

<b>Report to</b>	Planning Committee
<b>Date of meeting</b>	9th October 2024
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	Cllr A James, Lead Member for Local Development and Planning
<b>Head of Service</b>	E Jones, Head of Planning, Public Protection and Countryside Services
<b>Report author</b>	K Brußk, Senior Planning Officer
<b>Title</b>	Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021: Annual Monitoring Report 2024

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

- 1.1. This report is about the Denbighshire County Council (DCC) Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 – 2021 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2024, see Appendix 1.

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

- 2.1. To provide Members of the Planning Committee with a copy of the AMR 2024 prior to Welsh Government submission and publication on the DCC webpage.

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

- 3.1. That Members note the content of the AMR 2024.

## **4. Report details**

- 4.1. Annual Monitoring Reports are an important instrument to assess the achievement of LDP Objectives, the effectiveness of local policy as well as the delivery of development on allocated sites. The latest report covers the period April 2023 to March 2024, and is the 10th iteration since LDP adoption in 2013.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. This document is available in Welsh.

- 4.2. DCC is duty bound to produce an AMR for the adopted LDP under the obligations of Section 76 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and Section 37 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended). The AMR must be submitted to WG by the 31st of October of each year and be published on the Council's webpage.
- 4.3. The DCC LDP 2006 – 2021 was adopted on the 4th of June 2013. Although already beyond the plan period, the Welsh Minister for Housing and Local Government clarified in a letter to local planning authorities, "Plans adopted prior to 4 January 2016 will remain the LDP for determining planning applications until replaced by a further LDP." Appendix 1 to DCC LDP AMR 2021 contains the WG Minister's letter in full.
- 4.4. Monitoring frameworks are an inherent part of the Local Development Plan, and, thus, were subject to examination at the plan preparation stage. Individual elements, for example, indicators or review triggers can only be modified as part of completing the Local Development Plan review process. Since the monitoring framework can only be amended by way of completing the plan review.
- 4.5. It should be noted that the Denbighshire County Council Local Development Plan was adopted before the publication of the Welsh Government "Development Plans Manual, Edition 3" which means that it does not contain all the elements, which are now required to be monitored. Prior to adopting the replacement Local Development Plan, data such as, housing trajectory is provided for information only.
- 4.6. The effect of national policy on local decision making is monitored and reported as prescribed in WG "Development Plans Manual, Edition 3" (2020). While material to the determination of planning applications, national policy changes are not reflected in the LDP monitoring framework. Since the monitoring framework can only be amended by way of completing the plan review, DCC is still monitoring housing delivery, employment land provision etc. and local policy performance against a framework that was current in 2013.

4.7. There are three principal topic areas that require particular attention when preparing the replacement LDP, as emphasised in previous AMRs and the LDP Review Report (2017):

- Annual housing delivery targets must be aligned to revised WG population and household projections;
- Addressing the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Travellers; and Town Centre Regeneration, especially focussing on the decline in 'bricks and mortar' retail outlets on the 'High Street'.

4.8. The DCC AMR 2024 is currently in the process of being translated and prepared for WG submission and publication on the DCC webpage.

4.9. If Members have a query or wish to discuss individual elements of the AMR 2024, please contact the Strategic Planning/ LDP team via phone: 01824 706916 or by email: [planningpolicy@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@denbighshire.gov.uk).

## **5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?**

5.1. This report does not seek a decision. It is an information item.

## **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 the AMR 2024.

## **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 over the last financial year.

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

8.1. The AMR 2024 was presented to Members of the Strategic Planning Group on the 12th September 2024. Members noted the content of the document. Monitoring outcomes are going to inform future discussions on individual topic areas, for example, housing growth when preparing the replacement LDP. Meeting notes and presentation were subsequently distributed among all Councillors.

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

9.1. This report is an information item.

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

10.1. There is no risk associated with noting the content of the AMR 2024.

## **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 and Section 37 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005. 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 and Section 37 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005.