve the quality of environment. Increase in bus journeys also shows that services, jobs and facilities are being assessed by the community.
Increase the number of rail passenger journeys	• Improving the quality of our environment • Reducing worklessness and creating opportunity and potential • Developing strong and dynamic communities	• Creating opportunity and potential • Improving the quality of our environment • Improving access to employment, services and facilities • Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres	The increase in rail journeys acts as a way to encourage inward investment, attract shoppers and visitors to the town and District Centres. It also increases the sustainability of the borough and therefore improves the quality of the environment.
Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target	• Improving the quality of our environment,	• Improving the quality of our environment • Improving access to employment, services and facilities	The level of traffic and congestion can impact on the economy and deter investment so it is important that it is measured and controlled.

		• Vibrant Town and Neighbourhood centres	
Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving the quality of our environment,	The increased use of bikes helps to promote healthy lifestyles in the community and increase the sustainability of the borough.
Car parking provision for new housing development in line with standards in T13	• Improving housing choice • Improving the quality of our environment,	• Improving housing choice • Improving the quality of our environment,	The provision of car parking needs to be sufficient enough to avoid road safety and amenity problems while still encouraging more sustainable modes of transport.
Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing choice	Improvements or maintenance in the quality of open space helps to promote healthy lifestyles in the community and help to make the borough more attractive.
Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing choice	The protection of open spaces helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space. It also helps to maintain the attractiveness and environmental sustainability of Walsall.
Provision of new urban open spaces	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing choice	The provision of new open spaces helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space.
Local Output Indicator - Length of greenways constructed	• Improving health • Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing	An increase in greenways helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space.

		choice	Greenways are also key in ensuring the environmental sustainability of the borough.
Protection of playing fields/sports pitches	• Improving health, Improving the quality of our environment	• Feeling safe and being healthy • Improving housing choice	The protection of playing fields/sports pitches helps to promote healthy living through the provision of recreational space.
Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets.[78]	• Improving the quality of our environment	• Improving housing choice • Research and development,	Sustainable waste management forms part of ensuring the environmental sustainability of the borough while promoting investment in this sector of the economy.

[78] In February 2011, the UDP policies to which this indicator was linked were replaced with new waste management policies in the Black Country Core Strategy, which have new indicators and targets attached to them.

APPENDIX I – SUMMARY OF POLICY PERFORMANCE

Topic Area	UDP Policy /Indicator	Target	Performance
Environment	Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development	100% protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development	G
	Change in areas of biodiversity importance	Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including: (i) change in priority habitats and species (by type) (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	G
	Progress in relation to targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and the Black Country	Appendix C provides further detailed information on this indicator	R
	Tree Planting	Progress in relation to targets in forest plans/strategies	A
	Historic Environment: Protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest	100% protection of buildings of historic or architectural interest	G
	Conservation Area Management: Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies	5 to be prepared by April 2009	G
	Renewable Energy capacity installed by type		R
	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the EA on either flood risk or water quality	None	G
Jobs and Prosperity	Land developed for employment uses	13 ha per annum	R
	The proportion of development that takes place on Brownfield Sites	95% of all land developed	G
	The extent to which the New Employment Sites allocated in policy JP1 are successfully protected from	95% of the total area	G

	loss to other, inappropriate uses		
Strengthening Our Centres	Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (relates to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) within the LA area	None	**G**
	Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (relates to town centre uses in Use Classes A1, A2, B1a and D2) within town centres	None	**R**
	The proportion of all retail, leisure and other 'town centre' uses that takes place in established centres	90%	**R**
	Amount of vacant floor space in centres	Vacancies to be at or below the national average	**R**
Housing	Housing Land Supply	5 year supply of 2,293 net additional dwellings	**G**
	Net additional dwellings over the previous 5 year period	No meaningful target	RAG N/A
	Net additional dwellings for the current year	450 net	**G**
	Projected net additional dwellings up to 2026	a) Net additional dwellings 2011-2026 = 8930 b) Hectares 2012-2016 = No land area target in BCCS c) Target dwelling numbers 2012-17 = 2484	RAG N/A
	Managed delivery target	460 dwellings per annum	RAG N/A
	Percentage of New and Converted Dwellings on Previously Developed Land	Planning Policy Statement 3 sets a target of 60%. UDP policy H1 sets a target of 95%	**G**
	Additional Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers	None	**A**
	Gross Affordable Housing Completions	3,600 additional affordable homes over the period 1991-2011	**G**
	Building for Life Assessments (BfL)	The number and proportion of total new build completions on housing sites reaching very good, good, average and poor ratings against the BfL criteria	**R**
	Vacancy Rates in Existing Housing Stock	Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011	**A**
	Housing Windfall Sites	Annual average of 275 dwellings per annum	**G**
	Density of New Development	Overall average density of new residential development	**G**

