

Annual Monitoring Report 2010/11



December 2011



Wyre Forest District Council

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For more information contact:

Wyre Forest District Council
Planning Policy Section
Duke House
Clensmore Street
Kidderminster
DY10 2JX

Tel. 01562 732928

Email: planning.policy@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Website: www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Executive Summary

Local Development Scheme

- The latest Local Development Scheme (LDS) came into effect in August 2008. The hearing sessions into the Core Strategy took place in July 2010 and the Inspector's Report was received in October 2010. The Core Strategy was adopted in December 2010. During 2011, work was progressed on the Site Allocations and Policies DPD and the Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPD plus the Churchfields Masterplan with a Preferred Options consultation from late May through to early July. A separate consultation on potential sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople was conducted during October/November. The Churchfields Masterplan SPD was adopted in September.

Population

- 2010 mid-year estimated population for Wyre Forest District was 98,100 – the same as the previous year; and
- The largest increase was in the 65-69 age group (+500) with a decrease of 400 in the 35-39 age group. The working-age population (those aged 18-64) fell by 800 but those aged 65 and over rose by 600.

Housing

- 154 new dwellings were completed in 2010/11; four houses were sub-divided to give 8 houses in total; 4 dwellings were demolished giving a net completion rate of 150 dwellings for the year;
- 92% of dwellings were completed on brownfield sites (previously developed land);
- Only 292 dwellings were under construction at the end of the financial year, significantly lower than the previous year when there were 345;
- 60% of completions were at a density of at least 50 dwellings per hectare with 13% being at less than 30 per hectare;
- Only 29 affordable dwellings were completed during 2010/11 including 8 shared ownership – 27 at the Martley Road redevelopment site plus 2 housing office conversions - all were Wyre Forest Community Housing schemes
- 74% of completions were 1 or 2 bedroom properties, lower than last year;
- 93% of the completions were in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn;
- Replacement ratio where homes have been demolished was high at 1:4;
- 55% of completions in Kidderminster were in the form of flats compared with 72% the previous year;
- The largest number of completions were a further 41 units at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn;
- The Miller Homes development at Franchise Street in Kidderminster was completed with the final 23 dwellings being finished;
- There were just 3 dwellings completed in Bewdley during 2010/11; and
- There were only 12 completions in the rural areas - 6 of these were barn conversions.

Employment

- Unemployment averaged around 4.5%. Overall numbers were highest in Broadwaters Ward and the % rate was highest in Oldington & Foley Park Ward where unemployment levels stood at between 11 and 14% – both wards are in Kidderminster;
- 15.5% of the workforce were employed in the manufacturing sector in 2010 and there were 31,100 jobs in total
- There were no employment land completions in 2010/11; and
- Current employment land supply is 51.83 Ha - some 10.62 Ha has been completed since 2006.












Local Environment


- Broadwaters Park in Kidderminster retained its Green Pennant, Jubilee Gardens in Bewdley and Brinton Park in Kidderminster retained their Green Flags; and
- The Character Appraisal for Areley Kings Conservation Area was consulted on during 2010/11.

Retailing and Town Centres

- At The Parade, Broadwaters in Kidderminster the convenience store expanded into the adjoining unit; and
- In Kidderminster town centre, two small shop units were converted into A2 offices

Summary of Output Indicators

Output Indicator	Ambition	Progress	
BD1 – total amount of additional floorspace by type	To increase uptake of employment sites	0 sq.m floor space completed 2010/11	
BD2 – percentage of above which is on previously developed land	Maximise reuse of land and buildings	No completions during 2010/11	
BD3 – employment land available by type	Provide about 44 Ha for employment 2006-2026 as per Adopted Core Strategy	Employment Land Availability April 2011 showed total allocations of 51.83 Ha	
BD4 – total amount of floorspace completed for town centre uses	To enhance attractiveness of town centres for shopping, commerce and culture	264 sq m completed in town centres	
H1 – plan period and housing target	Adopted Core Strategy target of 4,000 dwellings 2006-2026 (200 p.a)	1,069 dwellings completed against a target of 1,000	
H2a – completions in previous years		1,295 dwellings completed in previous 5 years	
H2b – completions in reporting year	To meet annual requirement of 192	150 (net of demolitions) completed	
H2c – additional dwellings in future years	To meet annual requirement of 190	3,758 dwellings projected to be completed up to 2026	
H3 – completions on previously developed land		92% of 2010/11 completions were on brownfield sites	
H4 – additional gypsy traveller pitches provided	To cater for requirements as set out in GTAA	No new pitches provided	
H5 – affordable housing provision	To help meet the affordable housing requirement	29 units completed in 2010/11	

