

Local Plan Monitoring Report 2016

(Authority's Monitoring Report)

Monitoring Year April 2015 – March 2016



Walsall Council

About this Report

This Local Plan Monitoring Report contains a lot of information about Walsall. It explains the extent to which targets set out in the Council's planning policies for new housing, employment and other types of development, and for the protection of the environment, are being met, and how the Council's area is performing against other national, regional and local targets.

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

www.walsall.gov.uk/annual_monitoring_report

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 published in a Glossary at **www.walsall.gov.uk/planning_policy**

Disclaimer: This Local Plan 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 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (section 113) and Regulation 34 of the Local Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended). 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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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This monitoring report has been produced in accordance with the requirements of Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended by section 113 of the Localism Act 2011 and Regulation 34 of the Local Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended). The requirements of the Localism Act 2011 mean that this report can no longer be referred to as an 'Annual Monitoring Report' (AMR) and has therefore been renamed to 'Local Plan Monitoring Report' (LPMR). This title has been selected to ensure the intention of the report is made clear to its readers but is legally known as the 'Authority's Monitoring Report'.

1.2 The purpose of the report is to report on the implementation of the Council's local development scheme (LDS), the extent to which the planning policies set out in its local plan are being achieved and information on how we are meeting the Duty to Co-operate requirement. This report also contains an introductory section on "Contextual Indicators" to provide some general background information about the area, including population, the state of the economy, the environment, and the quality of life.

1.3 The LDS is the programme agreed by the Council to prepare and update its planning policies. The purpose of this LPMR 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.

1.4 This is Walsall Council's twelfth monitoring report and covers the period from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. This is the fifth year that reports on progress of implementing the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS), which was adopted in February 2011 and replaces certain policies in Walsall's 2005 Unitary Development Plan (UDP). This means that for some new indicators, progress will be shown from the date of adoption of the BCCS in February 2011, and in other cases from "baseline" information included within the BCCS.

1.5 This report will set out:

- Progress on implementing the policies in the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) 2011;
- Progress on implementing the "saved" policies of the Walsall Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2005.

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

1.7 Monitoring is an essential element of policy making. Within this context the Local Plan Monitoring Report is the main mechanism for assessing the performance of the Walsall "Local Plan," which currently comprises the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) 2011 and the remaining "saved" policies of the Walsall Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2005. 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 Local Plan is being delivered at the right time and in the right locations, and whether the Local Plan environmental protection policies are effective.

1.8 Section 113(5) of the Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to make the Local Plan Monitoring Report available to the public. A hard copy will be available at our First Stop Shop and will also be made available electronically on the Council's website.

1.9 Annual monitoring can show the effectiveness of planning policies in delivering development in the right places and at the right times. 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.

2. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING THE YEAR

Plan - Making

2.1 The Localism Act (2011) requires local planning authorities to make a monitoring report available to the public in the interest of transparency and accountability. Local Planning Authorities can now choose to publish monitoring reports sooner than the previous annual period, provided they begin on the end date of the last monitoring report. However, there are no current plans to change the period of monitoring across the Black Country and reports will therefore continue to be published on an annual basis to provide effective and consistent policy monitoring information.

2.2 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 Walsall town centre area action plan and the site allocations document. These documents set out a vision for the development of the area up to 2026, and promote Walsall as an area for investment.

Delivering Development

2.3 for the fourth year running, recorded housing completions during the monitoring year 2015-16 showed an increase over those in the previous year, and were much higher than expected by the trajectory on the BCCS.

2.4 Housing completions are reflected in payments received from the New Homes Bonus, however there is a time lag between completions occurring and payment being received. The New Homes Bonus is paid in monthly installations with the amount to be paid over the next 12 months announced in April but based on housing completions over the preceding October to September (using data from the Council Tax Base). This means that payments can be up to 18 months in arrears. In addition, the total amount received each year includes payment for new homes completed up to 6 years previously, from the introduction of the scheme in 2011.

2.5 Total payments of £5,019,544 were made over the 2015-16 monitoring period, of which £1,173,988 was for completions in the most recent recorded year (October 2013 to September 2014).

2.6 A total of 5.99ha of land was developed in 2015/16 for employment uses in contrast to 4.72ha in 2014/15.

2.7 The new Primark developed opened in Walsall Town Centre accounting for the first new major retail investment in the town centre for a number of years helping towards the BCCS target for additional comparison floorspace.

The scheme also acts as an anchor for the Digbeth end of town drawing shoppers up the high street from the Crown Wharf area acting as a catalyst for further development in the area with a scheme coming forward at the site opposite. A new cinema opened creating a new leisure development within Walsall Town Centre at the Waterfront, this included a number of new family restaurants and is part of two stages of development in the area creating a new leisure destination in the centre. There was also a significant new office development completed this year marking the first private sector investment in the town centre within the Gigaport area. This development is complemented by Walsall College opening their new Sports and Business Hub in the year, enhancing their student offer and improving the range of sports and health facilities open to the public. The hub also includes incubator units which should help to encourage the development of future businesses in Walsall.

2.8 The “brownfield first” strategy of the BCCS continued to be supported as all new employment development and 95% of new housing development took place on previously developed land. In several instances there were applications involving inappropriate development in the green belt. However, in all of these cases very special circumstances were demonstrated, outweighing any harm to the green belt.

3. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

3.1 It is important to use a range of up-to-date demographic and socio-economic information when preparing plans. . Local plan policies can have a major effect on some indicators relating to this information, for example by ensuring that land is provided for homes and employment. The following baseline data is published elsewhere by the bodies listed below so is not reproduced in this report.

Measure/Dataset	Source
Population by Age Group	Mid-Year Resident Population Estimates, ONS
Population by Ethnic Group	2011 Census, ONS
Population Projections	2012-Based Population Projections, ONS
Area	Ordnance Survey
Deprivation by District	Indices Of Deprivation, DCLG
Deprivation by Sub-District	Indices Of Deprivation, DCLG
Economic Activity	Annual Population Survey, ONS
Employment by Industry	Business Register and Employment Survey, ONS
Earnings	Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, ONS
Unemployment (JSA Claimants)	JSA Claimant Data, ONS
Unemployment (JSA Long-Term Claimants)	JSA Claimant Data, ONS
Business Births	Business Demography, ONS
Business Survivals	Business Demography, ONS
NVQ Level 4 Attainment	Annual Population Survey, ONS
No Qualifications	Annual Population Survey, ONS
Pupil GCSE Attainment	Department for Education
Dwellings	Department for Communities and Local Government
Vacant Dwellings	Department for Communities and Local Government
Dwelling Tenure	Department for Communities and Local Government
House Price	Land Registry
Travel Into Centres (Modal Split)	Annual Statistical Report, Centro
Method of Travel to Work	2001 Census, ONS
Life Expectancy (Males and Females)	Life Expectancy Figures, ONS
Obesity in Children	National Child Measurement Program
Crime	Home Office / Police.UK

CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

3.2 Introduction to The Black Country - The Black Country is a sub-region of the West Midlands located to the west of Birmingham. In local government terms the Black Country is defined as the four local authority districts of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Figure 1 – The Black Country

The Location of the Black Country Local Authority Districts in Relation to the West Midlands conurbation and Great Britain



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3.3 Walsall Metropolitan Borough is in the West Midlands region and lies to the north-west of Birmingham. The borough covers an area of some 41 square miles (104 km²) of which over one third is green belt and around 20% is classified as Urban Open Space / Greenspace.

4. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE

4.1 This section of the report looks at the progress the Council has made in producing the documents that make up the Local Plan for Walsall during the period April 1st 2015 to March 31st 2016. 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.

4.2 In June 2011 the Council's Cabinet approved the preparation of three documents, a Site Allocation Document (SAD), an Area Action Plan (AAP) for Walsall Town Centre, and the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule and associated Infrastructure Plan. Unfortunately there has been considerable slippage in the preparation programme and LDS agreed at that time. Cabinet therefore agreed in September 2014 to update the LDS with a revised timetable as set out in Table 2 below:

Table 2 – LDS Progress

Document	LDS Milestone	Target	Actual	Progress	Comments – inc Reason(s) if behind timetable
Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS)	Adopted on 3rd February 2011	February 2011	February 2011	G	
Site Allocations Development Plan Document (SAD)	Issues and Options Consultation	April 2013	April 2013	G	22nd April - 3rd June 2013 - 6 weeks consultation
	Preferred Options Cabinet	June / July 2015	-	G	
	Preferred Options Consultation	August 2015	September - November 2015	G	8 weeks consultation
	Publication Version Cabinet	January 2016	February 2016	A	(if no further evidence / consultation required)
	Publication Consultation	February 2016	7th March – 3rd May 2016	A	8 week public consultation on final draft plan

	Council Approval for Submission	June 2016		A	
	Submission to Secretary of State	July 2016		A	
	Examination (by Planning Inspector)	Autumn 2016		A	
	Adoption	Autumn 2016		A	
Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP)	Issues and Options Consultation	April 2013	April 2013	G	22nd April - 3rd June 2013 - 6 weeks consultation
	Preferred Options Cabinet	June / July 2015		G	
	Preferred Options Consultation	August 2015	September - November 2015	G	August - September 2015 - 6 weeks consultation (may be extended)
	Publication Version agreed by Cabinet	January 2016	February 2016	A	(if no further evidence / consultation required)
	Publication Consultation	February 2016	7th March – 3rd May 2016	A	8 week public consultation on final draft plan
	Council Approval for Submission	June 2016		A	
	Submission to Secretary of State	July 2016		A	
	Examination (by Planning Inspector)	Autumn 2016		A	
	Adoption	Autumn 2016		A	

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND FUTURE ACTIONS

4.4 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations in April 2010, and subsequent CIL amendment regulations have been introduced that provide a basis for Local Authorities to prepare a CIL Charging Schedule setting out rates that are payable per m² for most forms of new development. Walsall Council is preparing and consulting on a CIL Charging Schedule, Regulation 123 list and Infrastructure Delivery Plan in parallel with the consultations on the SAD and AAP. More information can be found at:

www.walsall.gov.uk/community_infrastructure_levy.

4.5 The Site Allocation Document (SAD) allocates uses for sites and areas of land across the entire Borough (excluding the town and district centres) and the Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) sets out a framework to allocate land uses and a strategy for improvement in Walsall town centre.

4.6 The Preferred Options consultation on the SAD and AAP took place from 7 September – 2 November 2015. This was accompanied by a consultation on the Preliminary Draft CIL Charging Schedule which ran at the same time. Consultation on the Publication Draft versions of the SAD and AAP was underway at the end of the monitoring year in March 2016. More information can be found at:

www.walsall.gov.uk/planning_2026

4.7 The Council has agreed a strategy for the review of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to bring them in line with changes to national policy. Further details can be found at

www.walsall.gov.uk/ldf_supplementary_planning_documents

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL PLAN POLICIES

5.1 The adoption of the BCCS in February 2011 resulted in some indicators that were formerly in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) being superseded whilst other new indicators were introduced. In the case of the new indicators, in most cases these relate to Black Country-wide targets. We have therefore reported the contribution that developments in Walsall have made to these targets.

5.2 In March 2012, the previous Government guidance on monitoring reports was withdrawn, reflecting the changes to the legal framework for annual monitoring noted in Section 1 above. The national Core Output Indicators (COIs) in the old guidance were included in the BCCS, alongside Local Output Indicators (LOIs) specific to each policy. However, as we are no longer required to monitor performance against these indicators, the COIs have only been retained where they are relevant to Local Plan policy and where they do not duplicate the LOIs in the BCCS.

5.3 The BCCS LOIs generally refer to progress across the Black Country as a whole. However, unless stated otherwise, the achievements set out in the tables below only refer to developments in Walsall. The main exceptions are some of the indicators on waste and minerals, as several of the BCCS targets relate to the Black Country. These tables therefore include data for the Black Country as well as for Walsall Borough, for comparison. Progress towards key targets across the entire Black Country are summarised in chapter 8.

5.4 Some of the BCCS indicators relate to progress since the adoption date of the BCCS, or some other date, rather than simply the monitoring year. A note has been added to each indicator to highlight where this is the case.

5.5 Where appropriate we have indicated progress against the targets using a 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).

5.6 This section is arranged in the order of chapter headings and topics as set out in the BCCS. This order is different to that in the UDP.

BCCS CHAPTER 2: THE BLACK COUNTRY IN 2026

WALSALL UDP

5.7 The nearest equivalent to this topic in the UDP is Chapter 2. However, most of the policies in Chapter 2 “General Principles” have been superseded and, in any case, chapter 2 of the UDP does not contain any indicators. Local Output Indicators DEL2b and 2c are the equivalent of the indicators for Proposal JP1 in Chapter 4 of the UDP.

BCCS

5.8 Chapter 2 of the BCCS sets out a shared vision, sustainability principles and spatial objectives. Detailed measures of the extent to which these are being achieved are contained in the indicators for subsequent chapters. However, Chapter 2 does contain the following indicators:

Table 3 – Adoption of Local Development Documents

Infrastructure Provision	
BCCS Local Output Indicator DEL1: Adoption of Local Development Documents setting out details of the full range of infrastructure to be provided or supported.	
There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy DEL1
Target	100% by 2016
Achievements	<p>Cabinet approval was given in June 2011 to prepare an Infrastructure Plan and a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule by April 2014. A preliminary draft schedule was prepared by this date, however further progress towards adoption has been delayed in parallel with the SAD and AAP.</p> <p>The Preliminary Draft CIL documents were consulted on in Autumn 2015, and following some modifications, consultation on the Draft CIL Charging Schedule started on 7 March 2016 and runs until 3 May 2016</p>
Actions or Comments	The Infrastructure Plan and CIL charging schedule will be prepared alongside the Site Allocation Document (SAD) and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) as these documents will assess the infrastructure that is required to bring sites forward for development and will therefore provide part of the necessary evidence base for the CIL charging schedule.

	<p>Due to the number of representations that were received to the Preferred Options consultation it has taken longer to prepare the documents for the Publication version of the Plans than was originally anticipated so the dates have slipped slightly further and we are now targeting the end of 2016 for submission. Whilst the date for consultation set out in our Local Development Scheme (LDS) has slipped we are still on target to adopt the CIL Charging Schedule and infrastructure delivery plan by 2016.</p>
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Table 4 – Adoption of Site Allocation Documents and Area Action Plans

<p>Balance between Employment Land and Housing</p>	
<p>BCCS Local Output Indicator DEL2a: Adoption of Site Allocation Document and Area Action Plans as per Local Development Scheme</p>	
<p>There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP.</p>	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy DEL2
Target	By 2016
Achievements	<p>Issues and Options documents for the Site Allocation Document (SAD) and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) were consulted on in early 2013.</p> <p>The Preferred Options documents were consulted on in Autumn 2015, and the Publication Stage consultation started on 7 March 2016 and runs until 3 May 2016</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>Due to the number of representations that were received to the Preferred Options consultation it has taken longer to prepare the documents for the Publication version of the Plans than was originally anticipated so the dates have slipped slightly further and we are now targeting the end of 2016 for submission. Whilst the date for consultation set out in our Local Development Scheme (LDS) has slipped we are still on target to adopt the Site Allocation Document and Area Action Plan by 2016.</p> <p>The SAD does not cover Walsall town centre as this is covered by the Area Action Plan. The SAD also excludes District Centres because detailed studies will be necessary to enable plans to be developed for these areas in the future.</p>

Table 5 – Employment Land Completions

Economy	
BCCS Local Output Indicator DEL2b: Employment land completions in hectares	
UDP Indicator for Proposal JP1.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy DEL2 UDP No target set by policy
Target	Related to Table 4 of the BCCS.
Achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4.38ha – 2009/10 Monitoring Year 2. 5.98ha – 2010/11 Monitoring Year 3. 12.09ha – 2011/12 Monitoring Year 4. 7.56ha – 2012/13 Monitoring Year 5. 4.16ha – 2013/14 Monitoring Year 6. 4.72ha – 2014/15 Monitoring Year 7. 5.99ha – 2015/16 Monitoring Year
Actions or Comments	In 2015/16 take up has started to increase again but is still below average.

Table 6 – Loss of Employment Land

Economy	
BCCS Local Output Indicator DEL2c: Loss of employment land by type in hectares	
UDP Indicator for Proposal JP1.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy DEL2 UDP Policies JP5 and JP7
Target	Employment land in Walsall to be redeveloped with housing: 105ha by 2016 and 86ha by 2026 (BCCS Table 4).
Achievements	<p>The table below summarises changes to the amount of employment land by category in hectares since April 2009.</p> <p>NET CHANGES TO EMPLOYMENT LAND IN WALSALL BY EMPLOYMENT LAND CATEGORY 2009/10 – 2015/16</p>

	Monitoring Year	Net Change to Amount of Employment Land by Category (hectares)			
		High Quality	Local Quality	Housing	other
	2009/10	0	-2.38	+1.97	+0.41
	2010/11	-3	-2.11	+9.66	-7.55
	2011/12	+5	-5.59	+8.37	-2.78
	2012-13	+11	-8.02	+7.02	+1.0
	2013-14	+12	-50.77	+28.33	+22.44
	2014 -15	+4	-11.07	-0.11	+11.18
	2015-16	-5	-1	-1.37	-4.73
Actions or Comments	<p>Land being lost from employment to other uses is more gradual than anticipated in the BCCS targets. The average loss of employment land is around 13.32ha per annum; however these are net figures and allow for land returning to employment status after the permission for other use has lapsed, as well as losses to other uses and mapping adjustments. The apparent large loss of local quality employment land in 2013-14 was the result of a remapping exercise and also the decision to longer include land that has planning permission for housing or is otherwise committed to release to other uses.</p> <p>The total amount of employment land redeveloped or committed for redevelopment for housing by 2016 was 55.24ha which is only half the BCCS target of 105ha by 2016.</p>				

INTRODUCTION

Paragraph 34 of the Local Planning Regulations requires the AMR to report the number of new dwellings completed over the monitoring period. Targets for the number of dwellings expected over the period of the development plan are set out in the UDP and the BCCS: in accordance with paragraph 47 of the NPPF, these targets are broken down into a trajectory that shows how many of these dwellings are expected to be built each year.

The target for the overall number of homes to be provided is now set out in the BCCS, as that in the UDP is out of date. The BCCS sets a target for the Black Country as a whole, with an indicative trajectory for each of the four local authorities. Most of the tables below describe the performance of Walsall alone, but details about all four authorities are given at the end of this chapter.

The UDP and BCCS also provide more detailed monitoring indicators relating to housing. These include the numbers of completions in each regeneration corridor, the proportion completed on previously developed land, the breakdown of bedroom numbers and the amount of affordable housing provided.

A total of 927 new homes (899 net) were completed in 2015-16.

Sites with a valid planning permission or under construction had, as at 31st March 2016, a total capacity of 2.625 dwellings. This would be sufficient to meet the requirement to at least 2021 (5 years), based on the amended trajectory below.

This does not represent Walsall's entire housing supply. Other elements include sites allocated for housing in the UDP, lapsed planning permissions for sites that remain developable, and other previously developed land that is now vacant and considered for suitable for housing development. In total, these sites have sufficient capacity to meet the housing requirement for the entire BCCS period to 2026. Further details about Walsall's housing land supply can be found in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which has been updated in parallel with this AMR to reflect the situation as at the end of 2015-16. The SHLAA can be viewed on our website at http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/walsall_shlaa_update_2016-2.pdf

DEVELOPMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

Paragraph 6.7 of the UDP states that the aim is 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. Chapter 3 of the BCCS states that the creation of a network of cohesive, healthy and prosperous communities across the Black Country is a fundamental element of the Vision set out in Chapter 2. The provision of sufficient land to provide for sustainable housing growth is a corner stone in the achievement of this Vision.

Table 7 - Housing Delivery and Trajectory

Housing	
BCCS Core Output Indicator HOU1a Housing Trajectory	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU1 Former UDP Policy 6.3
Target	<p>This trajectory, which shows actual housing completions in 2006-2009 and expected completions since then, only shows the number of completions required in the Black Country as a whole. However, table 7 in the main BCCS document shows indicative phased net targets for each of the four local authorities for 5/10 year periods. The stated figure for Walsall for the period 2006-2016 is 5,067 dwellings. In fact, this figure was reached and exceeded by 2014-15 with a total of 5,238 new homes having been completed over the period 2006-15, net of demolitions. The cumulative figure for 2006-16 was 6,137.</p> <p>The trajectory is revised each year to update the number of dwellings that need to be provided each year to meet the requirements for the remaining years of the development plan, and also to indicate the number of completions that are expected each year based on known information about the progress of individual sites. The BCCS trajectory indicates a high number of completions to take place in the later years of the plan, from 2021 onwards.</p> <p>The trajectory based at April 2015, which was contained in the AMR for 2014-15, projected 600 net completions for 2015-16. The actual achievement of 899 completions in Walsall in 2015-16 exceeded this projection. Data for the Black Country as a whole for 2015-16 was not available at the time of preparation of this AMR.</p> <p>There is an equivalent indicator in paragraph 6.21 of the UDP (progress towards RPG11 target). However, this relates to Policy 6.3 of the UDP which has been superseded as the housing target in the UDP relates to the period up to 2011 and was met.</p>
Achievements	The total of 899 net completions achieved in Walsall in 2015-16 is higher than either the trajectory in the BCCS (which indicated a figure of 513 for the year) or the revised trajectory in the 2014-15 AMR (which indicated a figure of 600 for the year).
Actions or	Recorded housing completions during the monitoring year

Comments	<p>were higher than in 2014-15 (when the figure was 773).</p> <p>The housing trajectory has been revised to reflect these figures. The projected net completions for the next few years remain higher than needed to meet the annualised BCCS targets: this is to reflect the large number of sites that already have planning permission, as well as substantial sites that are expected to be brought forward by Walsall Housing Group.</p>
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Walsall Housing Trajectory (2006-26) as of April 2016

Year	Past Net Completions	Projected Net Completions	PLAN: Annualised Core Strategy Indicative Targets	MANAGE: Annual requirement taking account of past completions	Cumulative net allocation (Core Strategy)	Cumulative Net Completions	MONITOR: Variation from Cumulative Net Requirement
2006/7	616		506		506	616	-110
2007/8	-211		506		1012	405	607
2008/9	-151		506		1518	254	1264
2009/10	1738		506		2024	1992	32
2010/11	826		506		2530	2818	-288
2011/12	531		506		3036	3349	-313
2012/13	406		506		3542	3755	-213
2013/14	710		506		4048	4465	-417
2014/15	773		506		4554	5238	-684
2015/16	899		513		5067	6137	-1070
2016/17		747	460	747	5527	6884	-1357
2017/18		646	460	646	5987	7530	-1543
2018/19		646	460	646	6447	8176	-1729
2019/20		646	460	646	6907	8822	-1915
2020/21		646	460	646	7367	9468	-2101
2021/22		501	921	501	8288	9969	-1681
2022/23		501	921	501	9209	10470	-1261
2023/24		501	921	501	10130	10971	-841
2024/25		501	921	501	11051	11472	-421
2025/26		501	922	501	11973	11973	0

Table 8 –Housing Completions in Growth Network

Housing																																																				
BCCS Local Output Indicator HOU1 Net housing completions for each Regeneration Corridor and Strategic Centre, and for free-standing employment sites and sites outside the Growth Network by local authority There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP.																																																				
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU1																																																			
Target	Tables 6 and 7 in the BCCS do not contain targets and only show the indicative supply for each corridor, centre and other areas.																																																			
Achievements	<table><tr><th colspan="4">HOUSING COMPLETIONS BY LOCATION TYPE</th></tr><tr><th rowspan="2">BCCS Regeneration Corridor/ Other Location</th><th colspan="3">Number of Dwellings Completed During Monitoring Period</th></tr><tr><th>Completion s 2006/07 - 2014/15</th><th>Completion s 2015/16</th><th>Cumulative Total Completion s 2006/07- 2015/16</th></tr><tr><td>RC5</td><td>125</td><td>5</td><td>130</td></tr><tr><td>RC6</td><td>616</td><td>166</td><td>782</td></tr><tr><td>RC7</td><td>1704</td><td>227</td><td>1931</td></tr><tr><td>RC8</td><td>324</td><td>5</td><td>329</td></tr><tr><td>RC15</td><td>291</td><td>63</td><td>354</td></tr><tr><td>Free-standing employment sites</td><td>612</td><td>12</td><td>624</td></tr><tr><td>Walsall Strategic Centre</td><td>563</td><td>62</td><td>625</td></tr><tr><td>Housing Demolition Sites</td><td>1033</td><td>179</td><td>1212</td></tr><tr><td>Other Sites</td><td>1506</td><td>208</td><td>1714</td></tr><tr><td>TOTALS</td><td>6772</td><td>927</td><td>7699</td></tr></table> <p>The above figures are the gross ones.</p>	HOUSING COMPLETIONS BY LOCATION TYPE				BCCS Regeneration Corridor/ Other Location	Number of Dwellings Completed During Monitoring Period			Completion s 2006/07 - 2014/15	Completion s 2015/16	Cumulative Total Completion s 2006/07- 2015/16	RC5	125	5	130	RC6	616	166	782	RC7	1704	227	1931	RC8	324	5	329	RC15	291	63	354	Free-standing employment sites	612	12	624	Walsall Strategic Centre	563	62	625	Housing Demolition Sites	1033	179	1212	Other Sites	1506	208	1714	TOTALS	6772	927	7699
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	<p>REMAINING HOUSING COMMITMENTS BY LOCATION TYPE (including lapsed planning permissions)</p> <table> <tr> <th>BCCS Regeneration Corridor/ Other Location</th><th>Number of Dwellings Committed @ 31.3.16</th></tr> <tr> <td>RC5</td><td>493</td></tr> <tr> <td>RC6</td><td>644</td></tr> <tr> <td>RC7</td><td>1034</td></tr> <tr> <td>RC8</td><td>233</td></tr> <tr> <td>RC15</td><td>224</td></tr> <tr> <td>Free-standing employment sites</td><td>108</td></tr> <tr> <td>Walsall Strategic Centre</td><td>509</td></tr> <tr> <td>Housing Demolition Sites</td><td>397</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other Sites</td><td>695</td></tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td><td>4337</td></tr> </table>	BCCS Regeneration Corridor/ Other Location	Number of Dwellings Committed @ 31.3.16	RC5	493	RC6	644	RC7	1034	RC8	233	RC15	224	Free-standing employment sites	108	Walsall Strategic Centre	509	Housing Demolition Sites	397	Other Sites	695	TOTAL	4337
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Housing Demolition Sites	397																						
Other Sites	695																						
TOTAL	4337																						
Actions or Comments	<p>BCCS Tables 6 and 7 provide a summary of the total capacity of committed sites as at 31.03.09, as well as the total number of completions since 2006/07, for each local authority area, each location within the BCCS “growth network” (Strategic Centres and Regeneration Corridors), and areas outside the “growth network.” The above figures update these tables to reflect the current situation for sites in Walsall.</p> <p>The breakdown of capacity in Table 8 above is not comparable with that in BCCS Tables 6 and 7. In BCCS Tables 6 and 7, the figures for individual corridors, strategic centres, freestanding employment sites, housing demolition sites and other capacity do not include sites that were already committed as at 31.03.09, as these sites are accounted separately in the tables. The BCCS table figures are also discounted to allow for non-delivery of some sites (10% for commitments and 15% for others). Table 8 above however <u>only</u> includes committed sites and the figures are not discounted.</p> <p>“Committed sites” refer to sites that have planning permission or are allocated in the local plan. BCCS Tables 6 and 7 also contain figures for “new supply”. These were an estimate of the capacity that might be</p>																						

	<p>forthcoming through future site allocation documents, area action plans and planning permissions granted after 31.03.09. Some of this “new supply” is likely to include sites that have subsequently been granted planning permission. However, because the BCCS does not contain details of individual sites, it is not possible to update the figures in these tables.</p> <p>Full details of the housing supply in Walsall can be found in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment that is being updated to show the situation at April 2016 in parallel with this AMR.</p> <p>It should be noted that Regeneration Corridor 6 includes part of Wolverhampton, although the BCCS does not envisage any housing development taking place in the Wolverhampton section, whilst Corridor 8 includes part of Sandwell. The figures above only relate to development in Walsall.</p> <p>The boundaries of the Strategic Centres and Regeneration Corridors in the BCCS are only indicative and the intention is that these will be defined in more detail in Site Allocation Documents and Area Action Plans. The figures for completions and commitments in individual corridors are therefore only approximate and may be adjusted in future years. In particular, the figures above have been calculated this year using corridor boundaries that have been revised in conjunction with the preparation of Walsall’s SAD and Town Centre AAP.</p> <p>There are slight differences in the total numbers of new dwellings recorded in some of the tables below. This is mainly due to technical differences in the way the council’s monitoring data records dwelling conversions and demolitions. The figures are also based on gross completions, so do not take account of dwelling losses resulting from demolitions and building conversions.</p>
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Table 9 - Dwellings on Previously Developed Land

Housing	
<p>BCCS Core Output Indicator HOU1b</p> <p>New and converted dwellings on previously developed land</p> <p>UDP indicator for policy H1 (however this indicator only refers to performance in years 2002-11)</p>	<p>G</p>

Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU1 UDP Policy H1
Target	95% of new and converted dwellings to be on previously developed land
Achievements	95% (882 out of 927)
Actions or Comments	The BCCS and UDP indicators were written prior to the reclassification in July 2010 of garden land as “greenfield” (through a revision to the former Planning Policy Guidance, which has since been replaced by the NPPF). Prior to this, sites on such land were classed as “previously developed.” 33 out of the 45 new dwellings on “greenfield” sites that were completed in the monitoring year are on former garden land.

