

## 1 Executive Summary

### Progress against the Local Development Scheme

- 1.1** As at 31 March 2016, the published LDS was the March 2016 version. The LDS indicated that key studies forming part of the evidence base for the Local Plan to 2036 would be finalised by September 2016. This is now anticipated to be early 2017.

### CIL

- 1.2** Total CIL receipts for 2015/16 amounted to **£1,949,750.57**. **£1,490,154.00** was spent on infrastructure, **£97,487.57** was applied to administrative expenditure, and **£289,645.71** was passed to Town/Parish Councils.

### Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.3** During the AMR period, the St Neots Neighbourhood Plan was 'made'. Formal submission consultation and examination were carried out on the Houghton and Wyton Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Areas for both Huntingdon and Bury were designated.

### Duty to Co-operate

- 1.4** The Council has co-operated with other local planning authorities, Cambridgeshire County Council and prescribed bodies during the period covered by this monitoring report on issues such as transport, water and other infrastructure, housing (including Gypsies and Travellers) and jobs targets and economic growth.

### Analysis of policy performance and effects

- 1.5** The Annual Monitoring Report includes over 25 indicators, linked to Sustainability Appraisal objectives, to measure the performance of the Council's adopted planning policies and to assess the wider effects on the District. Some headline results are included below. Full results for each indicator are reported in Chapter 4.

### Housing Development and Supply

- 1.6** The 2015 housing trajectory predicted completions of **541** dwellings in 2015/16. The actual number of completions was in fact **535**. The majority of new dwellings were built in the market towns of Huntingdon, St Neots and St Ives with some at Ramsey. The service centres of Godmanchester, Sawtry and Warboys also saw significant completions.
- 1.7** As at 31 March 2016, **514** dwellings were under construction. Completions in 2016/17 are anticipated to be approximately **567** dwellings.

- 1.8** Taking into account completions and projected delivery on sites already committed and those sites identified as being capable of contributing to housing delivery, the Local Plan to 2036 housing trajectory indicates that by 2036 **23,886** dwellings could be delivered. The five year housing land supply stands at **5,941** which is **104.7%** of the Local Plan requirement to 2036 incorporating the 5% buffer (equivalent to **5.24** years). The Council can therefore demonstrate a 5 year supply of housing land. The shortfall of completions against targets is a short-term issue arising from a dramatic increase in the target and predicted completions over the next 5 years will exceed the target and fully make up the current shortfall. Therefore, the policies for the supply of housing should be considered to be up-to-date.
- 1.9** **48.3%** of C3 dwellings completed in the monitoring year were on previously-developed land (PDL), well in excess of the 29% Core Strategy target.
- 1.10** The availability of housing that is affordable is a major issue in the District, with a growing gap between average earnings and housing costs. In 2015/16 **55** new affordable homes were completed, amounting to **9.7%** of all new dwellings completed, and **22%** of completions on qualifying sites (ie those that meet the affordable housing policy criteria).

### **Business, Retail and Leisure Development**

- 1.11** The total percentage of employment floorspace (B uses) completed on previously developed land was **87.2%** in 2015/16, slightly down from **92.9%** in 2014/15. The high proportion is largely as a result of changes of use, extensions to, and replacement of existing business units.
- 1.12** The overall total of net completions of employment floorspace (B uses) was **-12650m<sup>2</sup>**. This was mainly attributable to the loss of office floorspace to residential and retail development in Huntingdon and St Neots.
- 1.13** Retail completions were well up on last year, with the erection of two new supermarkets and other retail units in Huntingdon and St Neots.
- 1.14** D2 completions were up on last year, with a number of conversions of existing business/retail units in St Neots to gyms/fitness clubs.