Output Indicator	Ambition	Progress	
H6 – housing quality – building for life assessments	To improve the standard of housing schemes of 10 or more units	No data available	
E1 – number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice	To minimise inappropriate development in the floodplain	No permissions granted contrary to EA advice in 2010/11	
E2 - change in areas of biodiversity importance	To promote creation of appropriate new habitats	No new designations during 2010/11	
E3 – renewable energy generation	To encourage a shift towards renewable energy resources	No renewable energy installed in 2010/11	
L1 - % housing completions in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn	Majority of new dwellings to be built in 2 main urban areas	93% of 2010/11 completions were in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn	
L2 - % completed units with 1 or 2 bedrooms	Aim to cater for the increase in smaller households	74% of completions had only 1 or 2 bedrooms	
L3 – replacement dwelling ratio	Make good use of land	Ratio of 1:4 achieved	
L4 - % Local Nature Reserves meeting Biodiversity Action Plan criteria	To safeguard and enhance indigenous biodiversity	No data collected this year	
L5 – Ha of brownfield land redeveloped	To make the best use of land	3.19 Ha redeveloped for housing; 6.27 Ha under construction at 1st April 2011	
L6 – number of character appraisals prepared	To preserve and enhance conservation areas and listed buildings	Character Appraisal for Areley Kings Conservation Area published during the year.	
L7 – Number of buildings and structures added to Local Lists	To survey all potential buildings and structures	No additions during the year	
L8 – no. of developments under construction providing cycle parking	To encourage less reliance on the private car	5 residential schemes with cycle parking were under construction during 2010/11	
L9 – density of housing development	Majority of dwellings at density of at least 30 dwellings per hectare	88% of completions at >30 dwellings per hectare	
L10 – amount of completed non-residential development complying with car-parking standards	To apply parking standards as maxima as set out in PPG13	No relevant developments	
L11 – amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: GP surgery, Hospital, primary school, secondary school, areas of employment or major retail centre	To locate new residential development within accessible locations for public transport	Employment – 95% G.P – 95% Hospital – 78% Primary School – 95% Secondary School – 95% Retail Centre – 95%	

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1 Introduction

1.1 This is Wyre Forest District Council's 7th Annual Monitoring Report. It is a statutory requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It reports on the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. The document assesses:-

- 1) the progress against Local Development Scheme milestones
- 2) the extent to which policies are being successfully implemented

1.2 The Wyre Forest District Local Plan was adopted in January 2004. In December 2010, the Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework Core Strategy was adopted so both of these plans will be monitored in this AMR. The Adopted Core Strategy contains a comprehensive Monitoring and Implementation Framework. These indicators will be used in future Annual Monitoring Reports. For this report for 2010/11, the indicators based on the ODPM / CLG guidance will be used as in previous years. In March 2011, the Department for Communities and Local Government announced that the guidance on local plan monitoring would be withdrawn and that it was a matter for each council to decide what to include in their monitoring reports.

1.3 The AMR helps to highlight policy performance and identify whether policies are delivering sustainable development and having the intended effect. Where policies are not having the desired effect, measures can be put in place to amend or replace them.

1.4 There are 4 different types of indicators which can be used to highlight issues in Wyre Forest and show policy performance.

1.5 Contextual Indicators help to set the background and give greater understanding of the issues and opportunities facing Wyre Forest.