Table 10 – Housing Completions Meeting Accessibility Standards

Housing	
BCCS Local Output Indicator HOU2a There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU2
Target	100%
Achievements	Unknown.
Actions or Comments	It has not been possible to confirm whether this target has been met this year. However, with the exception of parts of the Green Belt, nearly all the Borough satisfies the accessibility standards for at least “moderate” density housing in table 8 of the BCCS.

Table 11 - Mix of House Types

Housing	
BCCS Local Output Indicator HOU2b Proportion of 1,2 and 3+ bedroom properties completed by type	
There was formerly a similar indicator for UDP Policy H10, but this policy has been superseded by the BCCS	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU2
Target	20% 1 bedroom; 40% 2 bedroom; 40% 3+ bedroom

Achievements	Completions in 2015/16 comprised 129 x 1 bedroom (14% of total), 420 x 2 bedroom (45%) and 378 x 3 or more bedroom dwellings (41%)			
	Figures since 2006 (the start date for the housing targets in the BCCS) and 2011 (the adoption date of the BCCS) are as follows:			
		1 bedroom	2 bedroom	3+ bedroom
	2006-16	940 (13%)	3699 (49%)	2853 (38%)
	2011-16	320 (9%)	1456 (43%)	159 (47%)
Actions or Comments	The mix of house types completed in 2015-16 was much closer to the BCCS target than in some recent years (in 2014-15 only 3% of completions had 1 bedroom whilst 55% had 3 or more bedrooms). However, the BCCS target was based on the housing needs study carried out in 2008, much of the data in which derived from the 2001 census, so the BCCS target may no longer be a reliable indicator of current need, particularly in the affordable and private rented sectors which have been significantly affected by changes in welfare payments and other support.			

Table 12 – Affordable Housing Completions

Housing	
BCCS Core Output Indicator HOU3 Gross affordable housing completions UDP indicator for policy H4 only related to the period 1990/91 - 2010/11 and the relevant part of this policy has been superseded by the BCCS.	G
Local Plan Policy	
	BCCS Policy HOU3
Target	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.
Achievements	The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Live Table 1011 ¹ indicates that 239 new affordable homes were provided during the monitoring year. This figure equates to 26% of all gross completions.

¹

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/595371/Live_Table_1011.xlsx

Actions or Comments	<p>The Council is not able to directly record affordable housing completions except where these are funded by private developers through section 106 agreements. In common with previous years, no affordable housing provided by private developers as a requirement of Section 106 agreements was recorded as having been completed during the year. Planning policy only requires affordable housing to be provided where it does not make the development of the site unviable: the lack of provision by this means reflects the ongoing viability difficulties experienced with many sites in the borough.</p> <p>The affordable housing recorded by DCLG is therefore all on sites that have been supported by the Homes and Communities Agency. This demonstrates the continuing importance of public funding to secure housing development in the Borough.</p>
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Table 13 - Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers

Housing	
BCCS Core Output Indicator HOU4 Net additional pitches (permanent residential pitches, transit pitches and plots for travelling show people). There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU4
Target	Walsall = 39 Permanent Residential Pitches for Gypsies and Travellers, and 35 Plots for Travelling Showpeople to be provided in 2008-2018.
Achievements	No additional pitches or plots were provided during the year. A retrospective planning application for a single traveller pitch in Willenhall was received and was awaiting determination at the start of April 2016.
Actions or Comments	The Publication Draft of the Site Allocation Document identifies potential new sites.

Table 14 – Loss of Education and Health Care Capacity during BCCS Plan Period

Housing	
BCCS Local Output Indicator HOU5 Loss of Education and Health Care capacity during the plan period There is no equivalent indicator in the UDP.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy HOU5
Target	None
Achievements	This data is not currently collected systematically. However, where facilities are closed, this is generally as a result of improved replacement facilities being provided, either on the same site or elsewhere.
Actions or Comments	The majority of schools and most health care facilities are outside the control of the local authority, so it is not easy to monitor the closure of establishments, except where planning permission is required to re-locate them or to re-develop their existing site. However, it remains an aim to establish a comprehensive database of existing facilities that will make it possible to monitor any changes in future years.

Table 15 - Vacancy Rates in Existing Housing Stock

Housing	
UDP Policy H1 There is no equivalent indicator in the BCCS.	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy H1
Target	Reduce vacancies to 3% by 2011
Achievement	This indicator is no longer measured for AMR purposes. However, the 2011 Census indicated that only 2.9% of dwellings in Walsall were vacant. This compares with figures of 3.6% for the West Midlands and 4.3% for England as a whole.
Actions or Comments	The UDP target period has now ended, so this indicator will not be referred to in future reports. Reducing vacancies helps to provide additional housing, and is also used as a measure to calculate New Homes Bonus. However, it is a measure of the success of the authority's housing policies rather than those concerning land use planning.

Table 16 - Housing Windfall Sites

Housing	
UDP Policy H1	
There is no equivalent indicator in the BCCS.	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy H1
Target	Annual average of 275 dwellings per annum to be on windfall sites
Achievement	882 completions during the year were on previously developed sites (as defined in the NPPF) not allocated in the UDP.
Actions or Comments	<p>The achievement figure is based on windfall sites as defined in the NPPF, which is more restrictive than the UDP. Windfall sites are defined in the UDP as those coming forward in ways other than as development plan allocations. This definition is different from that used in the NPPF, which excludes garden land and other land that is not previously developed.</p> <p>Although the target in the UDP was met, this indicator can be taken as a demonstration of the failure of the development plan to allocate sites for housing.</p>

CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PERFORMANCE AND EVENTS SUMMARY

5.11 The number of new dwellings completed in Walsall in 2015-16 continued the good performance of 2014-15 and exceeded that expected by the trajectory in the BCCS. However, as in the previous year, eight out of the ten sites where the highest number of completions occurred during the year were all either owned or heavily supported by social landlords, or involved the redevelopment for housing of land formerly owned by the Council. Public funding for new housing will continue to be required for the foreseeable future, unless the economy improves and more private funding becomes available.

Black Country Housing Trajectory / Housing Land Supply up to 2026

5.12 The combined Housing Trajectory for the Black Country as a whole up to 2026 is set out below. This trajectory and supply data is based on the figures provided in each of the Black Country authority SHLAAs. The trajectory is adjusted each year to take account of completions over the past 12 months and information that is known about the likely delivery of housing in the next few years. It replaces the one in Appendix 4 to the BCCS, which is based on the indicative phased net targets in table 7 of the BCCS.

5.13 Apart from Walsall, delivery of housing in the Black Country over the period 2006-2016 has been below the rate expected by the BCCS. However, BCCS table 7 indicates a substantial increase in annual completions from 2021 onwards. The latest trajectories for individual authorities in the table below shows that this increase should happen before then, and the 5 year supply for 2016-21 is well in excess of that required.

Net completions/ trajectory

	Wolverhampton	Walsall	Sandwell	Dudley	Black Country
2006/7	300	616	1162	760	2838
2007/8	362	-211	1136	542	1829
2008/9	429	-151	450	687	1415
2009/10	249	1738	505	150	2642
2010/11	59	826	549	517	1951
2011/12	730	531	599	597	2457
2012/13	466	406	712	712	2296
2013/14	431	710	536	468	2145
2014/15	677	773	961	718	3129
2015/16	563	927	558	501	2549
2016/17	975	719	562	950	3206
2017/18	1330	646	1663	1128	4767
2018/19	1542	646	1346	1300	4834
2019/20	1271	646	1461	1350	4728
2020/21	957	646	1391	1400	4394
2021/22	782	501	1921	1078	4282
2022/23	782	501	1898	1015	4196
2023/24	782	501	1870	1000	4153
2024/25	781	501	1773	900	3955
2025/26	781	501	1719	900	3901
2006-26	14429	11973	22772	16673	65667

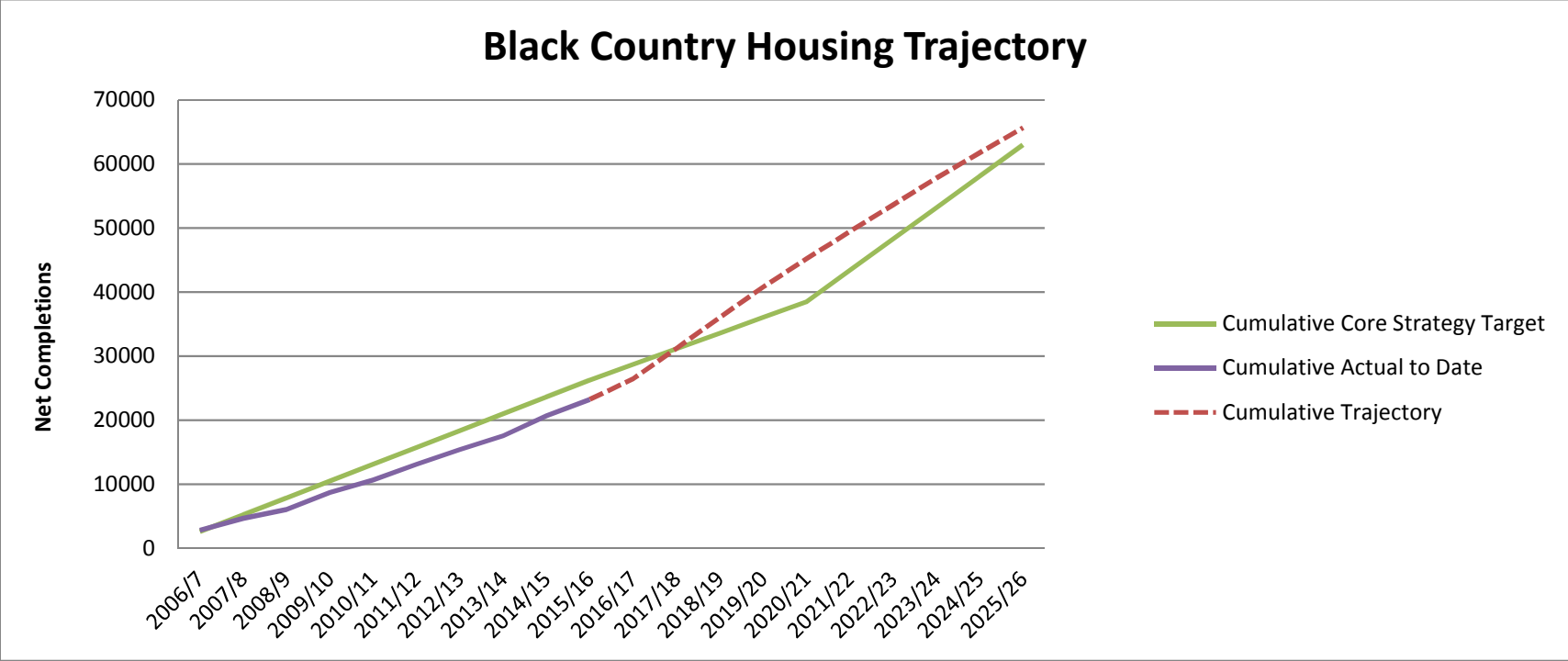
5 yr supply 2016-21 as
% of BCCS target

198% 144% 137% 230% 178%

BCCS Target

Wolverhampton	Walsall	Sandwell	Dudley	<i>Black Country</i>
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
567	506	742	811	2626
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
566	506	742	811	2625
567	513	742	813	2635
516	460	938	534	2448
516	460	938	534	2448
516	460	938	534	2448
516	460	938	534	2448
516	460	938	534	2448
1033	921	1876	1069	4899
1034	921	1876	1069	4900
1034	921	1876	1069	4900
1034	921	1876	1069	4900
1034	922	1876	1069	4901
13411	11973	21490	16127	63001

2580 2300 4690 2670 12427



THE ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Walsall UDP

5.17 UDP paragraph 4.7 states the aim is 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.

BCCS

5.18 Chapter 4 of the BCCS seeks to provide land for at least 75,000 industrial and warehouse jobs. This will include land for at least 526ha of strategic high quality employment development and 1294 ha of retained local quality employment land, with 185ha (five years supply) of vacant readily available land at any one time.

Tables 17 to 22 refer to BCCS Local Output Indicators (LOIs) whereas Tables 23 to 25 refer to the remaining local output indicators in the UDP.

Table 17 – Employment Land Completions

Economy	
BCCS Policy EMP1: LOI EMP1a (Former COI BD3 and UDP JP1) - Employment land completions by hectare	
R	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy EMP1
Target	To reflect land developed for employment purposes for comparison with minimum employment land reservoir targets (gross employment land stock in hectares) set out in Table 10 of BCCS Policy EMP1 (see also LOI EMP1b in Table 18 below).
Achievements	<p>The table below summarises completions of employment related uses in Walsall since the BCCS “baseline” date (31.03.09).</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT LAND COMPLETIONS IN WALSALL 2009/10– 2015/16</p>

	Monitoring Year	Development on Vacant Land (ha)	Redevelopment (ha)	Extensions (ha)	Total Completions (ha)
	2009/10	2.66	0.2	1.52	4.38
	2010/11	3.99	1.73	0.26	5.98
	2011/12	10.58	1.74	0.27	12.09
	2012/13	4.39	2.67	0.5	7.56
	2013/14	3.92	0.73	0.81	5.46
	2014/15	0.2	2.23	2.33	4.73
	2015/16	3.66	1.84	0.23	5.73
	Source: Walsall Council planning application and employment land monitoring.				
Actions or Comments	The BCCS indicator does not require employment land completions to be broken down according to the type of development. Some developments also involve a combination of types, for example an extension onto vacant land, so the above breakdown is only approximate.				

Table 18 – Stock of Employment Land

Economy																																				
BCCS Policy EMP1: LOI EMP1a (Former COI BD3 and UDP JP1) - net change in total employment land stock by LA area (ha).																																				
G																																				
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy EMP1 and Policy DEL2																																			
Target	<p>BCCS Table 10 sets out minimum reservoir of employment land (gross employment stock in hectares) to be retained by each authority throughout the BCCS plan period. BCCS baseline and targets for Walsall are:</p> <p>Baseline (31.03.09) - 735 ha</p> <p>2016 (31.03.16) - 658 ha</p> <p>2026 (31.03.26) – 611 ha</p> <table><tr><th>year</th><th>HQ target</th><th>HQ actual</th><th>LQ target</th><th>LQ actual</th><th>Total target</th><th>Total actual</th></tr><tr><td>2009</td><td>53</td><td>98</td><td>682</td><td>731</td><td>822*</td><td>829</td></tr><tr><td>2010</td><td>-</td><td>98</td><td>-</td><td>729</td><td>-</td><td>827</td></tr><tr><td>2011</td><td>-</td><td>95</td><td>-</td><td>729</td><td>-</td><td>824</td></tr><tr><td>2012</td><td>-</td><td>100</td><td>-</td><td>719</td><td>-</td><td>819</td></tr></table>	year	HQ target	HQ actual	LQ target	LQ actual	Total target	Total actual	2009	53	98	682	731	822*	829	2010	-	98	-	729	-	827	2011	-	95	-	729	-	824	2012	-	100	-	719	-	819
year	HQ target	HQ actual	LQ target	LQ actual	Total target	Total actual																														
2009	53	98	682	731	822*	829																														
2010	-	98	-	729	-	827																														
2011	-	95	-	729	-	824																														
2012	-	100	-	719	-	819																														

	2013	-	111	-	697	-	808
	2014	-	123	-	634	-	757
	2015	-	127	-	617	-	744
	2016	149	122	519	616	658	738
	2026	317	-	294	-	611	-
	*includes 735ha occupied (BCCS table 10) plus 87ha vacant land						
Achievements	<p>At the 2016 target year we are 27ha short of the target for high quality land. The stock of local quality land is reducing gradually but is likely to be ahead of the minimum target by 2016.</p> <p>The slight decrease in area from the previous year (2015) across the employment land supply has been caused by revisions to the site boundaries in the mapping which have improved the accuracy of site areas.</p>						

Table 19 – Change in High Quality, Potential High Quality and Local Quality Employment Areas

Economy	
<p>LOI EMP2a – Changes to Strategic High Quality, Potential Strategic High Quality and Local Quality Employment Areas.</p> <p>LOI EMP2b - Additions made to Strategic High Quality Employment Land stock through improvement programmes.</p> <p>LOI EMP2c - Loss of employment land by LA area (ha) by Strategic High Quality and Potential Strategic High Quality Employment Area.</p> <p>LOI EMP3a - Employment land completions by Local Quality Employment Area.</p> <p>LOI EMP3b - Loss of employment land by Local Quality Employment Area.</p>	
Local Plan Policy	<p>BCCS Policy EMP2 (LOI EMP2a, LOI EMP3b, LOI EMP2c)</p> <p>BCCS Policy EMP3 (LOI EMP3a, LOI EMP3b)</p>
Target	<p>BCCS Table 12 sets out the amounts of employment land in the Black Country by category at the “baseline” date (31.03.09), and targets for provision of employment land falling into each category in 2016 and 2026. The table below summarises the BCCS baseline employment land data and targets for Walsall.</p>

	BCCS EMPLOYMENT LAND REQUIREMENTS IN WALSALL						
	Monitoring Date	Employment Land by Category					
		Strategic High Quality (ha)	Potential Strategic High Quality (ha)	Local Quality - Retain (ha)	Consider for Release (ha)	Release Now (ha)	All Categories (Total) (ha)
	BCCS Baseline (31.03.09)	53	264	294	86	38	735*
	2016 Target (31.03.16)	149	168	294	38	19	668
	2026 Target (31.03.25)	317	0	294	0	0	611
	Source: Walsall Council employment land monitoring.						
	Notes on Table:						
	*Total baseline figure does not include 87ha of Regional Employment Land Study (RELS) sites – see GVA Grimley Employment Land Study (2009), Tables 3.3 and 3.4. The gross GVA Grimley figure for 2009 is therefore 822ha. RELS sites are included in the WMBC/ ELR totals in the table below (see Achievements). <i>Figures in italics are estimates.</i>						
	Achievements	EMPLOYMENT LAND SUPPLY IN WALSALL – 2016 UPDATE					
Monitoring Date		Employment Land by Category					
		Strategic High Quality (ha)	Potential Strategic High Quality (ha)	Local Quality - Retain (ha)	Consider for Release (ha)	Release Now (ha)	All Categories (Total) (ha)
WMBC/ ELR Baseline (31.03.09)		98	255	314	124	38	829
2010 (31.03.10)		98	255	350	86	38	827
2011 (31.03.11)		95	261	340	100	23	824
2012 (31.03.12)		100	258	329	112	20	819
2013 (31.03.13)		111	256	315	117	10	808
2014 (31.03.14)		123	265	274	95	-	757

	2015 (31.03.15)	127	207	331	79	-	744
	2016 (31.03.2016)	122	194	347	75	-	738
	Source: Walsall Council employment land monitoring.						
	Notes on Table: Figures in italics are projections.						
Actions or Comments	See commentary on table 18						

Table 20 – Readily Available Employment Land

Economy													
LOI EMP4 - Readily available employment land (hectares).													
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy EMP4												
Target	Policy EMP4 requires each authority to have a minimum five year supply of employment land “readily available” at any one time. The amounts of “readily available” land required are as follows: Black Country – 185 hectares Walsall – 46 hectares												
Achievements	<p>The table below summarises the amount of readily available land available in Walsall at the BCCS “baseline” date and at the end of each of the seven monitoring years following (2009/10 – 2015/16).</p> <p>SUPPLY OF READILY AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT LAND 2009 – 2016</p> <table> <tr> <th>Monitoring Date</th><th>Readily Available Employment Land (hectares)</th></tr> <tr> <td>2009 BCCS Baseline (31.03.09)</td><td>22.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>2010 (31.03.10)</td><td>26.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>2011 (31.03.11)</td><td>18.31</td></tr> <tr> <td>2012 (31.03.12)</td><td>25.13</td></tr> <tr> <td>2013 (31.03.13)</td><td>20.32</td></tr> </table>	Monitoring Date	Readily Available Employment Land (hectares)	2009 BCCS Baseline (31.03.09)	22.00	2010 (31.03.10)	26.00	2011 (31.03.11)	18.31	2012 (31.03.12)	25.13	2013 (31.03.13)	20.32
Monitoring Date	Readily Available Employment Land (hectares)												
2009 BCCS Baseline (31.03.09)	22.00												
2010 (31.03.10)	26.00												
2011 (31.03.11)	18.31												
2012 (31.03.12)	25.13												
2013 (31.03.13)	20.32												

	2014 (31.03.14)	21.78
	2015 (31.03.15)	22.44
	2016 (31.03.16)	20.76
	Source: Walsall Council employment land monitoring	
Actions or Comments	<p>“Readily Available” employment land consists of land and premises that are free of major problems and are actively marketed, and with a willing seller. Core Strategy Policy EMP4 requires Walsall to aim to maintain at least 46ha of readily available land at any one time. The latest figure shows a 25ha deficit compared with the target. It is composed of vacant land (including expansion land) as well as 9.7ha of premises on the market.</p>	

Table 21 – Targeted Recruitment and Training

Economy		
LOI EMP5 - Proportion of major planning permissions making provision for targeted recruitment or training through planning conditions or planning obligations.		A
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy EMP5	
Target	50% of “major” applications.	
Achievement	0% in 2015/16.	
Actions or Comments	<p>Whilst no conditions or planning obligations required targeted recruitment or training in 2015/16, this policy requirement is brought to applicants attention at pre application stage and applicants are encouraged to make such provision through further discussions with the Council's Employment and Skills team.</p>	

Table 22 – Loss of Visitor and Cultural Facilities

Economy		
LOI EMP6 - Loss of regionally significant visitor and cultural facilities.		G
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy EMP6	
Target	0	
Achievement	No losses in 2015/16.	

Actions or Comments	The policy appears to have been effective so far. The Council will continue monitoring losses of significant visitor and cultural facilities – no further action required.
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Table 23 – Land Developed for Employment Uses

Economy																
Local Output Indicator: Amount of land developed for employment land use (hectares) – 2013/14 monitoring year.																
R																
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy JP1															
Target	13ha per annum															
Achievements	<p>The table below shows how much land was developed in 2015/16</p> <table><tr><th colspan="5">Employment Land Developed in Walsall 2015/16 by Land Use Type (hectares)</th></tr><tr><th>Class B1 (b) and B1 (c)</th><th>Class B2</th><th>Class B8</th><th>Sui Generis/ Other</th><th>TOTAL</th></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>2.5</td><td>0</td><td>3.49</td><td>5.99</td></tr></table> <p>Source: Walsall Council employment land monitoring</p>	Employment Land Developed in Walsall 2015/16 by Land Use Type (hectares)					Class B1 (b) and B1 (c)	Class B2	Class B8	Sui Generis/ Other	TOTAL	0	2.5	0	3.49	5.99
Employment Land Developed in Walsall 2015/16 by Land Use Type (hectares)																
Class B1 (b) and B1 (c)	Class B2	Class B8	Sui Generis/ Other	TOTAL												
0	2.5	0	3.49	5.99												
Actions or Comments	After hitting a low of 4.16ha in the 2014/15 monitoring year, take up is starting to increase, but is still much lower than the target.															

Table 24 - Implementation of Economic Policy (Proportion of Brownfield development)

Economy	
Local Output Indicator: The proportion of development that takes place on Brownfield Sites.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy JP1 (Former COI BD2)
Target	95% of all land developed (UDP Target)
Achievements	100%
Actions or Comments	Monitoring to date indicates that the target is being met. The Council will continue to monitor development on previously-developed land – no further action required.

Table 25 - 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	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy JP1
Target	91% of the total area.
Achievements	<p>In addition to Bescot Crescent (1.83ha) and Green Lane Cable Drive (1.98ha) which transferred to other uses in the previous monitoring year, the following additional sites have been removed from the UDP allocated Employment land supply as part of the ongoing work surrounding the SAD and AAP. These make up a further 2.93ha in addition to the 3.81 ha from previous losses, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E10 Bentley Road South – allocated for open space 2.03ha • E20 – Hollyhedge Lane – allocated for housing in the SAD 0.48ha • E25: Canalside Close – allocated for housing in the SAD 0.45ha <p>This gives a total percentage loss of 14%, meaning 86% of the new employment sites listed in UDP Policy JP1 have been protected. However The SAD includes allocations for 28.77ha of new industrial sites which should balance out the loss of the smaller sites</p>
Actions or Comments	Monitoring to date indicates that the UDP policy is generally effective in protecting UDP employment site allocations. The Council will continue to monitor development proposals affecting these sites – no further action required.

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). The BCCS states that the Black Country's centres are the focus for retail, leisure, commercial and civic uses, and it is the strategy to maintain and enhance these centres in order to underpin economic growth (BCCS Spatial Objectives).

5.26 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 26 – Town Centre Floorspace Developed in Walsall Borough

Centres	
<p>LOI CEN1 and LOI CEN2 – Amount of floor space for town centre uses completed and amount permitted within an appropriate centre, as a proportion of all completions and planning permissions for such uses</p> <p>LOI CEN3 - Amount of additional floor space for town centre uses within or on the edge of Walsall Strategic Centre in accordance with Policy CEN3</p> <p>LOI CEN4 - Amount of additional floor space for town centre uses within or on the edge of each Town Centre in accordance with Policy CEN4.</p> <p>LOI CEN5 – Amount of additional floor space for town centre uses within or on the edge of each District and Local Centre in accordance with Policy CEN4.</p> <p>LOI CEN6 – Number of developments of up to 200 square metres gross floor space for town centre uses permitted outside of centres that meet the requirements of Policy CEN6, as a proportion of all such permissions.</p> <p>LOI CEN7 - Number and floor space of new developments for town centre uses permitted, and number and floor space completed, outside of Strategic, Town, District or Local Centres that do not accord with Policy CEN1 requirements.</p>	A
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policies CEN1 – CEN7
Target	<p>LOI CEN1 – CEN6 - 100% of “town centre” development to be in accordance with BCCS Policies CEN1 – CEN7 or justified by another development plan policy.</p> <p>LOI CEN7 – none.</p>
Achievements	<p>See schedules below for details of net changes to town centre floor space in Walsall during the 2015/16 monitoring year. The following paragraphs summarise how development in Walsall has performed against the targets attached to BCCS Local Output Indicators CEN1 – CEN7.</p> <p>LOI CEN1 and CEN2:</p> <p>100% of permissions for town centre uses were in accordance with CEN1 – CEN7 – they were either in established centres, or if in an out-of-centre location with no local need demonstrated, were justified by another development plan policy.</p>

	<p>LOI CEN3:</p> <p>See Table 27 below for details of development in Walsall Town Centre and progress on delivery of the BCCS target.</p>
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Town Centre Development in Walsall – New Floor space Approved and Completed within 2015/16 Monitoring Year												
Location	Comparison Retail		Convenience Retail ²		Office (Class B1a)			Leisure (Class D2 and C1)		Other Town Centre Uses ³		Total Floor space Completed (sqm)
	Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Completed (sqm)	Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Completed (sqm)	Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Completed (sqm)		Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Completed (sqm)	Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Completed (sqm)	
In Strategic Centre	0	4,347	0	677	348	1,899		180	2,967	930	8,726	18,616
In District Centres	0	0	0	0	0	0		140	0	637	479	479
In Local Centres	113	72	0	0	341	341		0	0	188	90	503
Edge- of - Centre	0	0	353	250	0	0		0	0	0	0	250
Out- of- Centre	0	0	293	0	0	0		2,360	2,360	423	582	2,942
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FLOORS	113	4,419	646	927	689	2,240		2,680	5,327	2,178	9,877	22,790

Source: Walsall Council planning application and town centre monitoring.

