

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – ANNUAL MONITORING  
REPORT  
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report informs members of progress on the Local Development Framework (LDF) to 31 March 2005 by means of an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 It is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 that the Council reports to the Secretary of State, by means of an Annual Monitoring Report, the progress that has been made in preparing development plan documents over the previous financial year. The Local Development Framework should be constantly reviewed and revised, and the AMR will be the main mechanism for assessing the framework's performance and effects.

**3 REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT**

- 3.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) Regulations 2004 set out the requirements for the Annual Monitoring Report. The report must:
1. contain information about the implementation of the Local Development Scheme
  2. set out the extent to which policies in Local Development Documents are being achieved
  3. identify any policies that are not being implemented, giving reasons why, and what steps are to be taken to secure their implementation if necessary
  4. report on the net additional dwellings that have been built in the District
- 3.2 The Government has published a document 'Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide' which gives guidance on how an Annual Monitoring Report should be prepared, and suggesting a set of Core Output Indicators to use as a framework for the monitoring of policy implementation. This guidance has been taken into consideration in the preparation of the first AMR.

## **4 SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE AMR**

4.1 This is the first AMR to be prepared. As no Local Development Documents were in effect during the monitoring period, this AMR focuses on the following:

- Local Development Scheme (LDS) progress
- Identifying indicators and establishing a framework for monitoring Local Development Documents
- Analysis of non-implementation of existing policies
- Housing trajectory showing past performance and estimating future performance in terms of housing delivery

4.2 Progress in the LDS is measured against 'key milestones', which are key stages in the production of documents. Although the AMR relates to the year ending 31 March 2005, it is regarded as best practice to give an update on progress against the most recent LDS. As at December 2005, all key milestones in the LDS dated September 2005 had been achieved, indicating that the Council is on track with regard to its preparation of documents.

4.4 A table of indicators has been identified, which link with the spatial objectives set out in the Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report, and the sustainability appraisal objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. These indicators will be reviewed and may be added to as Development Plan Documents are adopted and new policies come into effect, or as more data become available. These indicators will enable analysis of policy implementation and the progress being made towards related targets.

4.5 A table of policies which are no longer being implemented is included, together with reasons why, and, if applicable, what steps the Council intends to take to secure their implementation. A number of retail and transport policies have been superseded by Government guidance.

4.6 The housing trajectory shows the current position regarding housing delivery in Huntingdonshire, with a forecast of future supply. It compares levels of actual and projected housing completions with the strategic housing requirement, in order that any shortfall or surplus in supply can be identified, and if necessary housing policies can be reviewed. This trajectory shows that Huntingdonshire is currently performing well in the delivery of its annual housing requirement, and no shortfall in delivery is anticipated.

## **5 RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 Cabinet is recommended to note the outcomes of the Annual Monitoring Report.

**Background Papers:**

ODPM, 2004, *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*

ODPM, 2005, *Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide*

HDC, 2005, *Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report*

HDC, 2005, *Sustainability Appraisal: Scoping Report*

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