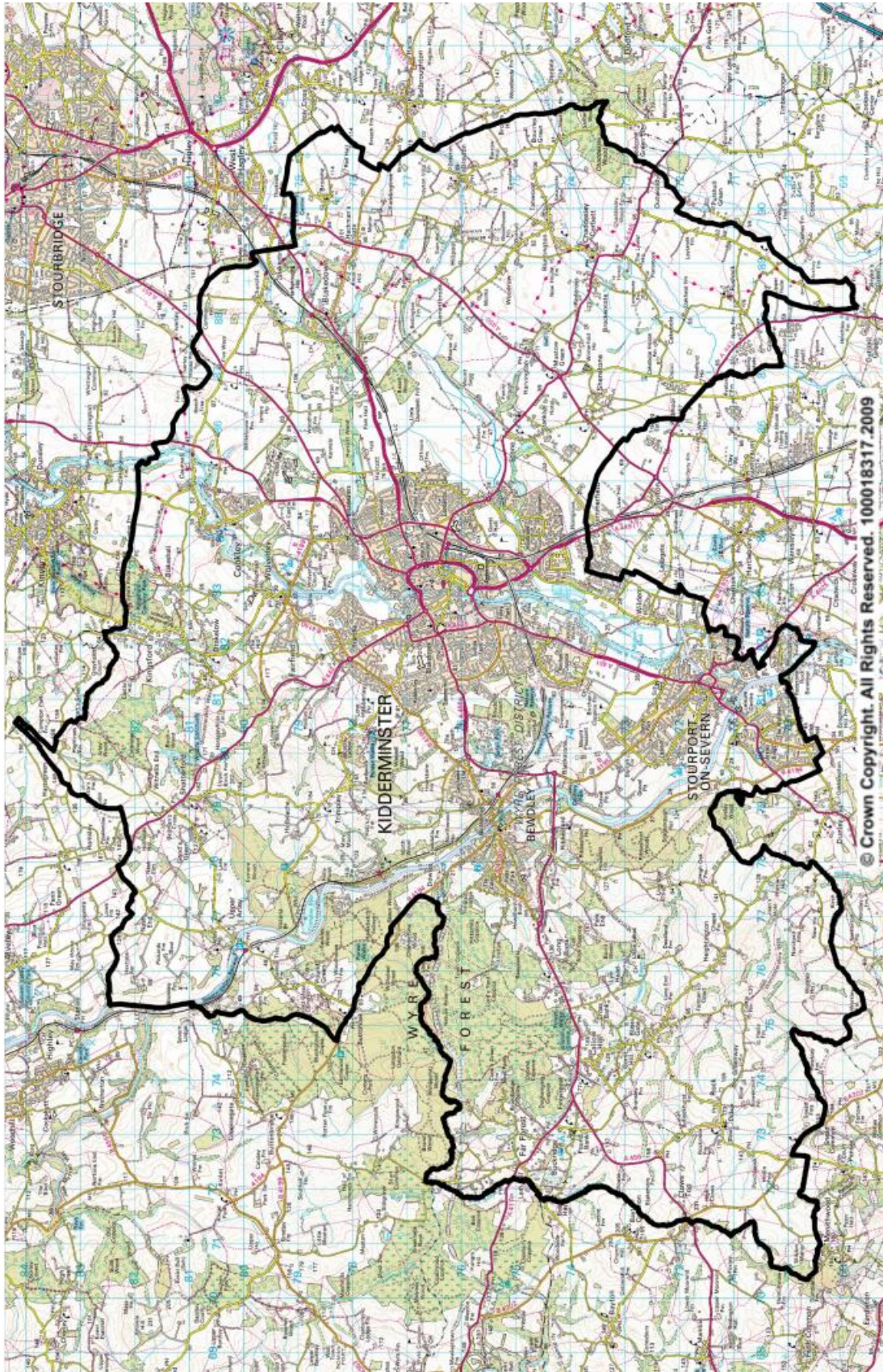
1.6 Core Output Indicators report on key policy themes. These were previously set out in national guidance and cover business development and town centres, housing and environmental quality.

1.7 Specific policies are assessed using **Local Indicators**. These are designed to test the effectiveness of local plan policies.