Town Centre Development in Walsall – Floor space Lost through Demolitions or Proposed/ Implemented Change of Use in 2015/16 Monitoring Year												
Location	Comparison Retail		Convenience Retail		Office (Class B1a)			Leisure (Class D2 and C1)		Other Town Centre Uses ₄		Total Floor space Lost (sqm)
	Loss of Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Lost (sqm)	Loss of Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Lost (sqm)	Loss of Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Lost (sqm)		Loss of Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Lost (sqm)	Loss of Floor space Approved (sqm)	Floor space Lost (sqm)	
In Strategic Centre	-350	-350	-0	-7,405	-0	-400		-0	-0	-358	-143	-8,298
In District Centres	-688	-75	-0	-0	-0	-0		-0	-583	-585	-139	-797
In Local Centres	-153	-140	-0	-0	-0	-0		-0	-0	-0	-353	-493
Edge- of-Centre	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0	-0		-0	-0	-0	-0	-0
Out- of-Centre	-839	-356	-0	-0	-410	-490		-860	-584	-0	-0	-1,430
TOTAL FLOOR SPACE LOSSES	-2,030	-921	-0	-7,405	-140	-890		-860	-1,167	-943	-635	-11,018

Source: Walsall Council planning application and town centre monitoring.

	<p>LOI CEN4 and CEN5:</p> <p>87% of all development for centre uses completed this monitoring year was within established centres whereas 54% of all permission granted was for within established centres. Whilst this percentage is lower than we would like, the figures are distorted by a single development for an out-of-centre leisure use of 2360sqm D2 for a trampoline centre that couldn't be accommodated within a centre (15/0488/FL). This compared to the low figures for development granted within town centres when presented gives the impression there was a large amount of out-of-centre development granted but this would be misleading. The permissions granted for out-of-centre were all small scale and all but one demonstrated local need in accordance with UDP Policy S6 and BCCS Policy CEN6 (see below for further information).</p> <p>LOI CEN6:</p> <p>In total 6 applications were granted for out-of-centre developments within the monitoring year. 83% of these were in accordance with BCCS Policy CEN6 being small in scale and demonstrating a local need. A number of them were for the change of use of premises within a local row of shops that serves a recognised local need.</p> <p>Further details of the applications in provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15/0942/FULL Change of use from retail shop to tattoo studio – demonstrated local needed and is within a row of local shops. - 15/1173 Change of use to Class A1 Retail – demonstrated local need and is within a row of local shops. - 15/1582 Change of use from offices (B1) to children's nursery and tuition centre (D1) – Local need - 15/0435/FL Mixed A3 and A5 use for takeaway and restaurant – local need and in a row of local shops - 15/0488/FL Change of use of vacant industrial unit into an indoor trampoline centre (D2 Use Class) and ancillary cafe including external alterations and changes to car parking – accorded with the sequential and impact assessment. - 14/1719/FL Demolition of petrol filling station and erection of new 24hr petrol filling station with ancillary shop – ancillary to petrol station with a local need.
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	<p>LOI CEN7:</p> <p>5 out of 6 applications for out-of-centre uses were in accordance with BCCS Policy CEN6 and the other was in accordance with BCCS Policy CEN7. No applications were granted against policy recommendations.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>Within this monitoring year a number of key retail developments took place within Walsall Strategic Centre. The new Primark developed opened as did the Co-op food shop (11/0560/FL). This is a significant positive for the centre bringing Primark into the town for the first time and making effective use of the vacant retail space left by Tesco following their relocation to the edge-of-centre. This is a huge achievement providing an anchor to this end of the Primary Shopping Area and also reconfiguring the floorspace to provide a large retail unit which is more attractive to retailers.</p> <p>There was the loss of some retail floorspace from the Saddlers Shopping Centre as reconfigured a unit to accommodate the relocated NHS walk in centre (15/059/FL). Whilst any loss of retail floorspace from the main shopping centre is a concern, on balance the need to retain the walk in centre within the town centre was seen to outweigh the loss of A1 floorspace. This also provided the opportunity for a retail unit to be created that suited the need of TJ Hughes department store, who made a welcome return to the town centre in October 2015 filling the void left by Argos who relocated to Crown Wharf.</p> <p>There was a significant new office developed completed within the monitoring year providing 1,866 new floorspace (14/0119/FL). This was a major development as it represented the first none public sector investment in the Gigaport area and involved a Walsall businesses locating its headquarters in the centre.</p> <p>This monitoring year marked the opening of a Cinema at Waterfront in Walsall Town Centre (13/0440/FL). This was the first cinema in the town centre for a number of years and represents the first major completion of a leisure within the town centre for a long time. The completed cinema and accompanying A3 uses is the first of two stages and will create a new leisure destination within the centre.</p> <p>There was also the completion of Walsall College Businesses and Sports Hub in the Town Centre (13/1690/RM) which opened September 2015. This provides improved sport and health facilities in the town centre for both students and residents. The development also provides business incubation units which it is hoped will</p>

	enhance the role the centre plays in encouraging future business growth.
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5.27 There is no target for Convenience Retail or Leisure Uses in the BCCS. Each Local Authority may determine whether proposals count towards BCCS targets. Targets relate to net additional floor space, implying that the Council should adjust the amount of floor space completed to take account of losses. Justification for Out-of- Centre development could include compliance with Policy CEN6, in the case of proposals below the 200 sqm size threshold.

Table 27 – Additional Floor space for Town Centre Uses Developed in Walsall Strategic Centre

Centres			
LOI CEN3 – Amount of additional floor space for town centre uses within or on the edge of Walsall Strategic Centre in accordance with Policy CEN3			
R			
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy CEN3		
Targets	BCCS Policy CEN3 sets targets for new development in the four Strategic Centres between 2005/06 and 2025/26. The following targets are set for Walsall Town Centre:		
	BCCS Target Dates for Delivery	Comparison Retail Floor space Targets (square metres)	Office Floor space Targets (square metres)
	2005/06 – 2020/21	60,000	220,000
	2021/22 – 2025/26	25,000	
Achievements	The table below sets out how much comparison retail and office floor space has been developed since the BCCS “baseline” date (2006).		
	COMPARISON RETAIL AND OFFICE FLOORSPEACE DEVELOPMENT IN WALSALL STRATEGIC CENTRE 2005/06 – 20115/16		
	Monitoring Year	Comparison Retail Floor space Completed (square metres)	Office Floor space Completed (square metres)
2005/06	0	0	

	2006/07	0	0
	2007/08	0	0
	2008/09	0	0
	2009/10	0	0
	2010/11	0	3,099
	2011/12	21	4,649
	2012/13	0	150
	2013/14	0	0
	2014/15	0	604 ⁵
	2015/16	3,347	1,866
	TOTAL	3,368	10,368
	Source: Walsall Council planning application and town centre monitoring		
Actions or Comments	<p>The new Primark developed opened provided additional comparison retail floorspace. (11/0560/FL). This is a significant positive for the centre bringing Primark into the town for the first time and making effective use of the vacant retail space left by Tesco following their relocation to the edge of centre. This is being counted as additional comparison floorspace in the context of the BCCS retail targets as the development is replacing vacant convenience floorspace. A total of 1,000 has been removed from the figure to take account of the comparison floorspace the Tesco store is likely to have had as part of the original store in order to give an accurate figure.</p> <p>There was a significant new office developed completed within the monitoring year providing 1,866 new floorspace (14/0119/FL).</p> <p>There was however the loss of 400sqm of office to residential in the town centre through planning applications and a number of others through permitted development and prior notification, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15/0574/PAOD Tameway Tower, Bridge Street, - 15/1397 Former Transport Offices, St Pauls Street - 15/1629 36-37 Goodall Street 		

⁵ It must be noted that there was a significant loss of office floorspace in that monitoring year of 2,296sqm. (14/1063/FL)

	As the AMR monitors the effectiveness of the Local Plan Policies the loss of office through prior notification or permitted development is not included in the figures. It is however important to capture within the report, as for example this monitoring prior notification has resulted in the loss of Tameway Tower which is one of the centres most prominent office blocks. Therefore whilst we have made some progress against the BCCS targets this is within the context of losing significant amount of B1 floorspace from the centre.
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UDP CENTRES LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 28 – Strengthening our Centres (Proportion of development in established Centres)

Strengthening Our Centres											
Local Output Indicator - Proportion of development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses that takes place in established centres.											
G											
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy S1-S5 (Former COI BD4)										
Target	At least 90% of all development for retailing, leisure and other town centre uses to take place in established centres (UDP target).										
Achievements	<p>The table below summarises the percentage of “town centre” uses (by floor space) that took place in Walsall centres during 2014/15.</p> <p>TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT IN WALSALL 2014/15 PERCENTAGE OF IN-CENTRE DEVELOPMENTBY USE CLASS</p> <table><tr><th>Class A1 (Retail Shops)</th><th>Class B1a (Offices)</th><th>Class D2 and C1 (Leisure)</th><th>Other</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>100%</td><td>100%</td><td>56%</td><td>94%</td><td>87%</td></tr></table> <p>Note: Developments within Use Class A2 have been included in the Other town centre uses category, to accord with the monitoring of the BCCS.</p>	Class A1 (Retail Shops)	Class B1a (Offices)	Class D2 and C1 (Leisure)	Other	Total	100%	100%	56%	94%	87%
Class A1 (Retail Shops)	Class B1a (Offices)	Class D2 and C1 (Leisure)	Other	Total							
100%	100%	56%	94%	87%							

Actions or Comments	There was one large out-of-centre leisure development within this monitoring year that was completed accounting for the lower percentage under the D2 category. This was a development for a trampoline centre (15/0488/FL) and was granted permission out-of-centre because there were no suitable premises within established centres therefore meeting the requirements of UDP S7 and BCCS GEN7. Otherwise overall this has been a successful year in terms of development being delivered within established centres rather than in out-of-centre locations. to achieve 100% development within established centres for both A1 and B1 shows the success of the policies and the town centre first approach which the Council has persuaded in the previous monitoring years when granting permissions.
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Table 29 – Strengthening our Centres (Shopping Centres)

Strengthening Our Centres	
Local Output Indicator- Shopping Centres: Amount of vacant floor space in centres.	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy S1-S5
Target	Vacancies to be at or below the national average (UDP Target).
Achievements	The Local Data Company stated that the number of vacant shops stood at 27.6%, the worst Black Country and ranking it sixth in the entire country for any sized retail area. Read more at http://www.expressandstar.com/business/midlands-business/2016/09/24/quarter-of-dudley-shops-sitting-empty/#gpLe37k2FtC87qWb.99 . Article published 24 th September 2016 but will reflect the more accurately the position than the last figure of March 2015.
Actions or Comments	The level of vacancy is obviously of concern for Walsall. There are however a number of key achievements this monitoring year including the new Primark development opening. As a result of this development work has started on the site opposite and number of units have been vacated to make way for the investment. This is impacting on the level of vacancies in the town centre but is an unavoidable consequence of updating the retail units within the town centre and delivering regeneration schemes. It should also be noted that other positives include TJ Hughes occupying the vacant Argos unit in the Saddlers Centre in October 2015.

BCCS CHAPTER 5: TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

5.36 The policies in the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) Chapter 5 and 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, cycling, road traffic and car parking.

BCCS TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 30 – Safeguarding Land for Transport

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN1 - % of DPDs identifying and safeguarding land to meet transport requirements	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN1
Target	100% of DPDs
Achievements	No significant achievements in 2015/16.
Actions or Comments	AAP and SAD currently in preparation – it is proposed that they will include land safeguarded for railway lines, light rail routes, transport interchanges and other key transport infrastructure. This indicator will begin to be monitored once the relevant DPDs have been adopted.

Table 31 – Travel Plans and Agreements

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN2 - Appropriate provision or contribution towards transport works and Travel Plans measures.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN2
Target	Travel Plans to be produced and monitored for 100% of all planning applications that are required to submit a Transport Assessment or a Transport Statement.
Achievements	Travel plans provided with planning applications are assessed as part of the development management process but the Council currently has no resources to monitor

	<p>implementation of approved travel plans.</p> <p>However, the Council does monitor S278 agreements that provide transport improvements and transport related contributions coming forward through Section 106 agreements. In 2015/16 one contribution of £73,875 was received towards a feasibility assessment and pedestrian monitoring in relation to the redevelopment of the waterfront area of the town centre.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>The Council is unlikely to have the resources to monitor implementation of approved Travel Plans in the foreseeable future, but will continue monitoring contributions towards transport improvements secured through S278 and S106 agreements as stated above.</p>

Table 32 – Safeguarding Railway Lines

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN3a - The safeguarding of key existing and disused railway lines identified on the Transport Key Diagram.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN3
Target	No loss of safeguarded lines.
Achievements	No lines have been lost in 2015/16.
Actions or Comments	See LOI TRAN1. It is proposed that existing railway lines and disused railway lines with potential for re-use for freight or passenger services within Walsall will be safeguarded through the SAD and AAP.

Table 33 – Safeguarding Rail Access Sites

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN3b - Protection of sites with existing or potential rail access identified in TRAN3.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN3
Target	No loss of protected sites.
Achievements	No sites have been lost in 2015/16.
Actions or Comments	See LOI TRAN1. It is proposed that sites with existing or potential rail access within Walsall will be safeguarded through the SAD and AAP.

Table 34 – Increase in Cycle Use

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN4a - Increase in cycle use of monitored routes.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN4
Target	1% increase in cycling by 2026.
Achievements	<p>The 2011 Census data shows the percentage of people cycling to work in Walsall is currently 0.9%, with the average across the West Midlands being 1.0%</p> <p>The West Midlands Cycling Charter has set a target of 5% of all trips in the West Midlands Metropolitan area to be made by bicycle by 2023. The introduction of this Cycling Charter will provide the provision to monitor the LTP target and hopefully exceed it.</p> <p>Although the School Travel data (SIMS) is no longer being collected, Walsall have established a robust school travel recording process via the A*STARS (Active Sustainable Travel And Road Safety) programme.</p> <p>As more school join the A*STARS Programme, cycling to school levels continues to increase in Walsall, with 'All Age' cycle to school recorded at 2.3% in 2015/16, compared to 2.0% in 2014/15 and 1.3% in 2010/11. Cycling (and walking) levels for school journeys remain above the national average.</p>
Actions or Comments	The West Midlands Cycle Charter has now been agreed. A draft action plan is currently being consulted on and an index of data sources agreed to set the baseline to monitor progress against the 2023 target.

Table 35 – Implementation of Local Cycle Network

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN4b - Implementation of Proposed Local Cycle Network identified in the cycle network map.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN4
Target	Increase % length implemented.
Achievements	1250m of new cycle routes have been implemented in the

	past year. (in addition to this, 2 new Toucan crossings have been installed)
Actions or Comments	1 new school cycle shelter has also been installed (with a capacity of 20 bikes).

Table 36 – Long Stay Car Park Spaces

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN5a - Number of publically available long stay parking places in strategic centres.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN5
Target	Decrease the number of long stay parking spaces in centres over baseline for each centre by 2026.
Achievements	A decrease of 17 long stay spaces in centres in 2015/16.
Actions or Comments	BCCS Local Output Indicators CEN8a and CEN8b (Mandatory Indicator Target LTP6) have been replaced with BCCS Local Output Indicators TRAN5a and TRAN5b. A strategy for car parking in Walsall Town Centre will be developed through the AAP.

Table 37 – Location of New Public Owned Long Stay Car Parks

Transport and Accessibility	
LOI TRAN5b - All new publically owned long stay parking spaces in Strategic Centres to be located in peripheral locations.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy TRAN5
Target	100%
Achievements	No change to parking arrangements in Walsall Town Centre in 2015/16.
Actions or Comments	BCCS Local Output Indicators CEN8a and CEN8b (Mandatory Indicator Target LTP6) have been replaced with BCCS Local Output Indicators TRAN5a and TRAN5b. A strategy for car parking in Walsall Town Centre will be developed through the AAP.

UDP TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 38 – Transport (Increase Number of Bus Journeys)

Transport	
Local Output Indicator: Increase number of bus journeys in line with LTP target.	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy T2
Target	<p>LTP3 target is to increase bus use within West Mids Met Area from the 2010/11 base of 300.2 million trips per year to 315.2 million by 2015/16.</p> <p><i>It should be noted that LTP3 has been superseded by the West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan: Movement for Growth in December 2015 which does not have specific targets regarding increasing bus journeys.</i></p>
Achievements	Below target: 2015/16 figure was 267m across the West Midlands.
Actions or Comments	<p>The eventual recovery from the last recession had seen local bus use grow, as people returned to work and the population increased, but in 2015/16 bus boardings fell by 3%, a decline for the second year running. This indicates a return to the long-term negative trend, a fall of 2% per year on average in the last decade. This decline has not been offset by continued population growth, since this in large part reflects an ageing population, and boardings by older people are falling faster than by other groups. The ‘new old’, especially women, are more likely to have cars and drive than before whilst younger people aged 18 to 30 now make many more bus trips per head. The decline in boardings on the services of smaller operators has also been more pronounced, falling 6% in the period.</p>

Table 39 – Transport (Increase Number of Rail Journeys)

Transport	
Local Output Indicator: Increase the number of rail passenger journeys.	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy T3
Target	<p>There is no longer an LTP target related to rail travel. The closest is public transport access to strategic centres: Increase the AM proportion of trips by public transport into</p>

	<p>the nine strategic LTP centres as a whole to 37% by 2015/16.</p> <p><i>It should be noted that LTP3 has been superseded by the West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan: Movement for Growth in December 2015 which does not have specific targets regarding increasing public transport trips.</i></p>
Achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data for the AM public transport trips is at 37.49% in 2014/15. This is an increase from 2013/14 which was 35.54%. 2. Rail journeys are up 5.7% between 2014/15 and 2015/16 to 53.8 million trips a year.
Actions or Comments	Work is ongoing to electrify the Walsall to Rugeley line, increasing capacity and making improvements to the line speed. Work is also ongoing to progress the promotion of the electrification from Walsall to Aldridge.

Table 40 – Transport (Traffic Growth)

Transport	
Local Output Indicator: Keep traffic growth in line with LTP target.	
	G
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy T4, T5
Target	<p>To limit annual traffic growth to between 3% and 6% between 2009 and 2015</p> <p><i>It should be noted that LTP3 has been superseded by the West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan: Movement for Growth in December 2015 which does not have specific targets regarding annual traffic growth.</i></p>
Achievements	Data collected in 2009 and 2015 shows that in Walsall AM peak car trips have increased by 5.1%.
Actions or Comments	The increase in car trips can most likely be attributed to the country's economic recovery in which people are beginning to make more car journeys.

Table 41 – Transport (Bicycle Trips)

Transport	
Local Output Indicator: Increase proportion of trips made by bike in line with LTP target.	
	G
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy T9

Target	Increase the West Midlands Active Travel index by 5% from the 2010/11 baseline of 100 by 2015/16.
Achievements	<p>The 2011 Census data shows the percentage of people cycling to work in Walsall is currently 0.9%, with the average across the West Midlands being 1.0%</p> <p>The West Midlands Cycling Charter has set a target of 5% of all trips in the West Midlands Metropolitan area to be made by bicycle by 2023. The introduction of this Cycling Charter will provide the provision to monitor the LTP target and hopefully exceed it.</p> <p>The West Midlands Cycle Charter has now been agreed. However, the baseline index has not yet been established for monitoring the percentage increase in cycling across the West Midlands.</p> <p>The Dept. for Transport National Travel Survey showed the percentage of people that cycle for leisure in Walsall is 8.7% compared to 9.6% across England. The West Midlands as a region had an average of 6.9% for leisure cycling. Although this is a 0.4% increase on the previous year, the West Midlands still has some of the lowest levels of recreational cycling in the country.</p>
Actions or Comments	

Table 42 – Transport (Car Park Spaces)

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

Walsall UDP

5.41 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).

BCCS

5.42 Environmental transformation is one of the three directions of change from the vision for the BCCS. To achieve this aspiration, a number of sustainability challenges will need to be addressed as and when new development occurs in the Black Country. These include: climate change 'proofing' development, particularly in terms of developing in the most sustainable locations; prioritising the development of brownfield land; protecting and enhancing biodiversity, geo-diversity, local character and industrial heritage; and, establishing a network of high quality open spaces and sport and recreational facilities.

BCCS ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORE OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 43 – Planning Permissions Granted Contrary to Environment Agency Advice

Environmental Infrastructure	
COI ENV5 - Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on flooding and water quality grounds.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV5 (also relates to UDP Policy ENV40 and COI E1)
Target	0%
Achievements	Measuring compliance with this indicator can require a subjective judgement as it is common for representations about a planning application to be addressed during its consideration, either by the applicant supplying further information before the application is determined, or through a condition being attached to the permission. This is often the case where the Environment Agency requires for example ground investigations to be carried out to safeguard water supplies or water run-off.

	<p>However, only one application determined during the year has been identified where it appears that the advice of the agency may not have been followed. Application 14/1734/FL for Construction of three storey new building teaching block on existing school site at Joseph Leckie Academy together with associated landscape works, was granted on 2/4/15. The Agency requested conditions to safeguard controlled waters, but these do not appear to have been attached to the decision notice.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>Subject to the limitations of the monitoring process, and with the single exception identified above, initial objections from the Environment Agency were overcome as part of the determination process or through the inclusion of conditions on decision notices.</p> <p>We will continue to apply the policy and to take account of Environment Agency advice. The Site Allocation Document and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan will identify sites affected by flood risk and other constraints.</p>

Table 44 – Renewable Energy Generation

Environmental Infrastructure	
COI ENV7 - Renewable Energy Generation. LOI ENV7	
	R
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV7 (Former COI E3)
Target (for LOI ENV7)	100% of eligible developments delivering measures sufficient to off-set at least 10% of estimated residual energy demand.
Achievements	Although policy ENV7 was referred to as a relevant policy in the officer reports for nearly all applicable planning applications determined during the year, in no applications was compliance enforced by a condition of the permission. It is possible that at least some of the developments will deliver measures in accordance with the policy once completed, as may be indicated in documents submitted with the application, but the limited resources available do not allow these to be monitored.
Actions or Comments	The objectives of the policy can be achieved through a number of means. These include energy efficiency measures included within the development's construction, e.g. to satisfy Part L of the Building Regulations, that reduce the need for energy usage, and purchasing of energy generated off-site. However, one of the best ways of securing energy efficiency is to locate developments in

	<p>sustainable locations that minimise the need for occupiers to travel, and/or which allow for travel by walking, cycling and public transport.</p> <p>The BCCS stated that the COI for policy ENV7 is to be developed through future monitoring. This has not been achieved to date.</p>
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BCCS ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 45 – Monitoring target for biodiversity (change in areas of biodiversity importance)

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV1 - Change in areas of biodiversity importance.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV1 (Former UDP Policies ENV19-24 and COI E2)
Target	No net reduction in the area of designated nature conservation sites through development.
Achievements	<p>Special Areas of Conservation</p> <p>There were no losses to the single site of this status in the borough (Cannock Extension Canal SAC) between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016.</p> <p>Sites of Special Scientific Interest</p> <p>There were no losses or potential losses between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016. The Council is not aware of any extant planning permissions which were implemented within the reporting period.</p> <p>Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation</p> <p>Between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016 there were no potential losses due to planning permission granted affecting any SINC. The Council is not aware of any extant planning permissions which were implemented within the reporting period.</p> <p>Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation</p> <p>Between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016 there were no potential losses due to planning permission granted affecting any SLINC.</p>

	The Council is aware of an extant planning permissions which was implemented within the reporting period. This is for 6.36 ha of land within the Walsall Railway Cutting undertaken under planning permission 09/1342/FL. In this second case, no compensatory habitat was secured other than a requirement to restore the destroyed site to create wildlife habitats which will only recover over a long period.
Actions or Comments	Designated nature conservation sites under consideration in this indicator include all statutory sites comprising SACs and SSSIs as well as the non-statutory Local Sites which comprise SINC and SLINC. The planning policy framework gives absolute protection to all sites but the SLINC. If a SLINC is lost or damaged through development requiring planning permission compensatory habitat of equivalent value must be provided (LNRs are not included because all are either SSSIs, SINC or SLINC).

Table 46 – Planning Permissions Granted in Accordance With Historic Environment Advice

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV2 - Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with Conservation/Historic Environmental Section or Advisor recommendations.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV2
Target	100%
Achievements	100% of planning permissions where the Conservation/Historic Environmental Section or Advisor were consulted were granted in accordance with their recommendations (based on 10% sample).
Actions or Comments	The current planning software does not allow for easy extraction of planning decisions along with officers' responses to the associated recommendations. A 10% sample of permissions will therefore be used to determine the effectiveness of this policy until such time as the planning software is able to easily provide this data.

Table 47 – Building for Life Assessments

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV3 - Housing Quality Building for Life assessment of major housing schemes completed.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV3 (Former COI H6)
Target	Move towards 100% with a rating of good or very good by 2026.
Achievements	The Council does not currently monitor or record this data.
Actions or Comments	The council does not have the resources to be able to assess developments against the building for life standards.

Table 48 – Major Planning Permissions and Design Standards

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV3a and 3b - Proportion of major planning permissions adequately addressing By Design, Manual for Streets, Building for Life and Code for Sustainable Homes/ BREEAM standards as appropriate.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV3
Target	100%
Achievements	Whilst our planning software is not currently able to record information about applications that address design standards, these standards are taken into account as part of the determination process for major planning applications.
Actions or Comments	<p>The council does not have the resources to be able to assess developments against these standards. However, some developers continue to submit schemes that are claimed to comply, and specific issues that relate to elements of the standards, for example relating to building security, are addressed when identified by development management officers or consultees such as the Police.</p> <p>The Code for Sustainable Homes was withdrawn on 22 April 2015 and replaced by the Home Quality Mark scheme</p>

Table 49 – Planning Permissions Granted in Accordance with Conservation Advice

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV4a - Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with Conservation Section's recommendations.	
A	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV4
Target	100%
Achievements	75% of planning permissions where the Conservation Section was consulted were granted in accordance with their recommendations (based on 10% sample).
Actions or Comments	The current planning software does not allow for easy extraction of planning decisions along with officers' responses to the associated recommendations. A 10% sample of permissions will therefore be used to determine the effectiveness of this policy until such time as the planning software is able to easily provide this data. For part of the monitoring year (April – July) there was no Conservation Officer in post and consultations were not being picked up by any other officers.

Table 50 – Planning Permissions Granted in Accordance with Canal & River Trust (formerly British Waterways) Advice

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV4b - Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with Canal & River Trust planning related advice.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV4
Target	100%
Achievements	No planning applications were granted against the advice of the Canal & River Trust during the 2015/16 monitoring year.
Actions or Comments	We will continue to apply the policy and to take account of advice. The Site Allocation Document and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan will identify sites that lie adjacent to canals to ensure these are taken into account in the development process.