		during the year to be at least 30 dwellings per hectare	
	Mix of Dwelling Types	To achieve a mix of types and sizes appropriate to local circumstances at the time the dwellings are constructed	A
Transport	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	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	G
	Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target	LTP target is to increase bus use within West Mids Met Area to 355 million trips per year by 2010/11	A
	Car parking provision for new housing development in line with standards in T13	Car park spaces to meet the standards within UDP Policy T13	G
	Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target	LTP target is for no more than a 7% increase in road traffic mileage between 2004 and 2010	G
	Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target	LTP Target is 1% increase in cycling index between 2003/04 and 2010/11	G
Leisure and Community	Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	Retention of existing Green Flag sites and award of new sites as per Green Space Strategy	A
	Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development	100% protection	G
	Provision of new urban open spaces	At least 24 hectares of new urban open space 1991-2011	G
	Length of greenways constructed	At least another 10 miles (16 km) 2002 - 2011	G
	Protection of playing fields / sports pitches	100% protection	G
Minerals	Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority	Proposed sub-regional sand and gravel apportionment for the West Midlands County published by the West Midlands AWP in 2010: 0.550 million tonnes per annum	R

		This requirement is expected to be met by Solihull MBC and Walsall Council, as they are the only authorities in the West Midlands County area with active sand and gravel quarries.	
	Production of secondary/recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority	No local target set. National and regional guidelines assume that the West Midlands region as a whole will produce 6.25 million tonnes of alternative materials (secondary and recycled aggregate) per annum	**A**
	Supply of clay to brick manufacturing plants	Local target set in the Black Country Core Strategy is to meet the national requirement for a 25-year supply of brick clay to each operational or proposed brick manufacturing plant (MPS1, Annex 2), where feasible.	**R**
Waste	Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority (by type)	No targets were set in the Walsall UDP but the following targets are set in the Black Country Core Strategy up to 2026 for Walsall: • New waste management infrastructure with capacity to divert at least 110,000 tonnes of commercial and industrial waste away from landfill; and • New waste transfer capacity of at least 35,000 tonnes per annum. Core Strategy also indicates that where monitoring shows there has been a significant net loss in existing capacity, this will result in a corresponding increase in the target requirements.	**G**

	Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority	Current national waste strategy (2007) sets the following targets for recovery of municipal waste (includes re-use, material recovery, recycling, composting and energy recovery): 53% by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020. However, the national waste strategy is currently under review so the targets are likely to change.	**G**
	Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and against national, regional and local waste management targets	• Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) allowance for Walsall 2010/11 – maximum 49,961 tonnes of BMW sent to landfill • NI191:maximum 697.00kg residual household waste collected per head of population (also LAA target) • NI192: minimum 41.00% household waste re-used, recycled, composted • NI193: municipal waste landfilled - no local targets set for 2010/11.	**G**

APPENDIX J – REPLACEMENT / RETENTION OF INDICATORS

The relevant source documents should be checked for the full definitions of each indicator. The detailed definitions may vary between documents.

Description of Indicator	Core Output Indicator?	Current UDP Policy	Saved or Replaced?	Notes
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME				
Adoption of local development documents setting out details of infrastructure to be provided or supported			Indicator for BCCS DEL1	*New indicator*
Adoption of Site Allocation Documents and Area Action Plans covering the whole of the Black Country as per each LA Local Development Scheme			Indicator for BCCS DEL2	*New indicator*
ENVIRONMENT				
Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.		ENV2	Saved	
Tree Planting		ENV18	Saved	
Protection of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance		ENV19	Replaced by BCCS ENV1	*New indicator (but see also former COI E2 below)*
Progress in relation to targets in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Birmingham and the Black Country	Former 8(i)			
Change in areas of biodiversity importance	E2			*Similar to BCCS ENV1 – see above*
Protection of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest		ENV27-31	Replaced by BCCS ENV2	
Preparation of character appraisals and management strategies for conservation areas				*This is not an indicator in the UDP or the BCCS*
Installation of renewable energy generating capacity	E3	Formerly ENV39	Replaced by BCCS ENV7	
Number of planning permissions granted	E1		Indicator for BCCS ENV5	

contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency concerning either flood risk or water quality				
Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with recommendations of historic environment advisor			Indicator for BCCS ENV2 and ENV4	*New Indicator*
Proportion of major planning permissions adequately addressing By Design, Manual for Streets and Code for Sustainable Homes/ BREEAM standards, as appropriate			Indicator for BCCS ENV3	*New Indicator*
Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with British Waterway's planning related advice			Indicator for BCCS ENV4	*New Indicator*
Proportion of major planning permissions including appropriate Sustainable Drainage Systems			Indicator for BCCS ENV5	*New Indicator*
Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with air quality/ environmental protection advisors' recommendations			Indicator for BCCS ENV8	*New Indicator*
JOBS AND PROSPERITY				
Area of land developed for employment purposes		JP1	Saved. See also BCCS EMP1-EMP3	Also BCCS DEL2
Amount of employment land that is available	BD3		Indicator for BCCS EMP1-EMP4	Also BCCS DEL2
Floorspace developed for employment purposes	BD1			*No longer required?*
Proportion of employment development that takes place on brownfield sites	BD2	JP1	Saved. See also BCCS CSP1 and CSP2	
Protection of allocated new employment sites		JP1	Saved. See also BCCS EMP1	
Area of land that is developed or lost for employment purposes, by local authority and land quality type			Indicator for BCCS EMP2 and BCCS EMP3	

Planning obligations making provision for targeted recruitment or training			Indicator for BCCS EMP5	*New Indicator*
STRENGTHENING OUR CENTRES				
Amount of development for town centre (A1, A2, B1(a) and D2) uses	BD4		Indicator for BCCS CEN1 and CEN2	
Proportion of development for town centre uses that take place in established centres		S1-S5	Saved. Also Indicator for BCCS CEN1 to CEN7	
Extent of vacant floorspace in centres		S1-S5	Saved	
HOUSING				
Housing Land Supply	H1		Indicator for BCCS HOU1 and HOU2	Data is also required by PPS3
Number of additional dwellings completed during year	H2(b)	6.3 and H1	Indicator for BCCS HOU1 and HOU2	Data is also required by Regulation 48(7) of the Local Development Regulations 2004 BCCS requires breakdown for each regeneration corridor, strategic centre, free-standing employment site and sites outside the growth network
Additional dwellings completed over previous 5 year period	H2(a)			Regulation 48(7) requires the AMR to state the total number of dwellings completed since the relevant development plan document was adopted. For the BCCS, this is the period since April 2006
Projected additional dwellings to 2026	H2(c)		Indicator for BCCS HOU1 and HOU2	
Managed delivery target (5 year target)	H2(d)		Indicator for BCCS HOU1 and HOU2	Data is also required by PPS3
Contribution of windfall sites to housing provision		6.3	Not saved	PPS3 sets an expectation that the supply of land for housing should be based upon specific sites.
Provision of housing on previously developed sites	H3	6.3 and H1	Replaced by BCCS HOU1	Data is also required by PPS3

Provision of affordable housing	H5	H4	Replaced by BCCS HOU3	
Additional pitches for gypsies and travellers	H4	Formerly H8	Replaced by BCCS HOU4	Data is also required by Circulars 1/06 and 4/07
Building for life assessments	H6		Indicator for BCCS ENV3	
Density of new housing development		H9	Indicator for BCCS HOU2	
Types and sizes of new dwellings		H10	Indicator for BCCS HOU2, ENV2 and ENV3	
Vacancy rate in existing housing stock		H1	Saved	
TRANSPORT				
Use of bus services		T2	Saved, also BCCS TRAN1 and CEN8	
Use of rail services		T3	Saved, also BCCS TRAN1 and CEN8	
Volume of road traffic		T1 to T5	Saved, also BCCS TRAN1 and CEN8	
Cycle usage		T9	Saved, also BCCS TRAN4	
Car parking for new housing development		T13	Saved	
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.	Former 3b	T12 (but not a UDP Indicator)	Indicator for BCCS HOU2	
Development plan documents to identify and safeguard land to meet transport requirements			Indicator for BCCS TRAN1	*New Indicator*
Safeguarding existing and disused railway lines, and protection of sites with existing or potential rail access			Indicator for BCCS TRAN3	*New Indicator*
Provision of contributions in planning applications towards transport works and travel plans			Indicator for BCCS TRAN2	*New Indicator*
Reduction of long stay parking in strategic centres			Indicator for BCCS TRAN5	*New Indicator*
LEISURE AND COMMUNITY				