1.8 Significant Effect Indicators have been identified for future use and are a key part of both the Sustainability Appraisal and monitoring processes. They help to monitor the impact of plans and policies on environmental, social and economic factors. There will be a need in the future to assess the wider impacts of Development Plan Documents (DPDs).

1.9 The AMR also needs to be seen in the context of the Community Strategy, Housing Strategy and Wyre Forest District Council's overall vision.

Map of Wyre Forest District



2 Contextual Indicators

Settlement Hierarchy

2.1 Wyre Forest District is situated within North West Worcestershire. Covering 75 sq. miles, it has a population of approximately 98,100, which has grown at a modest rate since 1991, with stable migration rates. The over 65 age group is significantly higher than both national and regional averages and is anticipated to increase. It is anticipated that 1 in 5 of the population are now of pensionable age.

2.2 The District comprises the three towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley, together with a rural hinterland which includes a number of small villages. The three towns form a triangle of settlements at the centre of the District separated by narrow areas of open countryside. Despite their close proximity, each has its own particular character and community identity.

2.3 Kidderminster (56,000) is the main centre for commerce. It developed rapidly in the 19th Century with the expansion of the carpet industry to become a world leading centre for carpet production. Since the 1970s the town's carpet industry has been in decline and a gradual process of economic diversification has taken place. It is one of 25 strategic centres in the West Midlands.

2.4 Stourport-on-Severn (20,000) developed as an important industrial Georgian Canal Town at the confluence of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and the River Severn. For over 100 years this attractive town with its riverside meadows has been a popular day trip destination for residents from Birmingham and the Black Country.

2.5 Bewdley (9,000) is a Georgian riverside town which saw significant development during the 1960s. Today, Bewdley is an attractive historic market town and a popular visitor destination.

2.6 The District's rural settlements have a limited range of facilities and are poorly served by public transport. Part of the rural area to the north-west is covered by the Rural Regeneration Zone including the Bewdley Ward. The economy within the RRZ is changing, with employment in agriculture declining. However, some small businesses have been created and there has been significant growth in leisure and tourism in this area. To the east, the larger more accessible villages include Chaddesley Corbett, Blakedown, Cookley and Wolverley. Whilst to the West of the River Severn the smaller settlements of Clows Top, Far Forest, Callow Hill, Bliss Gate and Rock provide limited services to rural residents. The rural areas are influenced by the adjacent conurbation in terms of attractiveness for commuting and house prices here are generally high.

Environment

2.7 Topography is uniquely shaped by the Severn and Stour river valleys which flow through the town centres of Bewdley and Kidderminster respectively, before joining at Stourport-on-Severn. The District has an intricate network of main rivers, streams and pools resulting in some of the richest remaining wetland and marsh habitat in Worcestershire as well as presenting significant flood risks. Part of the flood zones pass through the regeneration areas of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn where there is pressure for brownfield redevelopment.

2.8 The rural landscape and Severn Valley play an important supporting role to the local economy. All countryside to the east of the District and as far west as the River Severn is included within the West Midlands Green Belt. The towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn, Bewdley and the smaller settlements of Blakedown, Cookley and Fairfield are excluded from the Green Belt. There are significant areas of lowland heathland, acid grasslands and wetlands, which make a key contribution to biodiversity. The linear landscape of the Severn and Stour Valleys accommodate a degree of annual flooding. To the west the land is elevated and is dominated by the Wyre Forest ancient semi-natural woodland. This part of the District also falls into the Abberley & Malvern Hills Geopark. The District is home to a number of protected species which are often found along the watercourses and in the pools and marshland areas. The Wyre Forest is recognised by Natural England as a potential Prime Biodiversity Area with its wide variety of habitats and protected species. The western half of the District also forms part of the Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark.