Table 51 – Planning Permissions Including Appropriate SUDs

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV5 - Proportion of major planning permissions including appropriate SUDs.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV5
Target	100%
Achievements	This has not been monitored systematically for 2015/16, although it is known that at least some major residential developments (for example the former Servis site in Darlaston Road, Wednesbury and sites in Goscote) are incorporating SUDs.
Actions or Comments	The Council's Flood Risk Manager post became vacant in 2013 and has not yet been filled so resources are not available to allow this information to be checked. The planning application software does not allow for this information to be easily identified.

Table 52 – Accessible Open Space

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV6a - Accessible open space by hectare per 1,000 population.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV6
Target	5ha
Achievements	Current figure (@ 31.03.16) = 4.84ha per 1000 population. However, this figure does not take account of population growth since the preparation of the Green Space Strategy.
Actions or Comments	The figure of 4.84ha is derived from the updated open space dataset used to inform Walsall Council's revised Green Space Strategy 2012. This dataset has been monitored and revised over the last 12 months to ensure up-to-date evidence is used in support of the emerging Site Allocations DPD. The slight reduction in accessible open space is as a result of amendments made to site boundaries in order to ensure sites are accurately carried forward into the Site Allocation Document.

Table 53 – Delivery of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Proposals

Environmental Infrastructure															
LOI ENV6b - Delivery through Local Development Documents of broad open space, sport and recreation proposals for each Regeneration Corridor and Strategic Centre set out in BCCS Appendix 2.			A												
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV6														
Target	100% of provision in BCCS Appendix 2 by 2026. Specific targets for Walsall are set out in the table below.														
	<table><tr><th>BCCS Location</th><th>Summary of BCCS Appendix 2 Proposals</th></tr><tr><td>Walsall Strategic Centre</td><td>Improvements to the canal network (possible greenway designation) and possible “Green Flag” application for Walsall Arboretum.</td></tr><tr><td>RC5: Loxdale-Moxley</td><td>Improvements to Great Bridge Road playing fields and improvements to the canal network, e.g. for access to George Rose Park or Moorcroft Wood.</td></tr><tr><td>RC6: Darlaston-Willenhall-Wednesfield</td><td>Improvements to Fibbersley open spaces (including playing fields) and continued investment in Willenhall Memorial Park hub site.</td></tr><tr><td>RC7: Bloxwich-Birchills-Bescot</td><td>Improvements to Pleck Park, Reedswood Park and other green spaces in this area.</td></tr><tr><td>RC15: Brownhills</td><td>Continued protection and access to natural green space sites at Brownhills and Clayhanger Commons.</td></tr></table>			BCCS Location	Summary of BCCS Appendix 2 Proposals	Walsall Strategic Centre	Improvements to the canal network (possible greenway designation) and possible “Green Flag” application for Walsall Arboretum.	RC5: Loxdale-Moxley	Improvements to Great Bridge Road playing fields and improvements to the canal network, e.g. for access to George Rose Park or Moorcroft Wood.	RC6: Darlaston-Willenhall-Wednesfield	Improvements to Fibbersley open spaces (including playing fields) and continued investment in Willenhall Memorial Park hub site.	RC7: Bloxwich-Birchills-Bescot	Improvements to Pleck Park, Reedswood Park and other green spaces in this area.	RC15: Brownhills	Continued protection and access to natural green space sites at Brownhills and Clayhanger Commons.
	BCCS Location	Summary of BCCS Appendix 2 Proposals													
	Walsall Strategic Centre	Improvements to the canal network (possible greenway designation) and possible “Green Flag” application for Walsall Arboretum.													
	RC5: Loxdale-Moxley	Improvements to Great Bridge Road playing fields and improvements to the canal network, e.g. for access to George Rose Park or Moorcroft Wood.													
	RC6: Darlaston-Willenhall-Wednesfield	Improvements to Fibbersley open spaces (including playing fields) and continued investment in Willenhall Memorial Park hub site.													
	RC7: Bloxwich-Birchills-Bescot	Improvements to Pleck Park, Reedswood Park and other green spaces in this area.													
RC15: Brownhills	Continued protection and access to natural green space sites at Brownhills and Clayhanger Commons.														
Achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Arboretum Visitor Centre opened in May 2015 and concluded the delivery of the Restoration Programme (original programme of works). Green Flag application postponed until works to upgrade the main park car park the Grange Car Park are completed (works scheduled for late 2016). An additional programme of works utilising underspend funding from the Restoration Programme budget was														

	<p>agreed with the Heritage Lottery Fund. Works to be delivered May 2016 – June 2017. Staff restructure to improve the staff coverage within the park and provide extra cover at peak times commenced. Restructure planned to ‘go live’ May 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The heathland restoration management plan for Brownhills Common (adjacent to RC15) continued to be implemented. Some stands of young trees and shrubs were removed from the heathland to benefit Heather and other species. • RC6: Darlaston-Willenhall-Wednesfield RC7: Bloxwich-Birchills-Bescot - Key developments took place to interlink Willenhall Memorial Park and Fibbersley Local Nature Reserve. At Willenhall Memorial Park part of the play area was resurfaced, an existing roundabout was replaced with a more inclusive piece of equipment and eight benches were installed. • RC7: Bloxwich-Birchills-Bescot: Specialist resurfacing work was carried out around large oak tree on car park at King George V Playing Fields together with white lining. Non-turf cricket pitches were installed at Reedswood Park and Birch Street Open Space, with footpath works also at Reedswood Park.
Action or Comments	<p>Open space, sport and recreation proposals for Walsall’s regeneration corridors and the strategic centre are set out in Tables 2 and 3 of the BCCS, as well as diagrammatically in Appendix 2.</p> <p>To enable this BCCS indicator to be addressed as part of the plan period to 2026, where appropriate these proposals will be included within specific policies or land allocations (e.g. new or improved urban open space) in the emerging Walsall Site Allocations document and Town Centre Area Action Plan (as well as potentially new SPDs or revisions to existing SPDs).</p>

Table 54 – Development Delivering Renewable Energy Measures

Deleted: this table duplicates Table 44

Table 55 – Planning Permissions Granted in Accordance with Air Quality / Environmental Advice

Environmental Infrastructure	
LOI ENV8 - Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with Air Quality / environmental protection section recommendations.	G

Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy ENV8
Target	100%
Achievements	<p>100% of planning permissions were granted in accordance with Air Quality / environmental protection section recommendations (based on 10% sample).</p> <p>Consultation on an Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document took place at the end of the monitoring year (February to April 2016)</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>The planning applications software does not allow for easy extraction of the relationship between planning decisions and the recommendations from pollution control officers in respect of air quality. A 10% sample of major applications has therefore be used to determine the effectiveness of this policy.</p> <p>Future monitoring for this indicator will be based on the adoption of the Air Quality SPD.</p>

UDP ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 56 – Protection of the Green Belt

Environmental Infrastructure		
Local Output Indicator- Green Belt: Protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.		A
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy ENV2	
Target	100% protection of Green Belt from inappropriate development.	
Achievements	100% achieved when allowance for very special circumstances are taken into account.	
Actions or Comments	<p>No planning permissions were granted for development in the Green Belt which was contrary to UDP Policy ENV2.</p> <p>In a small number of cases development was granted planning permission that is, or would normally be, considered inappropriate in the green belt (see table below). However in all cases these applications were considered to be in compliance with the Development Plan as they were justified by the demonstration of very special circumstances, which outweighed the harm by way of inappropriateness to</p>	

	<p>the Green Belt.</p> <p>One application was granted by Planning Committee contrary to recommendation, for the reasons set out below.</p>
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Applications involving development that may be considered inappropriate in the green belt:

Application Reference	Location	Reasons for Approval	Decision Date
14/1537/OL	Land South of 370, Chester Road, Walsall (Former Block Works)	<p>Against the recommendation of officers Planning Committee resolved to grant outline planning permission subject to conditions for a care home.</p> <p>Planning Committee considered that the special circumstances for the development type within the green belt primarily the local need for the complex and specialist service the care home would provide to Walsall service users enabling them to remain closer to family rather than being placed out of area, that the area and environment was ideally suited for the clientele and that NHS England and Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group had given their support to the specialist service the establishment would offer for Walsall enabled full support to be given to the scheme.</p>	16/02/2016
14/1563/FL and 14/1602/LB	The Old Hall Farm, Old Hall Lane, Walsall, WS9 0RF	The proposed development involved the conversion of traditional farm buildings, including a Grade II listed Barn, into dwellings. This was appropriate development in the Green Belt as was is not disproportionately larger than the existing buildings, therefore leading to no greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt, and also because of the special circumstances of providing a viable future for a listed building.	02/09/2015

Table 57 - Tree Planting

Environmental Infrastructure	
Local Output Indicator- Tree Planting	
G	
Local Plan Policy	UDP Policy ENV18
Target	20yr strategic plan (<i>quarterly targets to increase canopy cover</i>) minimum 12% borough wide.
Achievements	70 street trees (borough wide) mitigation of lost trees as part of Tree Maintenance Programme.
Actions or Comments	The Council's budget approved in February 2016 announced that, from Autumn 2016, no funding would be available for tree planting. All funding will need to be sourced externally or through mitigation schemes with cross service agreements.

Table 58 – Open Space managed to Green Flag Award Standard

Environmental Infrastructure	
Local Indicator (formerly Core Output Indicator 4c): Amount of eligible open space managed to Green Flag Award standard	
A	
LDF Policy	UDP Policy LC1
Target	Retention of existing Green Flag sites and award of new sites as per Green Space Strategy.
Achievements	Retention of Palfrey Park, Willenhall Memorial Park and Merriens Wood and Rough Wood and Bentley Haye Local Nature Reserves as existing Green Flag sites and Blackwood Park as a new site.
Actions or Comments	The Council secured an additional Green Flag site since the last monitoring year. The Council has adopted a revised Green Space Strategy for the period 2012 – 2017. This strategy has an aim to achieve and retain six Green Flag awards (including potentially the existing three Green Flag sites in the borough) by the end of the strategy period (2017). 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 ⁶ . 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.
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Table 59 – Protection of Urban Open Space

Environmental Infrastructure	
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of urban open spaces from inappropriate development.	
	G
LDF Policy	UDP Policy LC1
Target	100% protection
Achievements	Only one application for development that would normally be inappropriate in open space was granted during the year. This was application reference 14/1734/FL for construction of three storey new building teaching block on existing school site at Joseph Leckie Academy together with associated landscape works. A small part of the application site involved an area of land adjacent to the school that is allocated as open space in the UDP.
Actions or Comments	This indicator only currently relates to open space that is allocated as such in the UDP. There are other areas of open space that might have been affected by inappropriate development during the year but these proposals have not been monitored for the purpose of this indicator. However, the emerging Site Allocation Document proposes to safeguard all areas of open space over 0.4ha in size, including most school playing fields: it is expected that the indicator will be updated when the SAD is adopted.

Table 60 – Provision of New Urban Open Space

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

⁶ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/coreoutputindicators2.pdf>

Actions or Comments	This indicator is now outdated but the provision (through potential new allocation) of new urban open space and its subsequent monitoring will be addressed through work on the emerging Walsall Site Allocations DPD.
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Table 61 – Length of Greenways

Environmental Infrastructure		
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	48 km has been achieved since the UDP was adopted (2005), which is considerably higher than the original target.	
Actions or Comments	This indicator is no longer monitored as the target has been achieved and exceeded. A new monitoring indicator of identifying the number of planning permissions that reduce the length of the existing greenway network is being proposed through the emerging Site Allocations Document. This will also identify and allocate potential new greenways.	

Table 62 – Protection of Playing Fields and Sports Pitches

Environmental Infrastructure		
UDP Monitoring Indicator: Protection of playing fields / sports pitches.		G
LDF Policy	UDP Policy LC6	
Target	100% protection	
Achievements	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.	
Actions or Comments	Monitoring to date indicates that the policy is being applied effectively. The Council will continue to monitor development proposals affecting playing fields and sports pitches – no further action required.	

BCCS

6.65 The BCCS includes a Spatial Objective for waste (Spatial Objective 9), which states that by 2026, the Black Country will have “sufficient waste recycling and waste management facilities in locations which are the most accessible and have the least environmental impact.” By 2026 the Black Country will also have achieved:

- Zero waste growth – taking into account the levels of development and growth proposed in the BCCS;
- Net self-sufficiency in waste management - the capacity to manage a tonnage of waste equivalent to the tonnage of waste arising in the area;
- An increased variety of waste management facilities - enabling a wider range of wastes to be managed locally than is currently the case;
- Improved recovery of value from waste – waste will be moved further the “waste hierarchy,” and will be seen as a valuable resource, rather than as a problem;
- Protection of existing waste management capacity against needless loss to other uses.

6.66 The BCCS waste policies quantify future waste management requirements to 2026, identify infrastructure projects expected to be implemented during the plan period that will contribute to the requirements, and include criteria for assessing new waste management development proposals. They aim to safeguard the capacity of existing waste management infrastructure, particularly at “strategic sites” which provide the bulk of the Black Country’s existing capacity. They also require other types of development to demonstrate that any waste generated by the development process and by the new use will be managed responsibly.

6.67 Each of the BCCS waste policies has at least one Local Output Indicator (LOI) to measure the extent to which the Black Country Authorities are implementing the key objectives of the policy. In some cases, the indicators specified in the BCCS have been refined to reflect the most relevant and up-to-date data sources available, which give an indication of performance

6.68 As it is no longer a requirement to record performance against the former Core Output Indicators (COIs) identified in AMRs produced before 2012, the tables below relate mainly to the Local Output Indicators (LOIs) identified in the BCCS. However, in practice, the same sources of data have been used to measure performance. Where there is some relationship to an old indicator identified in previous AMRs, a cross-reference has been included.

6.69 Previous AMRs have included monitoring information for all of the Black Country Authorities, however this has not been possible for this monitoring year. Due to staff resources, the data in the waste table below is only provisional and it has not been possible to update the

information in some of the waste tables. It is intended to rectify any errors in future years.

BCCS WASTE LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 63 – Diversion of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) from Landfill

Waste	
LOI WM1a – Diversion of waste from landfill – a) % LACW (local authority collected waste)* diversion * BCCS refers to this as “municipal waste” but Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) is the term now used to describe waste collected by local authorities.	G
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM1 (relates in part to former COI W2)
Target	Targets for diversion of LACW from landfill in the Black Country by 2026 are set out in BCCS Policy WM1, Table 15. There are targets for individual authorities in Table WM1d, BCCS Appendix 6. By 2026 84% of the LACW arising in the Black Country is expected to be diverted away from landfill. The target for landfill diversion in Walsall is 75%.
Achievements	The table below shows the LACW diversion rates achieved in Walsall since the BCCS “baseline” year, compared to the BCCS targets. It can be seen that the BCCS target for 2026 has been achieved in both of the last two years, 2014/15 and 2015/16. Source: BCCS Policy WM1 Table 15 and BCCS Appendix 6 Table WM1d, Defra LACW Statistics: Local Authority Data, 2006/07 – 2015/16.

Diversion of Walsall's Local Authority Collected Waste (Household Waste) from Landfill

Year	Landfill	Incineration with EfW	Incineration without EfW	Recycled/ Composted	Other	Total Waste Managed	Total Waste Diverted (Incineration with EfW, Recycled/ Composted)	Diversion Rate Achieved	% waste sent to landfill	Min Diversion from Landfill	Max Landfill
2006/07	94,702	13,372	0	36,431	0	144,505	49,803	34.46%	65.54%	40.0%	60%
2007/08	61,841	35,878	0	40,663	0	138,382	76,541	55.31%	44.69%		
2008/09	57,753	29,516	0	42,985	0	130,254	72,501	55.66%	44.34%		
2009/10	42,306	26,698	0	55,913	0	124,917	82,611	66.13%	33.87%		
2010/11	46,843	18,779	0	53,972	0	119,593	72,751	60.83%	39.17%	65.0%	35%
2011/12	57,980	8,115	0	53,384	229	119,708	61,499	51.37%	48.43%		
2012/13	55,910	10,716	0	45,699	2,510	114,835	56,415	49.13%	48.69%		
2013/14	50,280	19,911	0	49,043	1,407	120,641	68,954	57.16%	41.68%		
2014/15	11,530	59,343	0	50,697	666	122,235	110,040	90.02%	9.43%		
2015/16	7,321	64,477	0	49,685	85	121,567	114,161	93.91%	6.02%	70.0%	30.0%
2020/21										75.0%	25.0%
2025/26										75.0%	25.0%

	<p>Notes on Table:</p> <p>1. The BCCS targets relate to the waste collected and managed by the Black Country Authorities. This waste stream, referred to in the BCCS as “municipal waste,” is now referred to as “Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)” because the definition of “municipal waste” in the Landfill Directive also includes commercial wastes of a similar type to household waste, not all of which are necessarily managed by councils.</p> <p>2. “Landfill diversion” means managing waste in ways other than disposal to landfill. Diversion can be achieved through the following methods of management: preparing waste for re-use, recycling, composting or energy recovery. The BCCS targets relate to the tonnages of LACW diverted from landfill annually, as a percentage of the total tonnage of LACW managed by the Black Country Authorities.</p> <p>3. The diversion rate indicated in the table is the percentage of LACW recorded as “Recycled/Composted” and “Incineration with EfW” during each monitoring year (April – March), as a percentage of total LACW managed during the same monitoring year.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>Landfill diversion rates for LACW have improved significantly in the Black Country since the BCCS was adopted, largely a result of significant improved arrangements for waste transfer, sorting and bulking at Council depots and transfer stations (see Table 65 below). The following action has also been taken in Walsall to address the recent slippage in LACW diversion rates, compared to the rates achieved in 2010/11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most significant factor in Walsall’s poor performance prior to 2014 was lack of access to energy recovery infrastructure. However, this is being addressed. There is now a 25-year contract in place to send residual waste to the new Veolia energy recovery facility in Four Ashes in South Staffordshire (W2R). • Another factor has been contamination of co-mingled recyclable waste, resulting in the rejection of some consignments by the contractor. Various actions have been taken by the Council to address this, and as a result, contamination rates have reduced.

Table 64 – Diversion of Commercial & Industrial (C&I) Waste from Landfill

Waste		G
LOI WM1a – Diversion of waste from landfill – b) % C&I waste* diversion		
*Commercial & Industrial Waste (C&IW) – the BCCS refers to this as “Commercial waste,” reflecting the limitations of the information available on waste arisings and management at a local level, except for Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) (see below).		
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM1	
Target	Targets for diversion of C&IW from landfill in the Black Country by 2026 are set out in BCCS Policy WM1, Table 15. The targets for individual authorities (see Table WM1e, BCCS Appendix 6) are the same. By 2026, Walsall and the other Black Country authorities are expected to have infrastructure in place capable of diverting at least 75% of the C&IW predicted to arise annually in the area.	
Achievements	<p>As with local authority waste recorded in table 63, the proportion of commercial and industrial waste diverted from landfill has exceeded the BCCS target in recent years. The table below shows indicative “diversion rates” achieved since the BCCS baseline year (2006/07). This shows the proportion of waste entering non-landfill sites each year since 2007, as a percentage of total annual inputs of waste into sites of all types including landfill sites.</p> <p>Sources: Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator 2007 – 2012 and Environment Agency Operational Incinerators 2012.</p>	

Walsall Diversion of Commercial and Industrial Waste from Landfill –

Year	Landfill	Incinerater / EfW	MRS	Treatment	Use of Waste	Transfer	Total Waste Managed	Total Waste Diverted (Incinerater/ EfW, MSR, Use of Waste, Transfer)	Diversion Rate Achieved	% waste sent to landfill	BCCS targets (percentage)	
											Min Diversion from Landfill	Max Landfill
2006	403,923	0	398,098	159,510	0	114,917	1,076,448	672,525	62.5%	37.52%	61%	39%
2007	455,536	0	80,073	138,224	0	139,784	813,617	358,081	44.0%	55.99%		
2008	537,815	0	410,555	155,263	0	145,418	1,249,051	711,236	56.9%	43.06%		
2009	454,345	0	339,500	306,086	0	135,722	1,235,653	781,308	63.2%	36.77%		
2010	324,999	0	393,037	158,175	0	275,247	1,151,458	826,459	71.8%	28.22%	65.0%	35%
2011	330,885	0	354,415	170,507	0	325,760	1,181,567	850,682	72.0%	28.00%		
2012	185,974	0	259,921	216,091	0	305,856	967,842	781,868	80.8%	19.22%		
2013	135,722	0	76,889	195,249	0	286,218	694,078	558,356	80.4%	19.55%		
2014	98,429	0	271,553	288,686	14,957	357,920	1,031,545	933,116	90.5%	9.54%		
2015	117,185	0	294,954	259,922	16,114	236,672	924,847	807,662	87.3%	12.67%	70.0%	30.0%
2020											75.0%	25.0%
2025											75.0%	25.0%

<p>Achievements</p>	<p>Notes on Table:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BCCS targets relate to waste generated by businesses. Although the LACW stream does include some trade waste from small businesses, this accounts for less than 10% of all LACW in the Black Country, most of which is household waste. 2. The term “landfill diversion” means managing waste in alternative ways to landfilling. Diversion can be achieved through the following methods of management: preparing waste for re-use, recycling, composting or energy recovery. The BCCS targets relate to the tonnages of C&IW to be diverted away from landfill annually, as a percentage of the total tonnage of C&IW estimated to arise annually in the Black Country. 3. Performance data in the table relates to waste inputs by tonnage into commercial (merchant) sites permitted by the Environment Agency, as recorded in the specified data sources. The indicative diversion rates are total inputs into non-landfill commercial waste sites, as a percentage of total inputs by tonnage into all commercial waste sites recorded in the specified calendar years. <p>The information in the table is only indicative as there is no information available on actual C&IW arisings and management at a local level. We therefore have to use Environment Agency data on inputs and outputs of waste at permitted sites in the Black Country as a “proxy,” to give a broad indication of how the waste generated by Black Country businesses is probably being managed.</p> <p>The data in the table covers calendar years (January – December), rather than monitoring years (April – March) and is therefore not exactly comparable to the BCCS targets.</p> <p>The information also relates to waste managed in the Black Country at permitted, commercial, non-landfill waste management sites. Not all of this waste will necessarily have arisen in the Black Country, or will have been re-used, recycled or recovered. However, analysis of other Environment Agency data suggests high levels of C&IW diversion are being achieved in Walsall, and that the BCCS target for C&IW diversion in 2015/16 has probably been met.</p>
<p>Actions or Comments</p>	<p>The targets for C&IW diversion in the BCCS are based on those identified in proposed revisions to the former West Midlands RSS. These were based on a review of future requirements in the former region, using the best information available. This suggested that by 2026, the Black Country should have in place infrastructure capable of delivering a minimum landfill diversion rate of 75% for C&IW, meaning that there should be enough capacity in place to re-use, recycle, compost or recover a tonnage of waste equivalent to 75% of the tonnage of C&IW expected to arise in the area.</p>

	<p>The following action is proposed for future monitoring of this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided that they have the capacity to analyse the data, the Black Country Authorities will continue to use the data sources indicated above as indicators of C&IW diversion in the Black Country, for comparison with the BCCS C&IW diversion targets. • The Black Country Authorities may also make use of other data to monitor C&IW re-use and recycling rates and landfill diversion rates, as, when and if such sources become available.
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Table 65 – Delivery of BCCS Waste Capacity Requirements

Waste	
LOI WM1b - % of new waste capacity granted permission / implemented as specified in BCCS Policy WM1, Table 16 (tonnes per annum) by 2026.	
	A
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM1 (relates in part to former COI W1)
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>Table 16 of the BCCS sets out how much new waste management capacity needs to be provided in the Black Country by 2026 to achieve “net self-sufficiency,” broaden the range of facilities available, and drive waste up the “waste hierarchy,” in line with BCCS Spatial Objective 9, taking into account the capacity of the infrastructure already in place at the BCCS “baseline” (31.03.09).</p>
Achievements	<p>It has not been possible to monitor progress this year towards meeting this target, at least as far as measuring the capacity of any new facilities. However, it is expected that the emerging SAD will safeguard existing waste facilities and allocate potential sites for new facilities to help meet this target.</p>

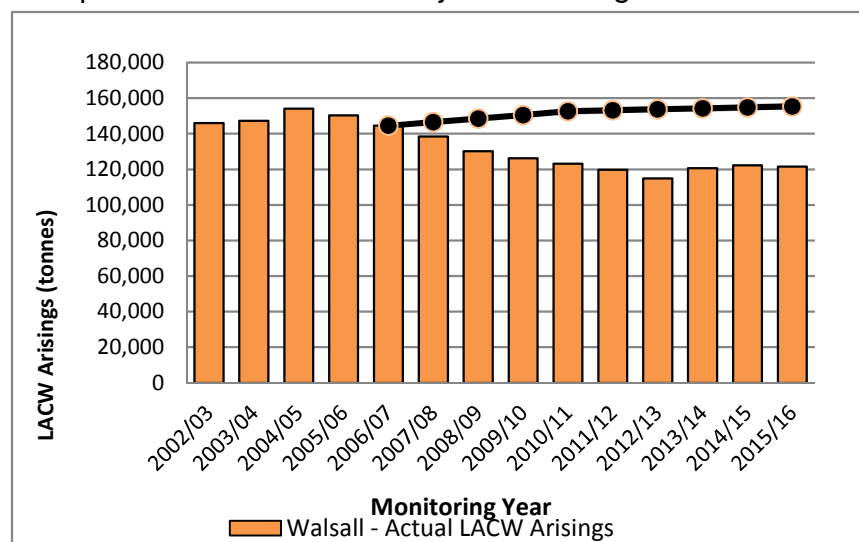
Table 66 – Waste Growth – Net Change in Waste Arisings

Waste	
LOI WM1c - % of growth in tonnage of waste arising.	
A	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM1
Target	<p>0% by 2026</p> <p>Table WM1b of BCCS Appendix 6 estimates the amount of waste expected to arise annually in the Black Country, and in each authority area, including Walsall, by 2025/26. This is based on the waste projections in Appendix E, Black Country Waste Planning Study (2009), Atkins Ltd for Black Country Authorities.</p> <p>The study predicts no growth in C&IW and CD&EW arisings in the Black Country after 2020/21, although LACW is expected to continue to grow up to 2025/26, due to housing development and further household formation. It is projected that in 2025/26, around 4.567 million tonnes of waste will arise in the Black Country, of which 0.679 million tonnes will be LACW, 2.443 million tonnes C&IW, and 1.445 million tonnes CD&EW. Around 0.287 million tonnes is expected to be hazardous.⁷</p> <p>The Black Country Waste Planning Study includes predicted arisings for each year up to 2025/26, with “benchmarks” at five-yearly intervals.</p>
Achievements	<p>LACW and hazardous waste are the only waste streams with an organised data collection system providing information on annual waste arisings at a local level. We can therefore only monitor trends with confidence for these two waste streams.</p> <p>Figures A and B below show how annual LACW and hazardous waste arisings in Walsall have compared with the tonnages of waste predicted to arise in the BCCS projections, since 2006/07.</p> <p>Figure A shows that LACW arisings have been lower than was predicted in the Black Country Waste Planning Study. In the 2010/11 “benchmark” year, nearly 123,000 tonnes of LACW arose in Walsall, around 30,000 tonnes less than</p>

⁷ Hazardous waste is a sub-set of the other waste streams but hazardous waste arisings were added to the current and projected LACW, C&I waste and CD&EW arisings in Tables WM1a and WM1b of BCCS Appendix 6, in error, to generate the total waste arisings figures. Projected total waste arisings in 2026 should be the sum of LACW, C&IW and CD&EW arisings = 4.157 million tonnes.

predicted. The quantity of LACW arising annually declined to its lowest point in 2012/13 and since then has risen slightly but appears to be stabilising at around 121,000 tonnes per year.