Protection of existing urban open spaces		LC1	Saved	
Provision of additional urban open spaces		LC1 and LC2	Saved, also BCCS ENV6	
Amount of accessible open space			Indicator for BCCS ENV6	
Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard (local output indicator)	Former 4c	LC1 (but not a UDP indicator)	Saved	
Length of new greenways constructed		LC5	Saved	
Loss of Education and Health Care capacity			Indicator for BCCS HOU5	
Loss of regionally significant visitor and cultural facilities			Indicator for BCCS EMP6	
MINERALS				
Production of primary land won aggregates	M1	Strategic Policy Statement 9.9, Polices M2 and M3	Replaced by BCCS MIN1 to MIN5	
Production of secondary/recycled aggregates	M2	Strategic Policy Statement 9.4	Replaced by BCCS WM5 and MIN2	
Proposed New Local Indicator: Supply of clay to brick manufacturing plants		Strategic Policy Statement 9.4	Replaced by BCCS MIN3	
Sterilisation of mineral resources by non-mineral development proposals			Indicator for BCCS MIN1	
Applications for mineral working and related development that satisfy the requirements of the policies			Indicator for BCCS MIN4 and MIN5	
WASTE				
Progress in relation to national, regional and local waste management indicators		WM1 to WM4	Replaced by BCCS WM1 to WM5	
Capacity of new waste management facilities	W1	Policies WM1 - WM3	Replaced by BCCS WM1 to WM4	
Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed	W2	Strategic Policy Statement 10.1, Policies WM1 and WM4	Replaced by BCCS WM1	
Progress with initiatives for more sustainable waste management, and		Strategic Policy Statement 10.4 and	Replaced by BCCS WM1 to WM5	

against national, regional and local waste management targets		10.6		
Proportion of major planning applications that provide supporting information on resource management			Indicator for BCCS WM5	

The Sustainability Appraisal for the BCCS also requires a number of Significant Indicators to be monitored as below: It should be noted that some of these indicators are already monitored as listed above.

Potential negative effect / area for improvement	**Indicator**	**Target/Trigger**	**Links to Baseline**
Impact of highway improvements on air quality	No. of days when air pollution is moderate or high for NO2 or PM10	When number of days exceeds year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, air quality
Potential adverse effects on brownfield biodiversity	Percentage of development and redevelopment on previously developed land undertaking full habitat surveys	When percentage reduces year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, biodiversity and geodiversity
Potential effects on biodiversity from increased use of open space for leisure and recreation	Area (ha) of green space administered by the Black Country Authorities incorporating biodiversity considerations into management regimes	When area reduces year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, biodiversity and geodiversity

Expansion of high quality sub-regional wildlife corridors forming the wider biodiversity network	Length of wildlife corridor in positive management for biodiversity benefit	Target to be determined through EIG Phase 2	JCS SA Scoping Report, biodiversity and geodiversity
Stimulation of care use by the planned road improvements and housing and employment provision increases	Traffic flows on key routes	When flows increase year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, accessibility and transportation
Failure to tackle congestion and effectively implement proposed public transport strategy improvements and associated effects on businesses	Number of VAT registrations	When percentage decreases year on year	JCS SA scoping report, economic factors
Increase in greenhouse gas emissions from new housing, employment and infrastructure provision	Carbon footprint of sub-region	When sector missions increase year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, climate change

Increase in greenhouse gas emissions from new housing, employment and infrastructure provision	Carbon emissions per £10,000 GVA (tCO2)	When sector missions increase year on year	JCS S Scoping Report, climate change
Potential deficiency in area of public open space	Ha of Accessible Natural Greenspace per 1.000 population	Target 1, 100 ha of accessible natural greenspace	JCS SA Scoping Report, landscape
Potential to use Historic Landscape Characterisation to inform decision making	Percentage of new developments which are informed by detailed characterisation studies	When percentage reduces year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, historic environment and landscape
Increase car use in the sub-region	Proportion of people travelling to work by public transport or walking and cycling	When percentage reduces year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, accessibility and transportation
Potential to reduce energy consumption from commercial activities	Total industry and commercial energy consumption (GWh) per £billion GVA	When consumption rises year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, material assets, climate change
Potential increases in industrial and commercial waste	Proportion of industrial and commercial waste sent to landfill	When percentage rises year on year	JCS SA Scoping Report, material assets

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