

<b>Report to</b>	Planning Committee
<b>Date of meeting</b>	6th October 2021
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	Cllr M Young, Lead Member for Planning, Public Protection and Safer Communities
<b>Report author</b>	Karsten Brußk, Planning Officer
<b>Title</b>	Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021: Draft Annual Monitoring Report 2021

## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1. This report is about the Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021 (LDP): Annual Monitoring Report 2021.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

- 2.1. To inform Members of the content of the LDP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2021 prior to document publication on the Council's website and submission to Welsh Government by the 31st October 2021.
- 2.2. To report progress with implementing the adopted LDP.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1. That Members note the content of the AMR 2021, see Appendix 1.

## **4. Report details**

- 4.1. The Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021: Annual Monitoring Report 2021 is presented in Draft form, see Appendix 1, because Officer are awaiting the Welsh translation, and finalise the document layout to comply with the accessibility criteria for publication on the Council's website.

- 4.2. Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) are an important instrument to assess the effectiveness of local policy in supporting the LDP Strategy and Objectives, which were set to deliver the LDP Vision of how Denbighshire should be in 2021. The Annual Monitoring Report 2021 covers the period between the 1st April 2020 and the 31st March 2021, and is the seventh document that has been produced since LDP adoption in 2013.
- 4.3. 'Future Wales – The National Plan 2040' and a revised 'Planning Policy Wales' brought not only changes to national policy but introduced a Development Plan at the national level. Since both documents were published in February 2021, it remains uncertain at the time of producing the AMR 2021 (August 2021) how those changes will influence local decision-making and, subsequently, the outcome of future local policy monitoring.
- 4.4. The outbreak of the 'SARS-CoV-2' virus in March 2020 had an impact on the collection and availability of data. Local authorities and national bodies have focussed all available resources on dealing with the pandemic rather than continuing 'business as usual'. Therefore, the AMR 2021 cannot provide an assessment of every local policy or Sustainability Appraisal Objective indicator.
- 4.5. Compared with the results of previous years, there has not been a change in the overall performance of individual policies. Several local policies have been highlighted for review over the last few years, and are linked to strategic elements of the Denbighshire Local Development Plan such as, meeting the average annual dwelling requirement of 500 units. These local policies, see table 1 below, will continue to be highlighted until they are replaced or amended as part of the LDP review process.
- 4.6. Table 1: Local policies that must be subject to review

Local Policy	Commentary
BSC 1 - Meet the housing needs of the County.	As set out in the LDP Review Report (2017), the LDP Growth Strategy and delivery of market and affordable houses fails on the (mathematical) poor delivery of dwellings. Delivery targets were set on the basis of Welsh Government 'Population and Household Projections' that have been shown to be
BSC 4, BSC 8, BSC 9 - Increase the number of new	

<p>affordable dwellings built in the County.</p>	<p>greatly over-estimated figures. The Draft Preferred Strategy for the next LDP 2018 – 2033 sets out an annual figure of 218 units; compared to 750 units for Period 3 in the adopted LDP.</p> <p>These policies will be highlighted as ‘under-performing’ until the LDP Strategy has successfully been reviewed, i.e. adoption of new LDP.</p> <p>It must however be noted that the Council delivers affordable houses through a number of mechanisms other than the LDP. This includes, for example, the use of social housing grants for bringing empty homes back into use and working with our housing partners.</p>
<p>BSC 10 – Meeting the needs of Gypsies and Travellers.</p>	<p>The Council carried out a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA), which was approved by Welsh Government on the 28th of March 2017. A new Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA) must be carried out and submitted to WG by February 2022. Work started on the new GTANA in August 2021 and the survey work is progressing.</p>
<p>PSE 6, PSE 8, PSE 9 – Maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of town centres.</p>	<p>Future Wales – The National Plan 2040 (2021) and Planning Policy Wales, Edition 11 (2021) introduced a change in national policy regarding the principle of town centre development; addressing the decline in retail uses by introducing complementary uses. Local policy was adopted in 2013, and focus primarily on the protection of retail where an increase in non-retail uses was regarded as negative.</p>
<p>BSC 5 – Deliver the Key Strategic Site.</p>	<p>Outline planning permission expired in March 2021.</p>

4.7. If Members have a query or wish to discuss individual sections of the Annual Monitoring Report, please contact the Strategic Planning & Housing team via phone: 01824 706916 or email: 'planningpolicy@denbighshire.gov.uk'

## **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

5.1. This item does not seek a decision. The adopted DCC Local Development Plan does however contribute towards the following Corporate Priorities through setting out where and how much new development will be taken place in the County up to 2021: Developing the local economy; Ensuring access to good quality housing; and Modernising the Council to deliver efficiencies and improve services for our customers.

## **6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

6.1. There are neither costs nor any effects on other services from noting the content of this report.

## **7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

7.1. A Well-being Impact Assessment has not been carried out because no decision is sought on Council policy, strategy, work procedure or programme. Members are only being asked to note the content. The Annual Monitoring Report is a statistical document reflecting local policy performance as part of the adopted LDP.

## **8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

8.1. Members of the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) will discuss the Draft AMR 2021 on the 20th September 2021. It is not possible to report back from the meeting because the deadline for reports to Planning Committee in October 2021 is before the SPG meeting takes place.

## **9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1. There are no budget implications arising from the LDP Annual Monitoring Report of 2021.

## **10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

10.1. There are no risks associated with noting the content of the AMR 2021.

## **11. Power to make the decision**

11.1. This report does not seek a decision. The statutory duty to produce an AMR is laid out in the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 76. Part 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 sets out the requirement to submit the finalised AMR to Welsh Government.