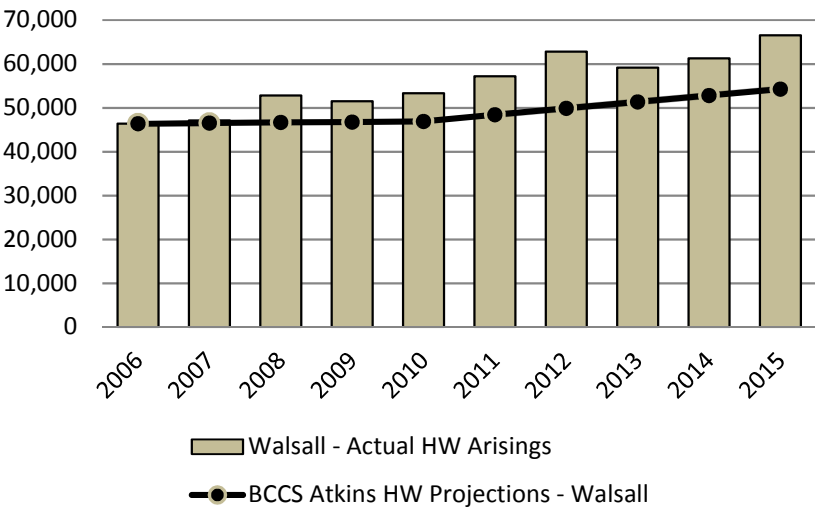
Figure A Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) Arisings in Walsall Per Annum 2006/07 - 2015/16 (tonnes) - Comparison of Actual and Projected Arisings



Source : Waste arisings from Defra Local Authority Waste Management Statistics 2006/07 - 2015/16, waste projections from Appendix E, Black Country Waste Planning Study (2009), Atkins Ltd for Black Country Authorities (Atkins Municipal Waste Projections)

Figure B shows that the **hazardous waste arisings** in Walsall have been higher than the BCCS projections since 2007, and are continuing to increase.

Figure B Hazardous Waste Arisings in Walsall 2006 - 2015 - Comparison of Actual and Projected Arisings

	 <p>Source: Waste arisings from Environment Agency Hazardous Waste Interrogator 2006 – 2015, waste projections from Appendix E, Black Country Waste Planning Study (2009), Atkins Ltd for Black Country Authorities.</p>
	<p>Notes on Figures A and B:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BCCS waste projections relate to the tonnages of waste predicted to arise in monitoring years (April – March), but data on hazardous waste arisings is only available for calendar years (January – December). 2. Therefore, in Figure B, the dots representing BCCS projected arisings for <u>monitoring years</u> (1 April – 31 March) are shown above the bars representing hazardous waste arisings in the nearest equivalent <u>calendar year</u> (1 January – 31 December), as follows: dot for 2006/07 projection above bar for 2006 arisings, and so on.
<p>Actions or Comments</p>	<p>The Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator records inputs of household, commercial and industrial (HIC) waste and inert construction and demolition (Inert C&D) waste into permitted waste sites. These are indicators of management capacity rather than waste arising locally. While they show a decrease in inputs of Inert C&D waste between 2007 and 2012, there appears to be no significant change in inputs of HIC waste over the same period.</p> <p>While it is not entirely clear why the amount of hazardous waste produced in Walsall has increased, analysis of the types of waste produced suggest it may be linked to increases in outputs of hazardous waste residues from treatment, as a result of recent increases in hazardous waste treatment capacity in the borough. An amber “RAG” rating has been shown for Walsall because of this increase, but in fact the increase may reflect the success of the industry in Walsall in expanding to deal with this type of waste imported from elsewhere, rather than a failure to reduce the production of hazardous waste.</p> <p>The main purposes of this indicator are to monitor whether the BCCS objective of “zero waste growth” is being met, and to compare actual arisings (where known) with the long-term</p>

	<p>projections in the BCCS technical evidence, on the tonnages of waste expected to be generated in the “benchmark” years. We can only measure performance against this indicator for the two smallest waste streams – LACW and hazardous waste - with confidence, as these are the only waste streams that have systems in place for collection of actual data on annual arisings. It is unlikely that we will ever have similar data on the tonnages of C&IW and CD&EW arising in the Black Country as there is no system in place to collect such data. In the absence of any local data on C&IW and CD&EW arisings, we have no option but to use the best other data available.</p> <p>The Black Country Authorities are proposing the following action for future monitoring of this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The data sources indicated above will continue to be used to measure trends in LACW and hazardous waste arisings, and as general indicators of net change in waste arisings in the Black Country, for comparison with the BCCS projections to 2026; and • The Black Country Authorities will also make use of other data sources to monitor C&IW and CD&EW arisings, as when and if such sources become available.
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Table 67 – Strategic Waste Sites – Net Change in Capacity

Waste	
LOI WM2a - % protection* of capacity of existing/ proposed strategic waste management sites, by waste planning authority.	A
<p>*Definition of protection = no net loss of waste management capacity at strategic sites identified in the Core Strategy (includes existing sites subject to BCCS Policy WM2 and listed in Appendix 6, and proposals in Policy WM3, Table 17). Capacity may be maintained through retention of facilities on existing sites, or through relocation of capacity elsewhere within the Black Country.</p>	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM2
Target	<p>100% by 2026</p> <p>The BCCS identifies 58 existing “strategic” waste management sites in the Black Country, 16 of which are in Walsall. The location of these sites is shown on the BCCS Waste Key Diagram and they are listed in Tables WM2a–WM2d of BCCS Appendix 6.</p>

Achievements

The “strategic sites” provide a very high proportion of the Black Country’s (and Walsall’s) total waste management capacity. At the BCCS “baseline” date (end of March 2009), it was estimated that they provided around 85% of the Black Country’s commercial waste treatment capacity and around 75% of its commercial waste transfer capacity (based on inputs in tonnes in 2007).

It has not been possible to update this table this year.

However, it is expected that the emerging Site Allocation Document will safeguard existing strategic waste sites and allocate potential sites for new facilities. The information below shows the situation at the end of 2012-13.

The table below shows net changes in capacity at “strategic sites” since the BCCS “baseline” date. This includes information on net gains in capacity recorded in planning permissions which have been implemented, and other information gathered by the Black Country authorities on net losses at sites that have closed.

STRATEGIC WASTE SITES IN THE BLACK COUNTRY – CHANGES TO OPERATIONAL CAPACITY OF SITES 2009/10 – 2012/13

Capacity Change 2009/10 – 2011/12	Dudley	Sandwell	Walsall	W’ton	Black Country
Capacity Gained (TPA)	166,100	150,000	222,500	90,000	628,600
Capacity Lost (TPA)	0	0	159,150	0	159,150
Net Change in Capacity (TPA)	+166,100	+150,000	+63,350	+90,000	+469,450

Source: Black Country Authorities “strategic sites” monitoring

Notes on Table:

1. Capacity changes indicated in the table include net gains and losses of capacity at existing “strategic sites” identified in the BCCS, plus capacity gained through development of new “strategic sites” meeting the criteria in BCCS Policy WM2 since the baseline date, and capacity lost through closure of sites.

The table shows that capacity lost through closure of some “strategic sites” between 2009/10 and 2011/12 has been

	<p>offset by capacity gained through improvements at other “strategic sites,” and through the development of new “strategic sites” meeting the definition in the Justification to BCCS Policy WM2 (see paragraph 7.22).</p> <p>Analysis of annual inputs of waste (by tonnage) into “strategic sites” regulated by the Environment Agency between 2007 and 2012 indicates that there was a slight fall in the tonnage of waste entering permitted “strategic sites” in the Black Country in 2012 (around 2.582 million tonnes) compared to inputs in 2011 (around 2.751 million tonnes). Inputs were also lower in 2011 than in 2007 (around 2.673 million tonnes).</p> <p>As at the end of 2012-13, there has been no overall loss in capacity at “strategic sites” since 2009, so the BCCS target has been met. The evidence available also suggests that the capacity of “strategic sites” is being adequately protected, and that losses of sites to other uses have been offset by development of new sites.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>The main sources of evidence we can use to track changes to “strategic sites” are information provided in new planning permissions and implemented schemes (see also LOI WM1b), and information on annual waste inputs at permitted “strategic sites” from the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator. Other sources such as local press reports, the weekly “Let’s Recycle” electronic newsletter, and new stories posted on operators’ websites can also provide information about changes.</p> <p>Subject to availability of resources, the Black Country authorities will continue to monitor changes to “strategic sites” using the sources indicated above – no further action is required.</p>

Table 68 – Development Proposals Affecting Waste Infrastructure

Waste	
LOI WM2b (NEW INDICATOR) - % of applications affecting existing waste management sites that comply with BCCS Policy WM2.	A
(N.B. This indicator is not included in the BCCS)	
Local Plan	BCCS Policy WM2

Policy	
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>This is a new indicator which has been introduced to monitor impacts on existing waste management infrastructure from new development. The purpose is to review and the extent to which developments are complying with the requirements in BCCS Policy WM2 to consider potential impacts on the Black Country's waste management capacity.</p>
Achievements	<p>The Black Country Authorities approved 42 planning applications for new development at existing waste sites during the last four monitoring years 2009/10 – 2012/13. A review of these applications indicated that 39 of them (92.8%) were for waste management development and were therefore compliant with BCCS Policy WM2. There were 3 cases where non-waste development was approved because the proposal was considered to be justified in the circumstances</p> <p>It has not been possible to update the information in this table this year.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>The review of applications approved since the BCCS "baseline" date (31.03.09) includes some applications determined before the BCCS was adopted, which were not obliged to comply with BCCS Policy WM2. The following action has been taken or is proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Black Country Local Validation Checklist was published in September 2012, setting out the information required with an application for development affecting a "strategic site" (Item V33) on the Checklist). • Compliance will continue to be monitored by reviewing planning permissions granted for development at existing and proposed "strategic sites" - no further action is required.

Table 69 – Delivery of BCCS Waste Infrastructure Proposals

Waste	
LOI WM3a - % and capacity of strategic waste management infrastructure proposals in BCCS Policy WM3, Table 17 implemented by 2026, by authority.	A
Local Plan	BCCS Policy WM3 (relates in part to former COI W1)

Policy	
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>BCCS Table 17 identifies 11 waste management infrastructure proposals expected to be delivered in the Black Country between 2009/10 and 2025/26, including 5 in Walsall. The broad location of Proposals WP1 – WP7 is also shown on the BCCS Waste Key Diagram.</p>
Achievements	<p>At the end of March 2012, the following progress had been made on implementing the proposals in BCCS Table 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two proposals - LACW Depots in Dudley and Walsall – have been fully implemented, and the new Environmental Depot in Walsall was extended in 2012/13; • Site WP5: Pikehelve Eco-Park in Sandwell – development of the new Eagle Recovery and Transfer Hub (ERTH) was nearing completion at the end of March 2013; • Site WP3: Trident Alloys Site in Walsall (WP3) received planning permission in 2007 and 2008, and the time limit for implementation was extended in 2012/13, but the proposal has since been superseded by a new scheme comprising material recovery and a gasification plant – further details to be reported in the 2014 AMR; • Site WP1: Aldridge Quarry in Walsall – restoration scheme involving infilling with inert waste was approved in 2003/04, but infilling had still not commenced at the end of March 2013. <p>It has not been possible to update the information in this table this year..</p>

Table 70 – Delivery of BCCS Residual Waste Capacity Requirements

Waste	
LOI WM3b - % and capacity of new waste management facilities contributing towards the residual requirements in BCCS Policy WM3, Table 18 implemented by 2026, by waste stream and by authority.	A
Local Plan	BCCS Policy WM3 (relates in part to former COI W1)

Policy	
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>BCCS Table 18 identifies the residual waste capacity requirements that need to be delivered in the Black Country by 2026. This reflects the outstanding requirements identified in BCCS Table 16 at the “baseline” date (end of March 2009), taking into account the new capacity expected to be provided through the infrastructure projects in BCCS Table 17.</p>
Achievements	<p>The table below shows how the residual waste capacity requirements changed during the three monitoring years 2009/10 – 2012/13. Delivery of new metal recycling (MRS) capacity does not count, as there is already a surplus of this type of capacity in the Black Country.</p>

BCCS TABLE 18 – UPDATED RESIDUAL WASTE CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS IN THE BLACK COUNTRY 2013/14 – 2025/26

Authorit y	LACW Diversion Capacity (TPA)	Commercial (Non-MRS) Diversion Capacity (TPA)	CD&EW Recycling Capacity (TPA)	Hazardous Waste Treatment (TPA)	Commerci al Transfer Capacity (TPA)
Dudley	To be determined through LACW Strategies. Possible need for material recovery facilities and organic/ composting facilities.	125,000	Unable to quantify at present	Temporary "hub" sites for managing contaminated soils in appropriate locations in the growth network as appropriate	35,000
Sandwell		-13,650	Unable to quantify at present		<50,000
Walsall		124,200	Unable to quantify at present		10,000
W'ton		115,000	Unable to quantify at present		-25,000
Black Country Total	124,000 TPA (Re-use/ Recycling) 84,000 TPA (Organic Treatment / Composting) TOTAL = 208,000 TPA	364,200	At least 1 CD&EW recycling facility/ urban quarry	See above	<70,000

Source: Black Country Authorities waste management application monitoring

Notes on Table:

1. General categories have been adjusted to more closely reflect requirements in BCCS Table 16 and guidance on compliance with the Waste Framework Directive issued by CLG in December 2012.
2. LACW Diversion capacity relates to BCCS requirements for Municipal Waste Diversion in BCCS Table 18 (Policy WM3). This is referred to as Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) in the AMR as this is how Defra are now describing this waste stream, because the definition of "municipal waste" in the Landfill Directive includes a wider range of waste than that collected by local authorities. LACW Diversion Capacity includes capacity for Re-Use/ Recycling, Composting, and Recovery of LACW.
3. Commercial Non-Metal Waste Diversion capacity includes capacity for Re-Use/ Recycling, Composting, and Recovery of waste from businesses (C&I Waste), but excludes metal recycling capacity (MRS) and hazardous waste treatment capacity as there is already sufficient capacity of this type in the Black Country.
4. The table provides an update of the remaining residual capacity requirements @ 31.03.13, taking into account capacity developed or lost since the BCCS baseline date (31.03.09). These requirements are over and above the new capacity expected to be provided through development at the locations identified in BCCS Table 17. However, the residual requirement figures @ 31.03.13 take into account any net changes to the capacity expected to be provided at these locations (e.g. where the capacity has significantly increased or decreased).

	<p>The BCCS LACW diversion capacity requirement has increased, because the Pikehelve Eco-Park proposal in BCCS Table 17 (Proposal WP5) has come forward as a transfer facility only, and will not be providing any new diversion capacity. The capacity that should have been delivered has therefore been added to the residual requirement.</p> <p>The commercial (non-MRS) diversion capacity requirement has reduced to 364,200 from the baseline figure of 513,200 TPA, mainly due to completion of new capacity in Sandwell. However, the requirement for Walsall has increased to 125,000 TPA from 110,000 TPA, because of net losses in existing capacity, although the gap reduced in 2012/13.</p> <p>There has been no significant net change to the residual capacity requirements for CD&EW recycling and hazardous waste treatment, as CD&EW recycling capacity losses have been balanced by gains, including the development of a new aggregate recycling facility at Ketley Quarry in Dudley and the development of the new Interserve Material Recycling Facility in Aldridge in Walsall whose throughput includes a significant proportion of CD&EW. No new contaminated soil treatment capacity has come forward.</p> <p>The residual commercial waste transfer capacity requirement for the Black Country did not change in 2012/13, though between 2009/10 and 2011/12 it decreased to less than 70,000 TPA. Over the same period the requirement for Walsall has decreased to around 10,000 TPA.</p> <p>It has not been possible to update the information in this table this year</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>Delivery of the residual waste capacity requirements depends on delivery of new infrastructure projects <u>not identified in BCCS Table 17</u> as the requirements identified in BCCS Table 18 are over and above what is expected to be delivered through these proposals. New capacity may come forward either as planning permissions, through needs identified in LACW strategies, or through site allocations in Local Plans.</p> <p>The Black Country's residual waste capacity requirements are expected to change over time, to reflect net losses and gains in capacity at existing waste sites, and changes to the capacity of proposals identified in BCCS Table 17 which affect the residual requirements. Therefore, the residual requirements have to be kept under review.</p> <p>At the end of March 2013, no new LACW management sites had been identified in the Black Country Authorities' emerging LACW strategies and Local Plans, although the</p>

	<p>changes to the Pikehelve Eco-Park proposal in BCCS Table 17 (Proposal WP5) have had to be reflected in the residual requirements.</p> <p>The Black Country Authorities and their partners are currently not planning any new LACW infrastructure, other than what is identified in BCCS Table 17 and the W2R energy recovery facility recently built by Veolia at Four Ashes in South Staffordshire, which was still under construction at the end of March 2013. As far as we can see ahead, the Black Country Authorities are likely to continue to rely on contracts with commercial operators for recycling of card, paper, plastics, cans and glass, for composting or anaerobic digestion of green garden waste and food waste, and for managing other wastes collected from households and small businesses.</p> <p>Delivery of commercial (merchant) waste diversion capacity is market-driven, so new facilities will only be developed in the Black Country if there is demand from generators of specific types of waste, and an outlet for the recovered raw materials or treatment residues.</p> <p>Monitoring of planning applications indicates that new capacity is continuing to come forward (see LOI WM1b), suggesting that the BCCS residual waste capacity requirements can be delivered by the end of the plan period, with the possible exception of the LACW requirements.</p> <p>The Black Country Authorities are proposing to take the following action in relation to this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Black Country Authorities will consider whether the BCCS residual requirements for LACW are likely to be met by the development of new infrastructure in the Black Country by the Authorities and their partners. <p>If it is apparent that the LACW infrastructure requirements will not be met, the Authorities will consider whether any other action needs to be taken to ensure that the type of infrastructure needed will be available throughout the plan period.</p>
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Table 71 – New Waste Developments Meeting BCCS Locational Requirements

Waste	
LOI WM4 - % of waste management development applications approved that meet BCCS Policy WM4 locational requirements by waste planning authority.	A
Local Plan	BCCS Policy WM4 (see also Policies EMP2 and EMP3)

Policy	
Target	<p>100% of waste management development applications approved to be in accordance with locational guidance in BCCS Policy WM4.</p> <p>BCCS Policy WM4 sets out general locational requirements for enclosed facilities and open air facilities. Enclosed facilities are expected to be located in the retained employment areas identified in the BCCS which are mostly to be found within the “growth network.”</p> <p>Whereas many types of enclosed waste management operation are considered suitable in any employment area, some are only acceptable in Local Quality Employment areas as they may not be compatible with the uses expected to be found in Existing or Potential High Quality Employment areas (see also Policies EMP2 and EMP3).</p> <p>The policy also identifies that certain operations such as landfilling and open windrow composting will normally require an open site, and may have to be located in the Green Belt rather than in the urban area.</p>
Achievements	<p>The Black Country Authorities approved 79 planning applications for waste management development during the last four monitoring years 2009/10 – 2012/13, of which 27 were approved by Walsall Council.</p> <p>A review of the applications indicates that 75 of the 79 applications approved by the Black Country Authorities (94.9%) were compliant with the locational guidance in BCCS Policy WM4 and of the 27 applications approved by Walsall Council, 19 (88.9%) were also compliant. All of the developments approved in Walsall that were not strictly compliant with the BCCS locational guidance were considered justified because the location was considered acceptable for the proposed use. 2 of the applications were determined before the BCCS was adopted, and of those that were determined after the adoption of the BCCS, one was for a variation to a scheme previously approved, and the other was retrospective approval of a scheme already implemented. Monitoring also shows that 86.1% of waste management development applications approved by the Black Country Authorities during the monitoring years 2009/10 – 2012/13 (68 out of the 79 permissions granted) were at sites within the BCCS “growth network.” In Walsall, the percentage of approvals in the “growth network” was 74.1%, 20 out of the 27 permissions granted. This indicates that most waste management development is in accordance</p>

	<p>with the BCCS spatial strategy.</p> <p>Approval rates for waste management development applications in the Black Country are also high. 77 out of the 79 applications submitted to the Black Country Authorities between 2009/10 and 2012/13 (94.9%) were approved; only one (in Dudley) was refused and another (in Walsall) was deemed invalid. This shows that the Black Country Authorities are supportive of waste management development in the right location, and are not withholding planning permission without justification.</p> <p>It has not been possible to update the information in this table this year</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>This indicator has been simplified, as it is considered most useful to monitor compliance of applications approved, as the main purpose of the indicator is to consider whether the BCCS policy is being applied appropriately during the decision-making process.</p> <p>The review of applications approved since the BCCS “baseline” date (31.03.09) includes many applications determined before the BCCS was adopted in February 2011, which were not obliged to comply with BCCS Policy WM4, including two of the four proposals that were not considered to be strictly compliant with the policy.</p> <p>Monitoring to date indicates that the vast majority of waste management developments approved by the Black Country Authorities are consistent with BCCS Policy WM4 and with the overall spatial strategy for the Black Country, which seeks to concentrate most of the development up to 2026 within the strategic centres and regeneration corridors.</p> <p>The following action has been taken or is proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Black Country Local Validation Checklist was published in September 2012, setting out the information required with a waste management development application to demonstrate compliance with BCCS Policy WM4 (Item V34 on the Checklist). • The Black Country Authorities will continue to monitor compliance of waste management proposals with the BCCS policy. No further action is required at present, as the evidence suggests that the BCCS locational requirements are already being complied with in most cases, and in line with the local validation requirements, applicants are expected to justify

	departures from the policy.
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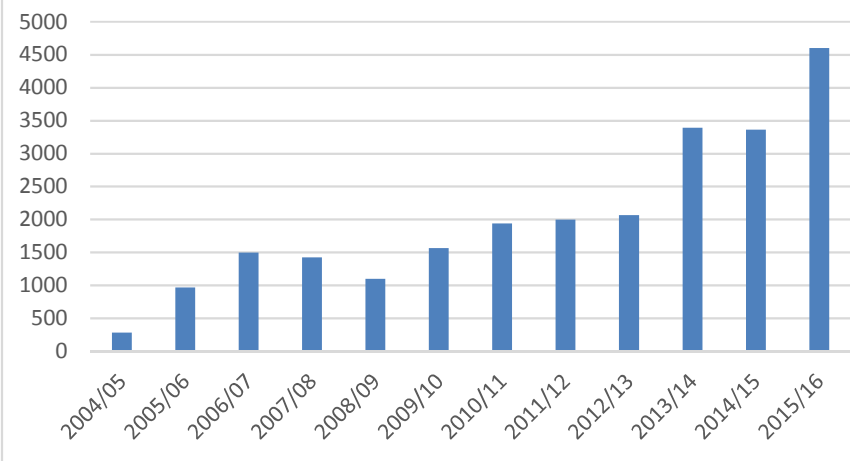
Table 72 – Resource Management and New Development

Waste	
LOI WM5a - % of major planning applications granted which address BCCS Policy WM5 requirements (e.g. provision of supporting information on resource management).	
A	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM5
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>BCCS Policy WM5 requires planning applications for “major” development to provide information on how the waste generated will be managed. This includes not only waste generated by demolition, excavation and construction process, but also waste that will be generated by the proposed development once it is completed and in use.</p>
Achievements	<p>In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, it is assumed that the BCCS policy requirements are being applied by the Black Country Authorities and are being complied with.</p> <p>Amber “RAG” rating has been applied, as it is not possible to confirm that all applications falling within the threshold have provided the relevant information, although they should be compliant from 2012/13 onwards as the provision of this information is now a local validation requirement.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>It is not possible to monitor this at present, because the Black Country Authorities do not currently have planning application systems in place that can capture information on compliance with the BCCS policy requirements. In view of this, the following action has been taken or is proposed to monitor implementation of BCCS Policy WM5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Black Country Local Validation Checklist (September 2012) requires all applications for “major” development to include a general Planning Statement, which should include amongst other things, information about waste management, demonstrating compliance with the policy (Item V18

	<p>on the Checklist).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Black Country Authorities will consider whether it is feasible to collect information on compliance with the policy in future years, but this will depend on having the resources and the systems in place to capture the relevant data. • In the meantime, the Authorities will monitor the extent to which waste is being managed responsibly through the new Indicator LOIWM5b (see below).
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Table 73 – Responsible Waste Management

Waste	
LOI WM5b (NEW INDICATOR) – Number of fly-tipping incidents reported annually, and number/ percentage of reported incidents annually involving Household Waste, Commercial Waste and Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste, by authority. (N.B. This indicator is not included in the BCCS)	R
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy WM5
Target	<p>No increase in total number of fly-tipping incidents or number of Household, Commercial and Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste Incidents.</p> <p>The baseline data for this indicator is taken from 2011/12, when the total number of fly-tipping Incidents reported by the Black Country Authorities was 7,355, and the number of incidents reported by Walsall Council was 1,995 – this provides a “benchmark” for future monitoring against this indicator.</p>
Achievements	<p>Figure C below shows how the number of fly-tipping incidents reported by Walsall Council has changed since the first year that data was collected (2004/05).</p> <p>FIGURE C Total number of fly tipping incidents reported to Walsall Council between 2004/05 - 2015/16</p>

	 <p>Source: Fly-tipping incidents and actions reported by Walsall Council 2004/05 – 2015/16, Defra.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p>The number of fly tipping incidents reported in Walsall has increased significantly since 2004/05, and despite a fall in 2008/09, the upward trend has resumed and has continued to 2015/16 when over 4,500 incidents were reported compared to 1,995 in 2011/12. The increase may be in because of the link to the reporting form being prominently displayed on the Council's website homepage.</p>

BCCS CHAPTER 8: MINERALS

All of the Walsall UDP policies on Minerals, except policy M7 which relates to the restoration of the former Birch Coppice site, have been replaced by the BCCS. The only local plan policies about minerals that now require monitoring are therefore BCCS Spatial Objective 10 and BCCS Policies MIN1 to MIN5.

For this 2015-16 AMR, data is limited to sites in Walsall and to events that occurred during the monitoring year, except where the indicator includes a cumulative target or where data cannot be separated out at the local authority level. The data listed is also limited to that required to show how the indicators in the BCCS have been satisfied.

BCCS MINERALS LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS

Table 74 – Safeguarding Mineral Resources of Local and National Importance

Minerals	
<p>LOI MIN1a - % of non-mineral development proposals approved within the MSA shown on the BCCS Key Diagram (falling within the MIN1 policy threshold) which do not needlessly sterilise mineral resources.*</p> <p>BCCS Policy MIN1 thresholds are: applications for non-mineral development on sites of 5ha and over within the urban areas and sites of 0.5ha and over within the Green Belt.</p> <p>* The wording of this indicator has been slightly amended from the wording used in the adopted BCCS for greater clarity.</p>	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN1
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>The BCCS states that the mineral safeguarding area (MSA) has been defined in detail on the Proposals Maps for each authority. The detailed boundary of the MSA in Walsall will be defined through the Walsall Site Allocations Development Plan Document (SAD).</p>
Achievements	Approximately 35 planning applications relating to sites of the relevant sizes were determined during the year, but most were for developments such as changes of use, extensions

	<p>to existing buildings and minor works on part of a larger site so prior extraction would not be appropriate. Only 4 applications where prior extraction might have been considered were approved during the year, as follows:</p> <p>Urban Site within Coal MSA: 15/0429/FL: Capping layer to site surface at former IMI Copper Works, James Bridge, Walsall. The works proposed in the application were to make the site safe as part of initial treatment following a history of coal mining and ground contamination arising from industrial activity. The Coal Authority supported the application subject to safeguards being met.</p> <p>Green Belt Sites within Sand and Gravel MSA: 14/1824/FL: Erection of 6 dwellings at Waterworks Farm, Chester Road. Prior extraction was not considered, however the small size of the site means that this was unlikely to be viable.</p> <p>14/1537/OL: 58 bed care home at 370 Chester Road. Prior extraction was not considered, however the site was a former concrete block works that appears to have occupied part of a quarry. As such, the mineral is likely to have already been extracted.</p> <p>15/1364: 7 houses on site of former Queslett School. The application was a resubmission of one approved in 2010, prior to the adoption of the BCCS. The site lies in a conservation area adjacent to registered historic parkland. As such, prior extraction is unlikely to be appropriate.</p>
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Table 75 – Safeguarding of Mineral Infrastructure

Minerals	
LOI MIN1b (NEW INDICATOR) – safeguarding of key mineral infrastructure sites identified on the BCCS Minerals Key Diagram	
(N.B. This indicator is not included in the adopted BCCS so has not been monitored this year. However, the emerging Walsall Site Allocation Document is likely to include this indicator in future as it will identify sites in detail)	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN1
Target	Not defined
Achievements	Not recorded

Table 76 – Production of Primary Land Won Aggregates

Minerals	
LOI MIN2a - Supply of Primary Land Won Aggregates – sand and gravel sales and landbanks in the former West Midlands County	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN2 (Former COI M1)
Target	2008 - 2026: Sand and gravel apportionment for former West Midlands County area = 0.550 million tonnes per annum - see BCCS Table 19. Indicative sand and gravel production target for the Black Country (Walsall) = 50,000 tonnes per annum.
Achievements	Information on sand and gravel production is not available, so annual sales data is used as a “proxy” indicator. The only site in the Black Country producing quarried sand and gravel, Branton Hill Quarry in Walsall, closed in May 2013. A red “RAG” rating has been applied to this indicator, as the evidence indicates that the BCCS annual production target is probably not being met and no new permitted reserves have come forward.

Table 81 – Production of Secondary/Recycled Aggregates

Minerals	
LOI MIN2b (NEW INDICATOR) - Production of Secondary/Recycled Aggregates.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN2 (Former COI M2)
Target	The BCCS states that the target for this indicator is to be developed through future monitoring. However, the 2012/13 and 2013/14 AMRs used as a measure changes in the number and capacity of fixed CD&EW recycling sites.
Achievements	<p>As noted in Table 75 above, the emerging Walsall Site Allocation Document is likely to identify mineral infrastructure sites in detail which will make changes easier to monitor. This will include sites used to produce secondary/ recycled aggregates.</p> <p>No losses or additions to sites in Walsall are known to have happened during the year.</p>

Table 82 – Non-Mineral Development in Sand and Gravel Areas of Search

Minerals	
LOI MIN2c - % Permissions for non-mineral related development in Areas of Search for sand and gravel extraction.	
(N.B. This indicator is referenced as LOI MIN2 in the adopted BCCS)	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policies MIN1 and MIN2
Target	<p>0%</p> <p>Two Areas of Search for potential future sand and gravel extraction are identified in BCCS Policy MIN2, both in Walsall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MA1: Birch Lane

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MA2: Branton Hill <p>The broad extent of the Areas of Search is shown on the Minerals Key Diagram, and the detailed boundaries are to be defined in the Walsall Site Allocations Development Plan Document (SAD).</p>
Achievements	No relevant applications for non-mineral related development were determined in the two areas during the year 2015-16.
Actions or Comments	As both of the sand and gravel Areas of Search are in the Green Belt, the risk that non-mineral development proposals will come forward is relatively low.

Table 83 – Supply of Clay to Brickworks

Minerals	
<p>LOI MIN3a –</p> <p>% of Black Country brick and tile works with a stock of permitted reserves of Etruria Marl and Fireclay sufficient to provide a supply to 2026/ a 25-year supply*</p> <p>*Supply to include imported material where permitted/ available. An additional sub-indicator relating to 25-year supply has been included, reflecting the required provision in the NPPF (paragraph 146).</p>	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN3
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>The locations of brickworks, clay pits and other permitted reserves in the Black Country are shown on the BCCS Minerals Key Diagram.</p>
Achievements	There was no change during the 2015/16 monitoring year to the status of the six operational brickworks in the Black Country, which includes three in Walsall (Aldridge, Atlas and Sandown). There was also a pot clay blend manufacturer (Swan Works) operating in Walsall. These factories have an ongoing requirement for two types of clay that occur naturally in the Black Country: Etruria Marl and Fireclay. Etruria Marl is the only type of brick clay currently being worked in the Black Country. Two of Walsall's brickworks (Atlas and Sandown) and one of Dudley's brickworks

	<p>(Dreadnought) have their own dedicated clay pits producing this type of clay, but Walsall’s other brickworks (Aldridge) is 100% reliant on imports. Sandown brickworks in Walsall and Dreadnought brickworks in Dudley are also partly reliant on imports.</p> <p>At the BCCS “baseline” date, none of the Black Country’s brickworks could demonstrate a 25-year supply of Etruria Marl. However, taking into account permitted imports (subject to availability) and other potential resources identified in the Areas of Search, each factory is considered to have sufficient to cover the rest of the plan period (to 2026).</p>																												
	<p>The table below summarises the status of the brickworks and the clay pits that supply them in Walsall at the end of the 2015/16 monitoring year.</p> <p>SUPPLY OF ETRURIA MARL TO BRICKWORKS IN THE BLACK COUNTRY – CURRENT STATUS @ 31.03.14</p> <table><tr><th rowspan="2">Brickworks</th><th rowspan="2">Authority</th><th colspan="2">Source of Supply</th><th colspan="2">2016 Update (31.03.16)</th></tr><tr><th>Site</th><th>Authority</th><th>Status</th><th>Estimated Years’ Supply</th></tr><tr><td>Aldridge</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Highfields South</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Operating</td><td><15</td></tr><tr><td>Atlas</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Atlas</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Operating</td><td>15-24</td></tr><tr><td>Sandown</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Sandown Highfields South</td><td>Walsall</td><td>Operating</td><td><15</td></tr></table> <p>Source: planning application monitoring, information provided by brick manufacturers.</p>	Brickworks	Authority	Source of Supply		2016 Update (31.03.16)		Site	Authority	Status	Estimated Years’ Supply	Aldridge	Walsall	Highfields South	Walsall	Operating	<15	Atlas	Walsall	Atlas	Walsall	Operating	15-24	Sandown	Walsall	Sandown Highfields South	Walsall	Operating	<15
Brickworks	Authority			Source of Supply		2016 Update (31.03.16)																							
		Site	Authority	Status	Estimated Years’ Supply																								
Aldridge	Walsall	Highfields South	Walsall	Operating	<15																								
Atlas	Walsall	Atlas	Walsall	Operating	15-24																								
Sandown	Walsall	Sandown Highfields South	Walsall	Operating	<15																								
	<p>All of the Black Country’s brickworks are reliant on imports of fireclay, as there are no local supplies currently available, although Swan Works has a small stockpile of fireclay extracted from the former Birch Coppice site in the 1950s. There is also a “dormant” mineral planning permission (EB233) for working fireclay and coal on part of Brownhills Common.</p> <p>The main changes to brick clay supply in Walsall since the BCCS “baseline” have been as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In June 2010, planning permission was granted to																												

	<p>work clay beneath “The Causeway,” a former mineral railway line within Sandown Quarry (09/1686/FL 09/1730/MI), which increased the winnable permitted reserve available for Sandown brickworks;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In September 2011, planning permission was granted to extend the period allowed for clay extraction at Highfields South Quarry until 31.10.13 (11/0953/FL); <p>Despite these developments, the overall brick clay supply situation has not changed significantly since the BCCS “baseline” date. While action has been taken to alleviate short-term supply problems at individual brickworks, none of the brickworks still in operation in the Black Country could identify a 25-year supply of clay at the end of March 2014, without some reliance on imports.</p> <p>Red “RAG” rating applies to the Black Country as well as to Walsall, as although the BCCS targets are just about being met when imports are taken into account, the NPPF 25-year supply requirements are probably not in all cases, even when imports are taken into account.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>There are two types of brick clay of local and national importance occurring in the Black Country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Etruria Marl – red clays from the “Etruria Formation”; and ○ Fireclay – buff clays that occur beneath coal seams. <p>The main area in Walsall containing viable resources of Etruria Marl is Stubbers Green/ Shelfield, so brick manufacturing is currently concentrated in this areas.</p> <p>The evidence available suggests that - taking into account the amount of permitted reserves remaining, other resources potentially available to each factory within the BCCS Areas of Search, and what each factory may import (subject to availability) – most of the Black Country’s brickworks are likely to have sufficient supplies of Etruria Marl to last until the end of the BCCS plan period (i.e. to 2026). However, further work needs to be done to establish whether the resources that can currently be identified in Dudley and Walsall – including the unpermitted resources in the BCCS Areas of Search – will be sufficient to provide a 25-year supply to each factory likely to continue in operation throughout the plan period.</p>

	<p>It has not been possible to quantify future requirements for fireclay with confidence, because manufacturers have indicated that demand for buff coloured bricks fluctuates,⁸ but evidence presented at the BCCS Examination suggests that there could be enough resources in the Brownhills area of Walsall (permitted and unpermitted) to provide a 25-year supply, at an annual production rate of around 60,000 TPA. It is likely that brickworks in the Black Country will continue to rely on imports of brick clays from outside the area to some extent (for example, clays that do not occur locally or are not currently available locally), but the distance that imported materials need to travel can be significantly reduced if suitable resources can be identified within the Black Country.</p> <p><u>Action Taken/ Proposed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March 2012, the NPPF re-iterated the advice previously included in the former MPS1, that development plans should make provision for a stock of permitted reserves of brick clay sufficient to provide a minimum 25-year supply to each new or existing brick manufacturing plant (NPPF, paragraph 146). • The Black Country Authorities will monitor supplies of clay against the NPPF requirement as well as the BCCS target which relates only to the plan period up to 2026, and will consider what action may need to be taken at a local level to address any shortfalls in supply identified. <p>Where factories are relying entirely or partly on imports to meet their requirements, the Black Country Authorities will liaise with the relevant operators/ mineral planning authorities as far as possible to check that the imported resources are likely to be available throughout the period being planned for.</p>
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Table 84 – Non-Mineral Development in Brick Clay Areas of Search

Minerals	
LOI MIN3b - % permissions for non-mineral related development in Etruria Marl and Fireclay areas of search.	G

⁸ Most manufacturers use small amounts of fireclay for blending with poorer quality clays, suggesting that there will continue to be a steady demand for small quantities of fireclay, even if there is low demand for buff bricks, which use larger quantities of fireclay.

Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policies MIN1 and MIN3
Target	<p>0%</p> <p>Four Areas of Search for potential future brick clay extraction are identified in BCCS Policy MIN3, including two in Walsall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA5: Stubbers Green – Etruria Marl • MA6: Yorks Bridge – Fireclay <p>The broad extent of the Areas of Search is shown on the Minerals Key Diagram. The boundary of MA5 will be defined in the Walsall Site Allocations Document (SAD) whilst the SAD will also consider whether the BCCS designation for Yorks Bridge should be taken further to become a precise boundary.</p>
Achievements	<p>No applications received for non-mineral development within any of the Areas of Search since the BCCS “baseline” date (31.03.09).</p> <p>Green “RAG” rating applies as BCCS target has been met.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>The main objective of this indicator is to prevent incompatible types of development from compromising existing and potential brick clay working areas within the Areas of Search identified in the BCCS, in accordance with Policies MIN1 and MIN3.</p> <p>As the Areas of Search in Walsall are in the Green Belt, the risk that non-mineral development proposals will come forward is relatively low, and so far there have been no applications for non-mineral development in either of the areas identified in Walsall.</p> <p>The precise boundaries of the areas of search in Walsall have not been defined on the Walsall Policies Map through the BCCS, and this will be done through the forthcoming Walsall Site Allocations DPD (SAD).</p>

Table 85 – Applications for Other Mineral Development

Minerals	
LOI MIN4 - % of applications for coal and fireclay working, coal bed methane exploration or extraction or natural building stone working	A

which satisfy the requirements of BCCS Policy MIN4.		
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Policy MIN4	
Target	<p>100%</p> <p>No areas for working of coal, coal bed methane or natural building stone are identified in the BCCS, except for the location of the “dormant” permission at Brownhills Common in Walsall, and the Area of Search for fireclay at Yorks Bridge (MA6), which are both shown on the Minerals Key Diagram). Both areas contain coal resources as well as fireclay.</p>	
Achievements	<p>No applications for opencast coal working, coalbed methane exploration or exploitation, or extraction of building stone have been received since the BCCS “baseline” date (31.03.09).</p> <p>Amber “RAG” rating applies, as there have been no applications that the BCCS policy applies to therefore no evidence it is not effective.</p>	
Actions or Comments	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>Any applications received in relation to opencast coal working, the exploration/ exploitation of coalbed methane, or the extraction of building stone, would be assessed for compliance with BCCS Policy MIN4, but no applications have been received to date.</p> <p><u>Action Taken/ Proposed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Black Country Authorities will monitor mineral development applications coming forward but otherwise, no action is required. 	

Table 86 – Applications for Mineral Development – Compliance with Policy

Minerals		
LOI MIN5 - % of applications for mineral related development satisfying the requirements and criteria in Policy MIN5.		A
Local Plan	BCCS Policy MIN5	

Policy	
Target	100%
Achievements	<p>Some minerals applications are complex and take a lengthy period to determine. The indicator is based on applications received during the monitoring year but not all applications are necessarily determined in the same year.</p> <p>Only one application for mineral development was submitted to Walsall during the 2015/16 monitoring year. This was application 16/0465 to vary the time period to complete the existing approved scheme for the phased filling and restoration of Highfields South Quarry to create open space. Amber “RAG” rating applies, as the application remained undetermined at the end of the monitoring year.</p>
Actions or Comments	<p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>Arrangements are in place to assess all applications for mineral development against the criteria and general requirements set out in BCCS Policy MIN5, and to record whether or not the proposal is compliant with the policy.</p>

6. SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS INDICATORS

6.1

Significant effects indicators 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 Directive 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 that was adopted by all four authorities on 3rd February 2011.

6.2 The significant effects indicators are set out below and will continue to be monitored jointly annually across the Black Country and included in future monitoring reports.

Table 87 – Air Pollution

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE1: Achieve a net reduction of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂) in those areas where the annual average NO ₂ values are predicted to exceed 40µgm ³ between 2008 (baseline) and 2015.	
	R
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When number of days continue to see exceedance over a five year period.
Achievements	Not able to monitor this indicator.
Actions or Comments	The Black Country Authorities are not able to effectively and consistently monitor this indicator as it currently stands. This issue will be picked up as part of the forthcoming BCCS review in 2016.

Table 88 – Brownfield Biodiversity

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE2: Percentage of development and redevelopment on previously developed land undertaking appropriate ecological surveys.	
	G
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator

Targets	Percentages remain stable or increase over a five year period.
Achievements	<p>The council's planning ecologist was consulted on a total of 297 planning applications for <u>full</u> or <u>outline</u> permission. 86 of these related to land which could be described as brownfield.</p> <p>After consideration of each site and development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34 (40%) applications did not require ecological surveys because the risk of adverse impacts on protected sites or species was low or negligible. • 52 (60%) applications did require an ecological survey which was provided. <p>This indicator is limited in its usefulness as in this Local Planning Authority the need for an ecological survey (or not) is not determined on whether the application site is brownfield. Far more relevant are factors such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protected species and habitats within or in close proximity, • habitat present which is likely to support protected species, • connectivity of site to wider landscape, • length of time site has been undisturbed, • size of site etc.
Actions or Comments	<p>This figure reflects the impact of national and local planning policy and guidance where the need to take account of the natural environment is widely accepted. The Council's Natural Environment SPD gives advice on the type of sites where ecological survey work is required to support planning applications. In many cases council officers clarify the need for and the required content of ecological survey assessment work with applicants to avoid unnecessary survey work being undertaken.</p> <p>The indicator is not evidence of the quality of the ecological reports submitted.</p>

Table 89 – Biodiversity and Green Space

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE3: Proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	Percentages remain stable or increase over a five year period.
Achievements	<p>The datasets used to identify the Local Sites have been updated to be in line with the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust's allocations of SINC's and SLINC's in Walsall. This means that Walsall now has 106 local sites comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 SINC's (previously 43) • 69 SLINC's (previously 66) <p>Of the 105 sites 26 (25%) are being managed positively for nature conservation. This has dropped from the previous monitoring years as several of the sites in favourable management that were previously counted individually have been consolidated into their parent sites.</p> <p>The number of SINC's has decreased by 7 due to re-organisation of the multiple sites that made up the larger Brownhills Common (2 sites) and Park Lime Pits (7 sites) SINC's into their parent sites.</p> <p>The number of SLINC's has increased by 3 due to the following additional sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turners Wood has been adopted as a new SLINC. • The Canal SLINC's have been updated meaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hay Head Branch Canal has been separated from the Rushall Canal. ○ Cannock Extension Canal has been added as a SLINC in order to ensure that the whole canal network is designated as SLINC's (This branch is already a SAC and SSSI).
Actions or Comments	This data is taken from the Single Data list indicator 160-00 "Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented" (previously known as NI 197). This figure does not reflect the operation of the planning system as all sites in management qualifying

	for inclusion are either maintained by the council or are maintained by financial support from agri-environment grants.
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Table 90 – Losses of Wildlife Corridors

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE4: Losses of wildlife corridors in relation to development.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	No Net Loss of Wildlife Corridors
Achievements	1.35ha of land identified as a Wildlife Corridor has been lost within the reporting period. This equates to 0.1% of the total resource.
Actions or Comments	The Council's UDP policy relating to the protection of wildlife corridors is Policy ENV24. This requires that development which "would sever, or unacceptably harm the integrity of a wildlife corridor will not be permitted." The policy does not provide more than broad protection to the 1413ha (14.13km ²) of defined wildlife corridors within the borough. It is therefore impractical to prevent any net loss as the indicator requires because little of the land is protected by any designation. There is relatively small scale loss of land due to development but no defined wildlife corridor shown in Figure 3.4 of the UDP has been severed or its integrity unacceptably harmed. The loss reported above relates to a former school site which has been redeveloped as housing. The Wildlife Corridors mapping is being updated as part of the background datasets informing the SAD

Table 91 – Traffic Flows

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE5: Traffic flows on key routes.	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When traffic flows see increases over a five year period.
Achievements	Data collected in 2009 and 2015 shows that in Walsall AM peak car trips have increased by 5.1%.
Actions or Comments	The increase in car trips can most likely be attributed to the country's economic recovery in which people are beginning to make more car journeys.

Table 92 – Public Transport Usage

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE6: Public transport usage.	
LDF Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When the number sees continued decreases over a five year period.
Achievements	Public transport trips into Walsall town centre in the AM peak have increased slightly between 2009 and 2015 (9.4%) over the last 6 year cycle of cordon surveys. Bus trips between 2009 and 2015 increased by 6.6% and rail services have seen an increase of 59.9%. No further data has been collected since 2015.
Actions or Comments	In line with the target.

Table 93 – Carbon Footprint

Significant Effects Indicators							
SE7: Carbon footprint of sub-region.						N/A	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator						
Targets	When sector emissions see increases over a five year period.						
Achievements	Walsall	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
	Industry and Commercial Sector CO ₂ Emissions (kt)	479.9	451.2	467.5	461.9	377.0	
	Domestic Sector CO ₂ Emissions (kt)	572.0	501.3	536.1	522.1	439.0	
	Transport CO ₂ Emissions (kt)	281.2	278.9	275.6	271.1	275.1	
	Per Capita CO ₂ Emissions (t)	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.0	
Actions or Comments	<p>This is the fifth year that we have been required to monitor this indicator following the adoption of the BCCS in 2011.</p> <p>The data for 2010-2013 has been recalculated to reflect changes in the methodology that was used to calculate the 2014 data (see www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics for details).</p> <p>We can therefore report that CO₂ emissions are generally declining across all sectors. With the highest drop so far occurring between 2013 and 2014 in the Industrial and Commercial and Domestic sectors. During the same period, the Transport CO₂ emissions rose by 4kt.</p> <p>However as the indicator refers to a five year period it will be continually assessed year-on-year using the above as a baseline in future monitoring reports.</p>						

Table 94 – Accessible Open Space

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE8: Ha of Accessible Open Space per 1,000 population	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	Walsall 5.00,. Trigger: Review progress after five years.
Achievements	4.84ha per 1000 head of population
Actions or Comments	This is slightly below the target of 5ha per 1000 population due to some recent boundary changes to sites as open space data is monitored and updated to inform the production of the Walsall Site Allocations DPD. However this plan will seek to protect existing, and allocate new, accessible open space to help meet the 5ha target in future years.

Table 95 – Conservation / Historic Environmental Advice

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE9: Proportion of planning permissions granted in accordance with Conservation/Historic Environmental Section or Advisor recommendations.	
G	
Local Plan Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When percentages reduce over a five year period.
Achievements	100% of planning permissions where the Conservation/Historic Environmental Section or Advisor were consulted were granted in accordance with their recommendations (based on 10% sample).
Actions or Comments	The current planning software does not allow for easy extraction of planning decisions along with officers'

	responses to the associated recommendations. A 10% sample of permissions will therefore be used to determine the effectiveness of this policy until such time as the planning software is able to easily provide this data.
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Table 96 – Use of Public Transport

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE10: Number of journeys made by public transport into the Strategic Centres.	
	G
LDF Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When percentages see ongoing reductions year on year over a five year period.
Achievements	Public transport trips into Walsall town centre in the AM peak have increased slightly between 2009 and 2015 (9.4%) over the last 6 year cycle of cordon surveys. Bus trips between 2009 and 2015 increased by 6.6% and rail services have seen an increase of 59.9%. No further data has been collected since 2015.
Actions or Comments	In line with the target.

Table 97 – Waste to Landfill

Significant Effects Indicators	
SE11: Diversion of waste from landfill –	
a) % Municipal Waste (= Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)) Diversion	G
b) % C&I Waste Diversion (targets in Core Strategy).	G
LDF Policy	BCCS Significant Effects Indicator
Targets	When percentages see increases over a five year period.
Achievements	LACW Diversion: Monitoring shows that the diversion rate for local authority

	<p>collected waste (LACW) in Walsall has increased significantly over the last six years, from 60.8% in 2010/11 to 93.9% in 2015/16. This includes a large leap between 2013/14 and 2014/15 due to the implementation of a 25 year contract to send residual waste to the new Veolia energy recovery facility in Four Ashes in South Staffordshire (W2R)</p> <p>C&I Waste Diversion:</p> <p>We do not have actual data on the amount of C&I waste arising in Walsall or how it is managed, so we have to use other available data as a “proxy.” Data on inputs and outputs of waste at Environment Agency permitted sites in the Borough and on the fate of hazardous waste arising in Walsall (most of which is generated by businesses) suggests that high diversion rates of 71 – 90% have been achieved during the last six calendar years (2007 – 2012). The evidence suggests that the BCCS diversion target for C&I waste for the 2015/16 “benchmark” year has not been met in Walsall. This may be due to the high number of sites in the borough that specialise in dealing with hazardous waste materials.</p> <p>See Tables 63 and 64 above for further details.</p>
Actions or Comments	No action required at present, other than the measures identified in Tables 63 and 64 above.

7. JOINT PROGRESS TOWARDS KEY BCCS TARGETS

SPATIAL OBJECTIVES

1. Focussed investment and development in comparison shopping, office employment, leisure, tourism and culture within the four Strategic Centres: Brierley Hill, Walsall, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton, to retain and increase their share of economic activity and meet the increasing aspirations of their catchment areas.
3. Model sustainable communities on redundant employment land in the Regeneration Corridors, that make the most of opportunities such as public transport and canal networks, are well served by residential services and green infrastructure, have good walking, cycling and public transport links to retained employment areas and centres, are set in a high quality natural and built environment and are well integrated with surrounding areas.
6. A high quality environment fit for the future, and a strong Urban Park focussed on beacons, corridors and communities; respecting, protecting and enhancing the unique biodiversity and geodiversity of the Black Country and making the most of its assets whilst valuing its local character and industrial legacy.
7. A first-class transport network providing rapid, convenient and sustainable links between the Strategic Centres, existing and new communities, and employment sites. To include an enhanced, integrated public transport system, an improved highway network, including walking and cycling routes with strong links to the green infrastructure network. Improvements to the national M5 and M6 motorways network and freight railway network will help deliver better connectivity to Regional and National networks.

Key Development Plan Policies: Core Strategy Policies CSP1-5

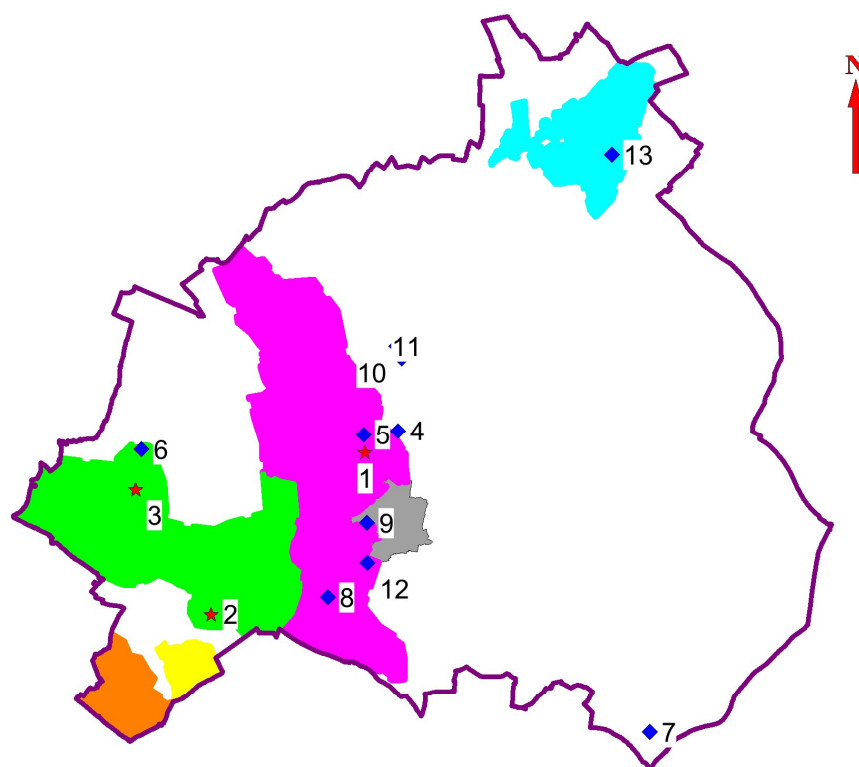
7.1 The regeneration of the Black Country is focussed on Strategic Centres and Regeneration Corridors where the majority of development will be focussed up to 2026, offering protection to the Green Belt. This is set out in the Core Spatial policies within the Core Strategy which set the context for the theme based policies in the Plan. Whilst these Core Spatial policies are monitored through the theme based policies. Further analysis is provided in the individual Chapters on this performance.

Developments in 2015/16

Figure 4 and Table 98 below shows the sites where the largest employment developments and the greatest numbers of housing completions took place within the 2015/16 monitoring year. With the exception of St Margaret's Hospital (planning permission for which was granted in 2004 prior to the adoption of the BCCS), all

these developments took place either in or adjacent to Walsall Strategic Centre, the Regeneration Corridors or the Housing Renewal Areas.

Figure 4 – Largest Employment and Housing Completions in 2015/16.
(also showing Regeneration Corridors and Walsall Strategic Centre)



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Table 98 – Details of Largest Employment and Housing Developments in 2015/16

Employment Developments			
ID	Site Name	Total Completed Floorspace m2	Comments
1	Metafin, Northcote Street, Walsall	6,139	B2 building
2	ZF Lemforder, Station Street, Darlaston	3,350	Redevelopment of site for B2 use

3	Midland Chilled Foods, Stringes Close, Willenhall	805	Warehouse for food processor
Housing Developments			
ID	Site Name	Dwellings Completed During Year (Total Site Capacity)	Comments
4	LAND AT BEDDOWS ROAD AND RUTLAND STREET, WALSALL	67	
5	NORTH WALSALL DEPOT	66	
6	Spring Lane, Willenhall	55	
7	ST MARGARETS	53	This was the largest housing site in the borough for a number of years but has only now been completed after development commenced in 2006.
8	OLD PLECK ROAD	50	
9	Art Court, Waterfront South (part of former Homer Pressings)	44	
10	Shakespeare Crescent (Site D)	42	Shakespeare Crescent and Keats Road are two adjacent sites with a combined capacity of 398 dwellings
11	Keats Road (Goscote Site A)	41	
12	45-51, TASKER STREET, WALSALL, WS1 3QW	40	
13	Lindon Drive	37	

Section 106 Contributions 2015/16

Section 106 Agreements are a device to secure planning obligations which are used to make 'unacceptable development' acceptable in planning terms, for example by providing funds to invest in the transport infrastructure to off-set the impacts of the development. The Council has adopted a flexible approach to planning obligations based on financial viability grounds. This is due to the difficulties some developers are having in bringing schemes forward in the current economic climate. It is encouraging that this approach has still enabled the Council to collect funds for certain planning obligations whilst allowing development schemes to go ahead, thus helping to deliver the Councils regeneration objectives.

As of 1st April 2015 the Government has introduced restrictions under the Community Infrastructure Regulations on the number of Section 106 contributions

that can be pooled to fund an individual “infrastructure project or type of infrastructure”. From 1st April no more than 5 Section 106 contributions (including from agreements completed since April 2010) can be pooled to fund each individual infrastructure project or type of infrastructure. Affordable Housing is not currently defined as infrastructure for the purposes of the Community Infrastructure Levy and contributions for off-site affordable housing do not therefore fall under the pooling restrictions, so they can continue to be secured through S106.

A total of 8 Section 106 Agreements were completed in the 2015/16 monitoring year totalling £307,244.00 in contributions, of which £73,458.00 had been received as at 31/03/2016 (this was for off-site affordable housing). No on-site affordable dwellings have been secured. Full details of sought and received Section 106 contributions can be viewed at:

- **www.walsall.gov.uk/planning/section_106_agreements/s106_reports**

8. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER MONITORING

8.1

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 gave Local Planning Authorities the power to introduce a simplified planning process to allow certain development to be undertaken without the need for specific planning consent called a Local Development Order (LDO).

8.2 On 16 April 2012 the Council adopted a Local Development Order covering 144.23ha of sites in Darlaston and the surrounding area that falls within the Black Country Enterprise Zone in an effort to support growth, attract new businesses and create jobs. The Darlaston LDO authorises development for research and development, light industry, general industry and storage and distribution uses across the overall area, as well as waste management and waste treatment use within a defined sub-zone. The LDO boundary and further information can be found at:

- <http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/environment/planning/ldo.htm>

The adopted LDO had a lifespan of 3 years and expired on 15 April 2015. On this basis, prior to this date a revised and updated LDO was prepared and this was adopted by the Council's Cabinet on 18 March 2015. The Darlaston Local Development Order 2015 therefore came into force upon expiry of the existing Order on 16 April 2015.

8.3 In monitoring year 2015/16 one development proposal was submitted to the Council seeking confirmation that it was in conformity with the criteria of the LDO. The details of the application are provided below.

Ref	Date Received	Site Address	Description	Council Response
15/0917/LDOR	22/09/2015	BHANDAL BUSINESS PARK (PROPOSED UNITS 18-30), HEATH ROAD, DARLASTON.	Proposed change the use of the building from offices into industrial units and construction of a workshop..	Application was withdrawn

Additionally, several other planning applications were made in the LDO area. These were for development that is not covered by the LDO these are listed below

Ref	Date Received	Site Address	Description	Council Response
15/0333/FL		LAND OFF TEMPUS DRIVE, TEMPUS DRIVE, WALSALL, WS2 8TJ	Earthworks and remediation of material	Granted subject to conditions 8/1/16.

			on the Opal and Onyx sites, to provide a level platform for future development .	Needed to enhance the sites for future development that could then be in line with the LDO
15/0289/F L		BALMORAL HOUSE, LONGMORE AVENUE, BENTLEY, WALSALL, WS2 0DA	Infill of existing canopy to form inspection room and extension to conference room.	Granted subject to conditions 6/10/15
15/0429/F L		FORMER IMI JAMES BRIDGE COPPERWORKS, RESERVOIR PLACE, WALSALL	Capping layer to site surface and erection of boundary fencing.	Granted subject to conditions 10/8/15
15/0251/F L		MANHEIM AUCTIONS, WHITWORTH CLOSE, WALSALL, WS10 8LJ	Erection of a vehicle display canopy in existing car sales area.	Granted subject to conditions 30/4/15

9. COMPLIANCE WITH DUTY TO CO-OPERATE

9.1 The Localism Act 2011 the ‘duty to co-operate’ which applies to all Local Planning Authorities, such as Walsall Council, and other public bodies. The duty:

- relates to sustainable development or use of land that would have a significant impact on at least two local planning areas;
- requires that councils set out planning policies to address such issues;
- requires that councils and public bodies engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to develop strategic policies; and
- requires councils to consider joint approaches to plan making.

9.2 Thus, the duty requires that when Walsall Council is preparing its plans it will engage constructively, actively and on an on going basis with other authorities and public bodies. The Council will also be expected to respond positively in cooperating with others who are preparing their own plans.

9.3 Besides local authorities, other bodies that are subject to the Duty to Cooperate, or that the Council has to have regard to under the Duty, are set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Some of these bodies (such as the Mayor of London, Transport for London and the Marine Management Organisation) are not relevant to Walsall, whilst (especially perhaps in respect of waste management and / or minerals issues) there can be strategic issues in relation to local authorities that are some distance from Walsall. The bodies with whom Walsall Council has sought to cooperate and/ or who have sought to cooperate with the Council in an ongoing basis are as follows.

<u>‘Duty to Cooperate’ Bodies</u>	
1.	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (BCLEP)
2.	Black Country Local Nature Partnership (BCLNP)
3.	Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
4.	Environment Agency (EA)
5.	Highways England (HE)
6.	Historic England (HiE)
7.	Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)
8.	NHS England (NHS)
9.	Natural England (NE)
10.	Office of Rail and Road (ORR)
11.	Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG)

12.	West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority (WMITA)
<u>Neighbouring Local Authorities</u>	
13, 14, 15	Black Country Authorities – Dudley MBC (DMBC), Sandwell MBC (SwMBC), Wolverhampton City Council (WCC)
16.	Birmingham City Council (BCC)
17.	Coventry City Council (CCC)
18.	Solihull MBC (SoMBC)
19.	Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC)
20.	Lichfield District Council (LDC)
21.	South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC)
22.	Staffordshire County Council (SCC)
<u>Other Mineral and Waste Duty to Cooperate Authorities</u>	
23.	Herefordshire Council
24.	Shropshire Council
25.	Stoke on Trent City Council
26.	Telford and Wrekin Council
27.	Warwickshire County Council
28.	Worcestershire County Council

9.4. Besides discussions or meetings with the Duty to Cooperate bodies held on an individual basis there are also several sets of meetings that bring together representatives on a geographical and / or topic basis.

Association of Black Country Authorities (ABCA)	Leaders and / or Chief Executives of the boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall and the City of Wolverhampton – to discuss strategic or common issues. Can approve certain ‘delegated’ decisions, but does not replace individual councils’ committee where formal approval is required. Informs the Black Country Joint Committee, which as certain powers in respect of grant-funding and the relationship with the Combined Authority, but not in respect of planning policy.
Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group	Formed to bring planning officers from the Black Country authorities together with representatives of the Duty to Cooperate bodies. Meets on an occasional basis as and when necessary.
Black Country ‘Planning Leads’	Planning Policy Managers (or equivalents) from the 4 BC authorities. Regular liaison and frequent meetings to coordinate joint working, especially now on the BC Core

	Strategy Review. This joint workings includes frequent meetings between officers working on particular topics.
Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Partnership	Local authorities affected by the implications of the habitats Regulations in relation to Cannock Chase SAC. Come together to share and consider evidence and mitigation strategies. Cannock Chase, Lichfield, South Staffordshire district councils, Stafford Borough Council and Wolverhampton City Council. advised by Natural England. Walsall has not joined the partnership but is prepared to enter an agreement.
Greater Birmingham / Solihull LEP (GBSLEP) Spatial Planning Group, now Birmingham/ Black Country Housing Market Area (HMA) Officer Working Group	Work on a GBSLEP spatial plan (with a Walsall officer as liaison for the Black Country) led to the commissioning on a Strategic Housing needs study, which is leading to further joint work on how to accommodate housing growth across the combined HMA.
West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (AWP)	Brings together officers from minerals planning authorities with representatives from the minerals and construction industries.
West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities Duty to Cooperate Group	Brings together officer representatives of the Black Country authorities with officers from Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry and the Integrated Transport Authority (WMITA).
West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (RTAB)	Brings together officers from waste planning authorities with representatives from the waste management industry.

Cooperation on Walsall's Plans

9.5 Previously, Walsall Council had started work on its Site Allocation Document (SAD) and on its Town Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) – as well as on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – and it undertook Issues and Options (I&O) consultation in April – June 2013, with cooperation starting beforehand and continuing subsequently. In 2015-2016 the Council undertook 2 major rounds of consultation, again with cooperation taking place around them.

- a) Preferred Options (PO) consultation, 7th September – 2nd November 2015; and
- b) Publication consultation, which started on 7th March 2016 and ran to 3rd May 2016 (beyond the period covered in this report).

The key Duty to Cooperate contacts during this period, arranged by each DtC body, were as in the first of the following tables.

Cooperation on Other Plans

9.6 Key elements of Walsall Council's Cooperation in other plans are summarised in the second of the following tables.

COOPERATION ON WALSALL'S SAD AND AAP

Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (BCLEP)

UR 1291

PO Frontloading	<p>The LEP has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p> <p>No representations had been received before the PO stage.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Officers attended LEP Board meeting on the 19th October 2015 to introduce the plans and answer any questions.</p> <p>Formal representation on the SAD and AAP (and CIL) received 2nd November 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Board welcomed the documents as being in line with, and building upon, the agreed Black Country Core Strategy and supporting the aims and objectives of the Strategic Economic Plan.</i> • <i>“The LEP agrees that the preferred options show that development needs can be accommodated and delivered without amending the Green Belt and that the SAD will be able to allocate sufficient sites to deliver at least the Core Strategy housing requirements for the Borough to 2026 and to meet Core Strategy targets for industrial land.</i> • <i>“The Partnership supports the objective of the SAD and Employment Land Review (ELR) to re-engineer the industrial land supply to provide a good portfolio of opportunities across the Borough, but particularly in the M6, Black Country Route and Black Country Spine Road corridor.</i> • <i>“The scope for lesser quality industrial land to be considered for release, mostly to housing is welcomed. This would be a good way of continuing to provide a supply of housing from brownfield sources. It will be important however, that appropriate safeguards are observed, especially to ensure that remaining adjacent industry is not compromised.</i> • <i>“The LEP notes that the Darlaston Strategic Development Area Access Project is now underway, and that the M6 Junction 10 will be improved. These improvements will play their part in making the Enterprise Zone sites in Darlaston more competitive. It is important that the LEP and local authorities continue to press and work for further improvements to transport connectivity across the Black Country for businesses and residents, including high quality rail services to connect Walsall</i>

	<p><i>with Wolverhampton, Birmingham and other main centres as soon as possible</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The LEP welcomes the continued support for investment in Walsall town centre, for shopping (especially comparison shopping), offices, leisure and other town centre uses. The LEP accepts the need to reflect economic and other trends and to ensure deliverability. The proposals for rather smaller amounts of shopping and office floorspace than is set out in the Core Strategy are therefore supported. The Plan recognises the need to act positively to promote and safeguard investment if the town centre is to avoid decline. The allocation of a Social Enterprise Zone in the St. Mathews Quarter is welcomed and the LEP will look to support this through joint working with social enterprises and the Council.</i> • <i>“It is noted that the CIL Preliminary Draft Charging schedule reflects work that shows it will be viable to levy a charge on large foodstore, retail warehouse developments (in any location), and on housing developments (in most, but not necessarily all, parts of the Borough) and that, despite charges being relatively low compared to other authorities, receipts will exceed the future income from Planning Obligations due to their scaled back nature and will be able to be used more flexibly towards the Borough’s infrastructure.”</i>
Publication Frontloading	<p>Officers sent email 14th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation requesting that they let us know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if BCLEP wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>BCLEP responded on the 17th December 2015 to confirm they have no comments to make. As the response to the Preferred Options was supportive officers felt there was no need to engage further except to update on the progress of the Plan.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Black Country Local Nature Partnership (BCLNP)

UR 1452

PO Frontloading	<p>The council had previously provided the LNP with the mapping used for the emerging plans.</p> <p>The BC LNP has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 20th October 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleased that the SAD conforms with and is aligned to the NPPF and the BCCS and uses the Black Country Environment Infrastructure Guidance as evidence. • Support the objectives of the plan, particularly for defining integrated environmental networks, protecting the natural environment, promoting green infrastructure and improving access to areas of open space. • Expressly supports the following policies: OS1 Open Space, LC5 Greenways, GB1 Green Belt Boundary, EN1 Natural Environment, EN2 Ancient Woodland, EN3 Flood Risk, EN4 Canals, EN7 Great Barr Hall and Estate. • Add impact on the natural environment to Policy GB2. • Consider potential of other forms of evidence to inform and monitor plan-making and delivery. • Add references to supporting text to refer to the Birmingham and Black Country Nature improvement Area, and to refer to the protection of wildlife corridors. • Identify relevant delivery partners. <p>No comments received on the AAP.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 14th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on behalf of both Birmingham & Black Country Local Nature Partnership and Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust organisations on the Preferred Options consultation requesting</p>

	<p>that they let us know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if they wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>No response from received from this email. However as the response to the PO consultation is generally supportive and many of the recommendations made have informed the Publication documents. It is considered there is no need for the Council to proactively seek meetings in respect of particular issues. The Council will, of course, be open to further discussion should the LNP wish. It has included the LNP in the Publication consultation and will keep the LNP informed on the progress of the Plan.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)

PO Frontloading	The CAA has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	Notified of formal consultation SAD – no formal response received AAP – no formal response received
Publication Frontloading	Reminder email sent 14 th December 2015 but no comments received. It is not considered the policies and proposals of Walsall's SAD and/or AAP would raise any issues for the CAA.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Environment Agency (EA)

UR 801, UR 2658

PO Frontloading	<p>The EA has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p> <p>The EA had made representations at the I7) stage and been involved in significant previous cooperation, including a meeting and the provision of mapping by the Council.</p> <p>As part of on-going discussions, the EA agreed on 14th October 2015 that there was no need to undertake a Detailed Water Cycle Study as the preliminary WC study for the BCCS found that there was headroom to accommodate the growth proposed and neither South Staffordshire Water or Severn Trent responded to the SAD or AAP indicating that there was a capacity issue.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 4th November 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend Policy EN1 should cover the water environment. • Policy EN3 - reference should be made to culverts and the possibility of extreme events and blockages. • Site specific flood risk comments were provided. However the EA's assessment of the sites was not informed by the best available flood risk data. Sites were assessed using national modeling of flood extents, rather than the more detailed JBA modeling work provided to the EA by the council October 2015 – this data was not used in error for the assessment and the sites were to be assessed again. The JBA data was confirmed by the EA (Martin Ross) on 12/02/2016 as being <i>"acceptable and there are no issues with it"</i>. EA agreed to re-assess the sites using the best available data. • Support for Policies EN4, EN6 and W1. • Concerns raised in respect of Policy W2 (for existing waste sites) and Policy W3 (for new waste sites) in respect of potential land use conflicts with nearby residential areas. • Reiterated the need for minerals proposals (in Policies M1-M10, but especially including for the working of brick clays) to consider the potential hydrological and ecological effects on designated sites, as previously and with the addition of Jockey Fields SSSI.

	<p>Formal representation on the AAP received 4th November 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On flood risk and water management: opportunities to open up culverted watercourses should be sought. Support for policy (f). The degree to which the Ford Brook culvert protects the town centre at times of extreme events or blockages should be considered. • Sequential and exception tests should be applied when appropriate in respect to the sites identified and flood resilience measures should be incorporated where appropriate. • On ground water and contaminated land: reference needs to be made to the Council's own Contaminated Land Strategy and the joint Defra and Environment Agency publication CLR11: Model Procedures for the Management of Land contamination. 'Groundwater Protection: Principles and Practice'" particularly position statement A should be incorporated into the Area Action Plan. Reference should be made to the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the River Basin Management Plan that provides the framework to achieve the requirements of the WFD. • On biodiversity: consider opening up or mimicking an open channel AAPs3. Add more weight to Green Infrastructure in respect of AAPLE4, AAPLV7, and AAPLV8. AAP13 Site TC41 any development of the site should look to improve the structure and habitat of the brook in line with WFD objectives. Consider setting back development (TC41) from this watercourse. Consider through TC44 de-culverting the Ford Brook and obtaining the exact line of the culvert.
Publication Frontloading	<p>A meeting with the EA to discuss their formal PO response was requested by Walsall. While this was not possible there had been frequent communication between the EA and Walsall via email and telephone between December 2015 and February 2016 on the matters raised by the EA. As a result of these discussions, some of the comments made by the EA initially were later revised or retracted.</p> <p>The main points of the position reached in respect of the SAD are understood by the council to be as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EA has agreed to use the JBA flood-risk modelling (subject to some detailed issues and discussion). • Those remaining sites that might need specific references to FRA work including the possible

	<p>application of the ‘exception test’ are to be confirmed (in addition to FRAs that might be needed as a matter of course to accompany planning applications).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has broadly been accepted that it will not be feasible to open-up culverts and that the Local Plan will not have to examine the flood risks from blockages to culverts (although assessments might be required for future applications that might lead to development closer to culverted watercourses than has been envisaged so far). • The EA has agreed that a water cycle study will not be necessary as a result of the conclusions of the phase 1 Water Cycle study undertaken for the BCCS, and in light of there having been no consultation responses from Severn Trent Water and South Staffs Water raising issues regarding the capacity of infrastructure. • The council has sought to reflect various comments and recommendations – including in respect of water quality as well as flood risk - in amendments to policies, site allocations and reasoned justification. • The potential implications of minerals and waste proposals have been addressed in the policies in the Publication SAD Plan and have been discussed with Natural England. • The EA has agreed not maintain previous comments about waste planning in general, and the council has referred to the evaluation of sites for waste (and minerals and other uses) on the basis evidence used which takes accounts of the assets and constraints potentially affecting or affected by individual sites. <p>The main points of the position reached in respect of the AAP are understood to be as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EA has agreed that the opening up of culverts will not always be feasible within the plan period. However the plan does make provision for the opening up of waterways where it is feasible to do so. • Flood resilient design has been incorporated into Policy AAPINV7. • Reference is made to the early flood warning system and the risk of blockages. • Reference has been made to the Environment Agency publications in respect of contaminated land. • AAPINV7(b) makes reference to the Water Framework directive and River Basin Management
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	<p>Plan.</p> <p>In light of these responses, the council took the view that discussions would need to continue in respect of the modifications the council has made as a result of comments received since the PO stage consultation. Among other things, these should achieve the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirm whether any further work is required in respect of flood-risk, generally and/or in respect of any specific sites, in particular where and how the exception test might need to be applied. 2. Confirm whether the approaches proposed towards water quality issues are sufficient. 3. Resolve any remaining potential issues in respect of specific minerals and/or waste sites and the policy approaches taken towards these sites. 4. For the town centre confirm whether Policy AAPINV7 on site constraints addresses all of the comments made.
<p>Publication Response (7th March – 3rd May 2016)</p>	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March. However, a meeting was arranged – for April 2016 – to discuss what the EA’s representations might be.</p>

Highways England (HE)

UR 733, UR 2402

PO Frontloading	<p>HE has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p> <p>He had been involved in discussions and made representations previously.</p>
<p>PO Consultation (7th September – 2nd November 2015)</p>	<p>Formal representation on the SAD, AAP (and CIL) received 21st October 2015.</p> <p>Key points on the SAD were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regeneration of brownfield land is supported and the approach taken supports the principles of sustainable development and reducing the need to travel. • The majority of housing sites are in the regeneration corridors identified in the BC Core Strategy, but will nevertheless have traffic impacts. The agreed improvement scheme for M6 Junction 10 is considered <i>“imperative”</i>. • It is recommended that a buffer is provided for adjacent to routes on the Strategic Network. <p>Key points on the AAP were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site allocations for high-density, mixed use vibrant town centre will contribute to sustainable development and should have no adverse impacts on the operation of the Strategic Route Network, so the aims and objectives of the AAP are welcomed and supported. <p>It was also requested that consideration be given to including improvements to M6 Junction 10 in the CIL regime.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 1st December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation requesting that HE let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if Highways England wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>Highways England responded to the email confirming they had no further issues and a meeting was held on 14th January 2016 to finalise outstanding tasks prior to the SAD and AAP publication stage. HE thoughts were sought on proposed changes to a policy in the SAD to take into their comments from the</p>

	previous consultation.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Historic England (HiE)

Formerly English Heritage

UR 812, UR 2149

PO Frontloading	<p>HiE has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p> <p>HiE made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD and AAP received 2nd November 2015.</p> <p>Key points on the SAD were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support inclusion of section on Historic Environment, but propose amendment of objective to include expanded reference to heritage (separate from design objectives).• Concern that consideration of the impacts of Allocated Sites on heritage assets appears not to be explicit and relevant evidence sources are not apparent. This applies in respect of sites for housing, for gypsies and travellers and travelling showpeople, industry and leisure and community. There is a need to compliance with NPPF Section 12.• Suggest amendment to Canal policy (EN4) wording to enhance reference to heritage assets associated with the canals.• Question why Historic Environment section focuses only on Conservation Areas (Policy EN5) and suggest amendments to the policy text to bring it more in line with the NPPF.• Raise questions about the appropriateness of providing policies for Highgate Brewery (EN6), and Great Barr Hall, estate and former St Margaret's Hospital (EN7), asking if the principle of development at these sites has been assessed and asking for a meeting to discuss the sites in more detail before they can assess whether policy wording amendments are required or if the sites should be taken forward.• Concerned about the impact of waste (policies W2-W4) and minerals (policies M1-M10) site allocations on the historic environment and about how these have been assessed.• Keen to see mineral workings for locally distinctive building materials.• Would welcome assurances that the transport policies have considered effects on the historic

	<p>environment.</p> <p>Key points on the AAP were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support reference to heritage in 'Vision', and also Objective 8 though with some amendments to wording. • Welcome Town Centre Characterisation Study as evidence base but need to be clear in its use as an evidence base to feed into policies throughout the AAP. • Recommend that it is made clear the assessment of impacts on the historic environment is part of the selection of sites for development (policies AAPS2, AAPB1, AAPB3, AAPLE3, AAPLV1, AAPLV2, AAPLV5, AAPT4, AAPT5, AAP12-AAP16, • Support references to particular assets that are important to the heritage and character of Walsall. These include Walsall Market (Policy AAPS2), the 'Social Enterprise Zone' (AAPB2), cultural facilities (AAPLE2), Walsall Canal (AAPLE4), as well as to heritage generally ((AAPLV5), the public realm (AAPLV7), and the recognition that the centre comprises different areas (AAP12-15). Recommend alterations to policies to enhance references to and protection of the historic environment and heritage assets. • Would welcome further information on the approach to minerals safeguarding areas (AAP17). <p>The response included links to several Historic England Guidance Notes and other advice relevant to the issues raised.</p> <p>HiE wished to discuss issues affecting individual development sites and to meet with the council to ensure issues have been addressed and there are no outstanding concerns at pre-submission stage.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>HiE Officer who provided the PO response is on maternity leave so meeting was arranged with her successor.</p> <p>Meeting on 7th January 2016 to discuss issues arising from the HiE response to PO consultation and potential ways to move forward – Minutes available on request.</p> <p>HiE looked through proposed site allocations and provided comments on their impacts on the Heritage Assets as well as providing further comments on the SAD and AAP. Also suggested that Historic England would be willing to enter into a Statement of Common Ground where solutions can be found.</p> <p>Policy officers have assessed the allocated sites to identify a wide range of issues, assets and constraints</p>

	<p>that affect them; including heritage assets and canals (full list is in chapter 2 of Draft Publication SAD). Results of this process have been added to the Policy tables in the Publication Stage.</p> <p>Various policies were updated based on amendments suggested by HE and other representations. The council considered that discussions would need to continue in respect of the modifications the council had made as a result of comments received since the PO stage consultation. Among other things, these should seek to achieve the following.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gain feedback on the historic environment policies in the SAD and AAP. 2. Provide feedback to HE on the 'Issues, Assets and Constraints' work and consider whether this (together with the Sustainability Appraisal) provides evidence of site impacts on Heritage assets and to enable such impacts to be addressed through planning applications.
<p>Publication Response (7th March – 3rd May 2016)</p>	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)

I&O Frontloading	The Council has worked successfully with the HCA over a number of years to deliver the regeneration of several areas of the borough, including parts of the Darlaston Enterprise Zone (notably the 'Phoenix 10' site) and former social housing sites, as well as sites in and around Walsall town centre. In the case of housing, joint working has been on a continuing basis relating to a programme of sites. No representations had been received previously.
PO Frontloading	The HCA has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group. The HCA has been involved in discussions with Walsall Council officers about programmes for bringing forward sites identified in the emerging plans.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	Notified of formal consultation SAD – no formal response received AAP – no formal response received
Publication Frontloading	Reminder email was sent on the 14 th December 2015 but no comments received. No comments have been received at any stage of production of the SAD or AAP. The HCA has however, been heavily involved in delivery of some of the major housing sites referred to in the SAD. The current housing programme for 2015-2018 is ongoing.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

NHS England (NHS)

Previously (until 2013) the National Health Service Commissioning Board. Walsall has been contacting the Birmingham, Solihull and the Black Country Area Team.

PO Frontloading	No representations had been received previously.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	Notified of formal consultation SAD – no formal response received AAP – no formal response received
Publication Frontloading	Reminder email sent on the 14 th December 2015 but no comments received. The main role of NHS England (through the NHS Commissioning Board) that might be relevant to the SAD/AAP is to allocate funding to Clinical Commissioning Groups, for example to provide new buildings. As such, it is considered that the information provided from Walsall CCG addresses the key issues.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Natural England (NE)

UR 1781, UR 2240, UR 2274

PO Frontloading	<p>Walsall officers attended SAC Partnership meetings between 2010 and the summer of 2015. During that period officers expressed concern in respect to the interpretation of the evidence on which the strategic mitigation approach is currently based, and the legality of collecting contributions to fund the mitigation measures proposed in the Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Measures. However other members of the SAC Partnership were willing to progress with this approach despite of Walsall's concerns. As a result Walsall advised the partnership that it would be unable to sign up to the strategic mitigation approach as drafted in a MOU at the time and would be obtaining specialist advice on HRA issues and report back to the partnership when in a position to do so. Having taken this position and following comments provided 18th September 2015 in respect of questions to Counsel, being developed by the SAC Partnership, Walsall did not receive further correspondence from the SAC Partnership – until the Partnership began to discuss a partial review of its evidence.</p> <p>More generally, NE has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group and it has been represented at several meetings.</p> <p>NE made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representations on the SAD, AAP (and CIL) – in respect of the Habitats Regulations - received 2nd November 2015.</p> <p>Key points on the SAD and on the AAP were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural England (NE) acknowledges the text on the council's website, which refers to work on a Habitats Regulations Assessment.• It understands the screening so far rules out significant effects on European sites with the exception of Cannock Chase SAC.• NE would welcome sight of screening work to date and would be happy to meet to facilitate completion of the screening process. <p>Formal representation on the SAD received 10th November 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan area includes the Cannock Extension Canal, which is a European designated site. The documents provided do not demonstrate that the SAD will be accompanied by a HRA. • Natural England has not had sight of a Strategic Environmental Assessment. • Policies M6 (brick clay extraction - permitted sites) and M8 (brick clay extraction – new sites) would make the SAD unsound as being contrary to national policy and undeliverable. The Highfields North Site and Area of Search ('Land North of the A461' – MXA9) include the SSSI at Jockey Fields and the loss of the SSSI would be contrary to the NPPF, to the BC Core Strategy, the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). The land within the Jockey Fields SSSI should be removed from policies M6 and M8. • NE generally supports the objectives of the SAD. Consideration might be given to an objective supporting renewable and low carbon energy. • The retention and updating of the Greenways policy (LC5) and policies on the Environmental Network (EN1, EN2, EN3) are supported. • On Atlas Quarry (Policy M6 – MP2) NE is supportive of the wording for Policy M6- MP2 (b), (c) and (d). • On Highfields South (Policy M6 – MP6) NE understand there are remaining permitted reserves of clay and why the site is not the subject of extraction ahead of the land north of the A461. • On Sandown Quarry (M6 – MP7) NE look forward to having an input to the restoration programme. • NE welcomes and supports criteria (iv) of the policy for Sandown Brickworks (Policy M7 – MB3). • On Stubbers Green Area of Search (Policy M8 – MXA3) the policy recognizes the limitations on extraction as a result of the existence of protected sites. The policy should be amended to include reference to the environment and specifically to Stubbers Green Biog and Swan Pool and the Swag SSSI. • On the Recordon Land (Policy M8 – MXP3) a criterion should be included in part 'f' of the policy to ensure a suitable assessment of impacts on the adjacent Stubbers Green Bog SSSI is provided for.
Publication	An email was sent 10th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments received on the Preferred Options consultation, it provided NE with the opportunity to

<p>Frontloading</p>	<p>review Walsall's understanding of the representation. This pro-forma also asked if NE wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans. NE responded on the 7th January confirming the council had correctly summarised their response.</p> <p>Walsall continued to receive advice on its emerging documents and the requirements of the Habitats Directive during this period. While a view was not reached from the advice received in sufficient time to meet with NE in advance of the Publication stage consultation starting, a meeting would later be arranged at a point during the consultation period that allowed sufficient time for NE to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>Teleconference held with SM from NE 5th January 2016 to discuss the AAP, CIL, SAD allocations MP2, MP6, MP9, MXA3 and MXA9. SEA of the plan and HRA of the Cannock Extension Canal SAC (Note available on request – email 6th January 2016).</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was general support for the AAP • CIL was discussed and officers explained that viability in some areas was such that a nominal charging rate was only possible and that due to this it was unlikely that CIL would raise significant amounts of monies, and it is likely the majority of funds would be apportioned to maintaining open space. • Development with the potential to adversely affect the Cannock Extension Canal SAC will be subjected to the requirements of HRA at the project stage as insufficient detail is available with which to make an assessment at the plan making stage. • Greater explanation of why the Jockey Fields SSSI is included in the minerals site allocation. • Historic delivery of renewable energy and low carbon projects in Walsall has been such that it was agreed the objectives of the SAD should not make specific reference to its provision. <p>It was considered by the council that discussions would need to continue in respect of the issues raised by NE including;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specifically to discuss Cannock Chase SAC, the approaches to identifying and seeking to address impacts and the implications for Walsall's plans. It will also be necessary to meet the other local authorities in the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership (particularly Cannock Chase, Lichfield, South Staffordshire and Wolverhampton). 2. To confirm whether the work done for the plans is sufficient in terms of the identification of possible impacts on nature conservation and the ability to properly address such impacts.
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Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March. However, a meeting was arranged – for April 2016 – to discuss what the EA’s representations might be.

Office of Rail and Road (ORR)

The Office of Rail Regulation, until 1 April 2015 when It gained responsibility for monitoring highways.

UR 1450

PO Frontloading	ORR has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group. No representations had been received previously.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	Formal representation on the SAD, AAP and CIL received 23 rd October 2015. This included the following. <i>“We have reviewed your proposals and can confirm that the ORR has no comment to make on these particular document.</i> <i>“For future reference ORR only requires to be consulted if the minerals & waste plan, transport plan, planning application, core strategy etc mentions or impacts on the mainline railway, tramway or London Underground network.”</i>
Publication Frontloading	Reminder email sent 14 th December 2015 but no comments received.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG)

UR 1669

PO Frontloading	Walsall CCG has been on the list of invitees to attend the Black Country Duty to Cooperate Group. No representations had been received previously.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>No formal comments received.</p> <p>A CCG representative attended Walsall Health Board on 7th September 2015, which received a presentation on the plans. Subsequently the CCG provided details of the Needs Assessment (for care and extra care homes) that has been carried out. See the market position statements at http://cms.walsall.gov.uk/index/health_and_social_care/social_care-2/social_care_and_health_commissioning.htm.</p> <p>CCG confirmed there was no need to identify specific sites for care homes. The CCG advised that the council's public health officers had led on work to identify any gaps in primary care provision across the borough.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>CCG advised that, in line with national policy, Walsall CCG submitted an Interim Estates Strategy to the Department of Health in December 2015, required to underpin the case for future investment in the primary care estate.</p> <p>As part of this piece of work, Walsall CCG commissioned a stocktake review of all its primary care sites, which included a dialogue with all GP practices about current and future issues affecting their service provision. The premises stock take identified a number of locality areas where more significant premises investment needs to be considered: these are Central Walsall, Palfrey and Aldridge. Options appraisal work was undertaken in these three localities in March 2016, to inform an investment bid from the Primary Care Transformation Fund (PCTF), 2016 – 2018.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority (WMITA), now Transport for West Midlands (TfWM)

UR 57 (Centro), UR 2275

I&O Frontloading	<p>This DtC body was the former transport authority for the metropolitan area. Its policies were implemented through Centro, the Passenger Transport Executive. A series of working meetings have taken place throughout the process to jointly progress tasks related to transport.</p> <p>HiE made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans.</p>
PO Frontloading	Ongoing working meetings, including through the Black Country and metropolitan DtC groups..
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>A meeting was held on the 15th October where the following issues were discussed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bradley Lane Park & Ride • Rapid Transit Route Study • HRA/SEA – has been produced for West Midlands Transport Strategy. <p>Formal representation on the SAD received 28th October 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the Strategic Transport Plan for the West Midlands, which will cover the period up to 2033/34. Information was provided: Walsall 10 Year Transport Fund Programme and Schemes. • Site allocations should be compatible with the emerging Black Country Rapid Transit Review, which is seeking to progress segregated public transport links and alignments. • It is requested that continued protection is given to the Lichfield-Walsall-Stourbridge rail formation and provision made for the potential stations at Pelsall and Brownhills. • The WMITA is protecting both suburban rail and tram-train options in the Wolverhampton-Willenhall-Walsall rail corridor and provision for new stations (including park and ride facilities) should be protected at Willenhall and at James Bridge. • Proposals for metro/ light rail / tram-train should be protected in the Walsall-Wednesbury corridor. • A station for Aldridge remains a medium to long-term WMITA priority and land at Dumblederry Lane and Westfield Drive for possible park and ride provision should be protected until road access issues are resolved.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMITA and Centro reiterate support for the partnership approach that has been taken in addressing strategic transport needs. <p>Formal representation on the AAP received 28th October 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the Strategic Transport Plan for the West Midlands, which will cover the period up to 2033/34. • Consideration should also be given to the emerging Black Country Rapid Transit Review, to ensure that space is provided for growth to be supported by public transport (including proposals for SPRINT vehicles). • There should be particular emphasis on promoting public transport, walking and cycling, and direct safe and convenient access should be included within developments to link with such provision. • Policies AATP1 and AATP2 are welcomed, but could be strengthened to promote better integration, including with other transport modes, and improvements to the public realm and to lighting and signage are to be supported. • Support improvements for public transport, including improvements to Bradford Place Interchange and to the railway station. WMITA is looking at measures to improve the operation of Walsall Bus Station. • On Policy AATP4 the aspiration to maintain and improve access in and around the town centre is welcomed. This should support measures for bus access and for bus stops. • Keen to explore funding opportunities including planning conditions / obligations to support sustainable travel. • Support partnership working including towards any necessary infrastructure planning to deliver the plan.
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent on the 4th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that WMITA let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if WMITA wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>Meeting was held on 11th January 2016 to finalise outstanding tasks prior to the SAD and AAP publication stage consultation. WMITA were satisfied with Draft Plan for the SAD and AAP. Support was sought</p>

	from WMITA around the Delivery Plan for the SAD and AAP to ensure this document reflects the aspirations and timescales of the WMITA.
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Neighbouring Authorities
Black Country Authorities – Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton Councils

PO Frontloading	<p>The proposals in the SAD and AAP are intended to implement at a site-specific level the proposals in the Black Country Core Strategy that was prepared by the four local authorities of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. Ongoing discussions about planning matters continue both at officer level through regular meetings of 'Planning Leads' (Planning Policy Managers or their equivalents) and at Member level through ABCA (Association of Black Country Authorities comprising the chief executives and leaders) which informs the Black Country Joint Committee. Topic leads for housing, employment and other matters also meet on a regular basis. Minutes of the formal Duty to Cooperate Meetings, involving officers from all the West Midlands Metropolitan authorities, can be viewed on the Black Country Core Strategy web site. Officers from the Black Country authorities can also be brought together at other meetings, such as the Cannock Chase SAC partnership, where officers from Walsall and Wolverhampton have been in attendance and have sometimes represented each other's views.</p> <p>Whilst there was a great deal of informal discussion, the only formal representation received previously was from the Black Country Archaeologist, based at Wolverhampton.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Notified of formal consultation</p> <p>SAD – no formal response received</p> <p>AAP – no formal response received</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>Reminder email sent 14th December 2015 but no responses received.</p> <p>Black Country, metropolitan and other meetings continued.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

Birmingham City Council (BCC)

UR 2617

PO Frontloading	<p>The authorities in the Greater Birmingham and Black Country LEPs have worked to prepare a joint Strategic Housing Needs Study that assesses future housing needs and examine possible options to address this.</p> <p>Birmingham City Council has also made a significant contribution towards the preparation of a joint Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA) for the West Midlands Metropolitan Area.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 4th November 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City Council supports progression of the SAD which will assist in the implementation of the Black Country Core Strategy. • The proposed modifications to the Birmingham Development Plan identify a shortfall of capacity for additional dwellings across the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area, consistent with the Strategic Housing Needs Study. This study states that the Black Country Authorities may be able to accommodate their own demographically driven dwelling need for five years beyond the current plan period extending to 2031. It has been agreed that options for dealing with this shortly are developed and tested. • It is imperative that work to address the projected shortfall proceeds promptly and in tandem with the SAD. <p>No formal comments received on the AAP.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 16th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that Birmingham let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if the City Council wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>No response was received to this email. However, discussions have continued on a broad range of issues through the West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities Duty to Co-operate Group. Also there is continuing involvement of both Walsall and Birmingham in meetings and work concerning the outcome of the Strategic Housing Needs Study including across the wider combined HMA.</p>

Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Coventry City Council (CCC)

PO Frontloading	Besides participating in the metropolitan DtC meetings, Coventry City Council has also contributed towards the preparation of a joint Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA) for the West Midlands Metropolitan Area.
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	Notified of formal consultation SAD – no formal response received AAP – no formal response received
Publication Frontloading	Reminder email sent 14 th December 2015 but no comments received
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

Solihull MBC (SoMBC)

PO Frontloading	<p>The authorities in the Greater Birmingham and Black Country LEPS have worked to prepare a joint Strategic Housing Needs Study that assesses future housing needs and examine possible options to address this.</p> <p>Solihull MBC has also made a significant contribution towards the preparation of a joint Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA) for the West Midlands Metropolitan Area, being the only authority in the area with significant sand and gravel resources – apart from Walsall, where sand and gravel extraction has been in abeyance.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Notified of formal consultation</p> <p>SAD – no formal response received</p> <p>AAP – no formal response received</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>A reminder email was sent 14th December 2015 but there was no response.</p> <p>Solihull has continued to participate in discussions about issues arising from the Strategic Housing Needs Study. However, these relate mainly to the potential ability of Solihull to accommodate additional housing that cannot be located in Birmingham, rather than any direct relationship between Solihull and Walsall or the rest of the Black Country.</p> <p>Solihull is also involved in joint working to consider growth on the basis of the combined Birmingham and Black Country HMA.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC)

UR 1812, UR 2058

PO Frontloading	<p>CCDC is an active member of the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership. See re Natural England (above) for more detail.</p> <p>See also Staffordshire County Council below regarding discussions about cross-boundary waste and mineral issues.</p> <p>CCDC made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans (especially the SAD).</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 26th October 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On housing some of the explanatory text would be more appropriate in the main body of the document, including how some of the surplus housing capacity could be used to deliver some of the wider needs of the HMA.• Query if the BCCS housing target itself needs to be revisited in light of more recent projections.• It would be helpful for clarity if a table could be provided which breaks down the sources of housing supply, including the capacity if a proportion of them were taken up for the needs of travellers instead.• Rigid approach to dismissing Green Belt options for traveller sites should be reconsidered.• It may be helpful to include a reference to a possible Green Belt review as part of the Core Strategy review both for traveller sites and for general housing.• On the Environmental Network reference needs to be made to Cannock Chase SAC zone of influence.• Cross boundary designation of conservation area along Cannock Extension Canal should be considered. There is no reference to Hatherton Branch Canal proposals.• On minerals support not taking forward allocation for minerals development at Yorks Bridge. It may be helpful to refer to local road network, particularly Lime Lane.• In the Sustainability Appraisal the generalisation that Green Belt sites would have worse access to

	<p>public transport and other services should be looked at more flexibly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAD should not delay the review of the Black Country Core Strategy. <p>No comments received on the AAP.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 16th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that Cannock Chase let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if CCDC wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>Cannock Chase responded 7th January 2016 which included further clarification on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannock Chase Council has clarified that in respect of the Green Belt it was seeking a reference in supporting text to the possibility of a future Green Belt review. • Cannock Chase Council has pointed to previous evidence, including that commissioned in 2009 at the time of preparation of the BCCS, that provides a basis to indicate a route for a link between the Hatherton Canal (which is proposed for restoration) and the wider canal network within Walsall. <p>The response of 7th January 2016 suggested that a meeting take place to go through some of the issues including matters around a possible conservation area designation along the Cannock Extension Canal. Walsall Council has reflected both of these points in the Publication version of the SAD.</p> <p>Introductory text in Publication Document (section 1.3) now refers to possible Green Belt review as part of the review of the Black Country Core Strategy, which would also provide the basis to consider revised household projections.. The indicative line of the link to the Hatherton Canal Restoration Project has been added to the SAD and the policy and reasoned justification have been expanded to address issues relating to the Cannock Extension Canal (and SAC). Minerals and Waste policies also address the issues raised about these two topics.</p> <p>Walsall Council officers considered that a meeting might be required with Cannock Chase Council (as well as with the other Cannock Chase SAC Partnership authorities, and with Natural England) specifically to discuss Cannock Chase SAC.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May)	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

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Lichfield District Council (LDC)

UR 709, UR 774

PO Frontloading	<p>LDC is an active member of the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership. See re Natural England (above) for more detail.</p> <p>See Staffordshire County Council below regarding discussions about cross-boundary waste and mineral issues .</p> <p>LDC made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans (especially the SAD).</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD, AAP (and CIL) received 25th September 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is not possible to assess the impact of the documents as none of the documents are accompanied by a sustainability assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment, or Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).• Evidence prepared in support of the Lichfield Local Plan identified that development within Walsall will have an adverse impact upon the Cannock Chase SAC.• Lack of a Green Belt Review, which is not provided in the evidence base.• Focusing development within existing centres and the re-use of brownfield land is supported in principle.• Mineral Site MP5 (Land at Brownhills Common) support is provided in respect of the recognition that an assessment of impacts on Chasewater and Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI is required.• Sites which affect strategic environmental networks should be required to mitigate for their impact during operation. Early phasing of restoration should be sought to retain corridors important for nature conservation.• Reiterate Issues & Options stage response in respect of mineral sites close to the boundary with Lichfield.• Support for re-opening the Walsall to Brownhills rail link (Policy T3) and beyond to Lichfield:

	Sustainable Transport and the identification of the canal Policy EN4.
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 16th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that Lichfield let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if LDC wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>Lichfield responded on the 22nd January with a few amendments and additional comments. LDC wished to expand on their comments about the Cannock Chase SAC and to ask us to consider how the SAD may need to respond to the quantum and distribution of housing across the GBHMA.</p> <p>In light of the above, Walsall Council officers considered that a meeting might be required on the following issues.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why a Green Belt review is not a matter for the SAD but is likely to be a part of work for the Review of the BC Core Strategy, including to address unmet projected housing need from other areas. 2. That – as shown in the ‘Preferred Options’ Documents and the accompanying assessment tables - the policies and allocations of the plans were the subject of Sustainability Appraisals (and a full Sustainability Appraisal Report has been published as part of the ‘Publication’ consultation). 3. The HRA work accompanying the SAD/AAP. 4. The reference made to canal restoration project(s) in SAD Policy EN4. <p>A meeting might be required with Lichfield District Council (as well as with the other Cannock Chase SAC Partnership authorities, and with Natural England) specifically to discuss Cannock Chase SAC.</p> <p>It was not considered that further discussion, nor a meeting, will be necessary on cross-boundary matters concerning minerals issues.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	A response had not been received by 31 st March.

South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC)

UR 833

PO Frontloading	<p>SSDC is an active member of the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership. See re Natural England (above) for more detail.</p> <p>See also Staffordshire County Council below regarding discussions about cross-boundary waste and mineral issues.</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 27th October 2015.</p> <p><i>“South Staffordshire Council gives its strong support to Walsall MBC in seeking to progress its site allocations Document (SAD), through to Public Examination and future adoption, in order to deliver the commitments set out in adopted Black Country Core Strategy 2011.”</i></p> <p>No comments received on the AAP.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>As agreed at meeting on 23rd November 2013, SSDC was consulted on planning application to increase imports of clay to Sandown Brickworks in 2015.</p> <p>An email was sent 16th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that South Staffordshire let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if the district council wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p> <p>No response was received to this email.</p> <p>At that time Walsall Council officers considered there were no outstanding issues. Support for main policies is welcome. Issues relating to minerals and waste have been addressed in the respective policies.</p>
Publication Response (7 th March – 3 rd May 2016)	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

UR 1803, UR 719

PO Frontloading	<p>SCC made representations previously and had significant involvement in earlier stages of the plans (especially the SAD).</p> <p>Engagement on cross-boundary waste and minerals issues has continued throughout the process via West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (RTAB), West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (AWP) and (since 2015) West Midlands Non-Aggregate Minerals Group. Walsall Council has also commented on the emerging Staffordshire Minerals Local Plan and on planning applications at Shire Oak Quarry in Staffordshire, which is adjacent to the borough boundary.</p> <p>Email correspondence led to agreement for further collaboration on cross-boundary waste and mineral issues, including the development of site options on or near the boundary with CCDC and LDC that may impact on Staffordshire,</p>
PO Consultation (7 th September – 2 nd November 2015)	<p>Formal representation on the SAD received 2nd November 2015.</p> <p>Key points were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge difficulty in assessing requirements for construction and demolition waste recycling and evidence obtained by Walsall. Should encourage recycling in light of the EU Waste Framework Directive. • Support identification of existing recycling sites as Strategic Waste Sites/ Mineral Infrastructure Sites and approach towards sand and gravel and brick clay extraction. • Suggest SAD should safeguard Permitted Mineral Sites and proposed site allocations. • Support the non-inclusion of the Yorks Bridge proposal on the basis that there is no current interest in the development of mineral resources. <p>No comments received on the AAP.</p>
Publication Frontloading	<p>An email was sent 16th December 2015 which included a Duty to Cooperate pro-forma that summarised the comments made on the Preferred Options consultation, requesting that Staffordshire CC let the council know of any inaccuracies or omissions. This pro-forma also asked if the county council wanted to raise any additional issues or would like to have a meeting to discuss the plans.</p>

	<p>No response was received to this email.</p> <p>At that time Walsall Council officers considered there were no outstanding issues.</p>
<p>Publication Response (7th March – 3rd May 2016)</p>	<p>A response had not been received by 31st March.</p>

Other Mineral and Waste Duty to Cooperate Authorities

Generally	Engagement on cross-boundary waste and minerals issues has continued throughout the plan preparation process via West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (RTAB), West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (AWP), and (since 2015) West Midlands Non-Aggregate Minerals Group.
Herefordshire Council	No cross-boundary issues have been identified. No formal representations have been received from Herefordshire Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.
Shropshire Council	<p>The only cross-boundary issues of any significance identified were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Joint West Midlands Metropolitan Area LAA (November 2015) identified that the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (but not necessarily Walsall) is partly reliant on Shropshire for crushed rock supplies. • A recent application to increase imports of brick clay to Sandown Brickworks in Walsall (15/0303/FL) indicates that this factory is currently importing some of its brick clay from Caughley in Shropshire. <p>Shropshire Council did not comment on the Draft LAA circulated to AWP members in November 2015, and when it was consulted on the recent planning application to increase imports of brick clay to Sandown Brickworks it did not object.</p> <p>No formal representations have been received from Shropshire Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.</p>
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	<p>There has also been indirect engagement on the preparation of joint waste and minerals local plans for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, via Staffordshire County Council (see above).</p> <p>No significant cross-boundary issues have been identified.</p> <p>No formal representations have been received from Stoke-on-Trent City Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.</p>
Telford & Wrekin Council	<p>There has been engagement between the Black Country Authorities and Telford & Wrekin Council on the emerging Telford Local Plan – a joint response on behalf of the Black Country Authorities was submitted in September 2015, and there are outstanding issues relating to housing provision in Telford.</p> <p>In respect of minerals and waste no major areas of concern were identified in the Black Country response to the Telford & Wrekin Plan in 2015, although subsequently there has been additional engagement through informal electronic communication on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on draft waste and minerals policies in Telford & Wrekin Local Plan – no major issues of concern were

	<p>identified apart from the omission of a policy on recycling of construction and demolition waste, which has now been addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing of information on brick clay supply and demand, which confirms that Sandown Brickworks in Walsall does not currently rely on supplies of clay from Hadley Quarry in Telford. <p>No formal representations have been received from Telford & Wrekin Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.</p>
Warwickshire County Council	<p>There has also been informal engagement on the emerging Warwickshire Minerals Local Plan.</p> <p>The main cross-boundary issues of significance identified have been as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are significant cross-boundary movements of waste from Walsall to Warwickshire, mostly to landfill, although the waste is mostly exported from commercial waste treatment facilities over which Walsall Council has no control. Walsall Council currently has a contract in place to send asbestos waste to landfill in Warwickshire, but the quantities involved are small (<100 tonnes) and as there are no suitable landfill sites in Walsall there is no option but to export this waste. The Draft Joint West Midlands Metropolitan Area LAA (November 2015) identified that the West Midlands Metropolitan Area (but not necessarily Walsall) has been partly reliant on Warwickshire for sand and gravel supplies in the past but this is unlikely to be the case any longer as many sites in Warwickshire have recently closed and only two are currently operational. A recent application to increase imports of brick clay to Sandown Brickworks in Walsall (15/0303/FL) indicates that this factory is currently importing some of its brick clay from Kingsbury in Warwickshire. <p>Comments were received from Warwickshire County Council on the Draft LAA circulated to AWP members in November 2015, mainly about information sharing and correction of factual inaccuracies about sites in Warwickshire. When it was consulted on the recent planning application to increase imports of brick clay to Sandown Brickworks the county council did not object.</p> <p>No formal representations have been received from Warwickshire Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.</p>
Worcestershire County Council	<p>No significant cross-boundary issues have been identified. While there has been correspondence by email between December 2015 and February 2016 regarding potential demand for crushed rock from Worcestershire, in relation to the emerging Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan, Walsall Council has confirmed that there is no evidence that Walsall</p>

	<p>relies on this to any extent.</p> <p>No formal representations have been received from Worcestershire County Council at any stage during the preparation of Walsall's SAD and AAP.</p>
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COOPERATION ON OTHER PLANS

Birmingham Development Plan	<p>Walsall officers coordinated Black Country responses through ABCA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Inspector's recommendations (April 2015); & b) Birmingham City Council's proposed Modifications (October 2015)
<p>Black Country DtC Group</p> <p>- Dudley 'Development Strategy', Wolverhampton City Centre AAP (as well as Walsall's SAD & AAP)</p>	Walsall officers attended meetings in July and October 2015.
Cannock Chase Local Plan Part 2	Walsall officers made a " <i>no comment</i> " response to a consultation on the methodology for a Green Belt review (June 2015)
Coventry Local Plan	Whilst the Plan had been the subject of discussions at the WM metropolitan DtC Group, Walsall officers confirmed to the city council that Walsall had not made any representations on the plan (March 2016).
Greater Birmingham / Solihull LEP, subsequently a working group of officers from all authorities in the combined GBSLEP / Black Country combined HMA	<p>Walsall and the Black Country and other authorities provided information and comments for the Strategic Housing Needs Study – to consider the implications of the projected shortfall in Birmingham's ability to accommodate all of its housing growth and the implications of other emerging projections of housing growth (April 2015).</p> <p>Officers attended working group meetings (May and November 2016)</p>

	and January 2016) and a Housing Summit in January 2016, which represented the Leaderships of all of the authorities in the combined HMA.
South Staffordshire Site Allocation Document	Walsall officers joined with other BC officers in discussions on the emerging plan, with more formal meetings with South Staffordshire in September and November 2015.
Staffordshire Minerals Local Plan	Walsall officers wrote and coordinated the Black Country response to the consultation on the draft plan (July 2015). Walsall officers arranged to represent the Black Country at the forthcoming public examination (March 2016).
Telford Local Plan	Officers from the BC authorities met officers from Telford to discuss whether Telford's over-allocation of housing might be counted towards the projected shortfall in the Birmingham and Black Country HMAs (August 2015 and January 2016). Walsall officers helped write a report to ABCA seeking agreement to representations on the Publication version of the Plan (March 2016).
WM Metropolitan authorities' DtC Group	Walsall officers attended meetings in June and August 2015.
WM Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA)	Walsall officers played a leading role (with officers from Solihull, Birmingham and Coventry) in drafting the WM LAA.

	<p>This was the subject of consultation among the metropolitan authorities, it was approved by metropolitan Chief Executives (February 2016) and agreed with the WM AWP January and March 2016.</p>
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10. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

10.1 Walsall Council is committed to engaging wider public participation in the planning process. The approach to this is laid out in the Revised Statement of Community Involvement (referred to from now as the SCI) adopted by the Council on the 8th February 2012. This is an important part of Walsall's Local Development Framework and is a legal requirement as set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

The SCI provides guidance on how the planning service at Walsall Council – Planning Policy and Development Management – will consult and involve local communities, businesses and key partners to involve people in making decisions on forming plans and planning applications.

You can view the full Statement of Community Involvement at:

- **www.walsall.gov.uk/ldf_supplementary_planning_documents/ldf_statement_of_community_involvement**

10.2 Several public consultations about planning policy documents took place during the year. In April 2015, the Shop Front Supplementary Planning Document was adopted following consultation during the previous year. The key consultation took place between September and November 2015 about the Preferred Options for the Site Allocation Document and Walsall Town Centre Area Action Plan, together with the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy. This was followed up by consultation about the Publication Draft of the former two documents that began in March 2016. Consultation on the draft Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document began in February 2016.

A number of techniques were used in the consultation for the SAD and AAP. Full details will be provided in a consultation report that will be prepared for the submission of these documents for examination. A press release announced the consultation period and encouraged people to get involved and have their say. This was sent to all the major newspapers in Walsall.

Formal notification of the consultation starting was sent out to all contacts on our consultation database either by email or post of reaching around 2,000 individuals or organisations.

The consultation was also promoted the following ways:

- Council Website
- Facebook, Twitter and Wordpress blog
- The Planning 2026 road show which visited Willenhall, Darlaston , Bloxwich, Brownhills and Aldridge
- A Planning 2026 event with questions and answers sessions

10.3 The Localism Act was given Royal Assent in November 2011 and it places a requirement on LPAs to facilitate and enable local communities to develop Neighbourhood Plans. However, no requests for Neighbourhood Plans have come forward within the 2015/16 monitoring year.

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