2.9 The Wyre Forest itself is undergoing a dramatic restoration following grant aid totalling £4 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Natural Assets, Biffaward and GrantScape. The 'Grow with Wyre Landscape Partnership Scheme' led by the Forestry Commission has been set up to help restore the unique landscape of the forest and celebrate its rich working history. The total funding is over a 4 year period. 'Grow with Wyre' aims to:-

- Preserve and manage the Wyre Forest for future generations
- Restore the ancient Wyre Forest Landscape and associated ancient woodland habitats
- Deliver interpretation of the Wyre Forest landscape and raise awareness of its assets
- Identify the training needs to sustain traditional skills and practices
- Enhance the value of the Wyre Forest in people's daily lives

2.10 There are 18 projects being funded. Each project is designed to manage the landscape character, biodiversity and heritage of this special area. One of the projects, Gateway to the Wyre, has seen the building of a new Community Discovery Centre at Callow Hill which will host education and community events. This opened in August 2011. The Forestry Commission is the lead partner together with natural England, Shropshire Council, Bewdley Development Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Worcestershire County Council, Wyre Forest Study Group, Wyre Community Land Trust, National Trust and Wyre Forest District Council.

2.11 The Grow with Wyre initiative not only promotes natural restoration, but also how the area can benefit economically from the forest in a sustainable manner. The forest's role as a tourist attraction is perhaps its major economic opportunity. However, opportunities are also present in sustainable timber production and woodland crafts through re-establishing traditional forest management as well as producing bio-fuel as a sustainable energy source.

2.12 After three years of funding, there are obvious changes in the landscape such as new hedgerows, new fencing to allow grazing, improved habitats for butterflies, and new saplings. Bracken is being controlled by cattle grazing and old orchards have been improved. New paths have been created, two water mills have been restored and wood burning boilers have been installed in local schools and community buildings to support the wood fuel market.

Rural Economic Strategy

2.13 In November 2008 a Rural Economic Strategy was adopted which covers the period from 2008 to 2014. This Strategy provides a framework to address the economic development needs of the District's rural areas and population. The Rural Economic Strategy aims to develop a sustainable and competitive economic base by encouraging new business formation through innovation, diversification and entrepreneurship. This will be aided by providing rural communities with a choice of quality learning and training opportunities. The Strategy is also about creating a sustainable rural environment with good public transport facilities and adequate access to rural services. There is also emphasis on the impact of climate change on the rural economy and supporting a low carbon energy infrastructure.

2.14 Furthermore, the Strategy does not forget the need to maintain, conserve and enhance the natural and historic environmental qualities which contribute to the overall character and quality of rural landscapes including their landscape character, biodiversity and locally distinctiveness.

2.15 A rich heritage is present, including buildings, conservation areas, monuments, landscapes and archaeology. The physical environment is a key factor in the quality of life for local residents and access to nature parks, open spaces and the rural hinterland is highly valued. There are some 2,800 static holiday caravans in the area, which results in a proliferation of caravan sites, particularly concentrated along the Severn Valley and to the west of the District in the sensitive Landscape Protection Area.

Employment

2.16 There are pockets of high unemployment (March 2011), noticeably in the urban wards of Oldington & Foley Park (11.2%) and Broadwaters (7.3%). The manufacturing industry remains the most significant employer in the District. Some of the District's largest employers are in the manufacturing sector including Brinton Carpets, Sealine Industries (ocean-going luxury cruisers) and Titan Steel Wheels (wheels for earth-moving vehicles). Recent years have seen a growth in the service sector and small-medium sized businesses are becoming more prevalent. The 2001 census showed that there are marked commuting flows of 5,965 people from Kidderminster to the conurbation (Birmingham and the Black Country) and to Worcester and Droitwich Spa. The District also has a significant number of people working from home, at approximately 10%. The District enjoys some self containment in employment due in part to its location to the west of the conurbation and lack of direct motorway access. However it has not enjoyed significant office based development, other than generally local service sector companies.

2.17 Employment sites are concentrated in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn with the main focus on the Stourport Road Corridor (A451) running south out of Kidderminster. Well established as a manufacturing area, it contains some modern high quality premises together with significant major brownfield redevelopment opportunities. Although the majority of employment focuses on the urban areas including Worcester Road, Hoo Farm and the Sandy Lane Industrial Estates, there are some existing rural businesses such as Rushock Trading Estate and Titan Steel Wheels (Cookley), which often employ local workers and contribute significantly to the rural economy. Agriculture remains the main activity in the rural areas, with high quality productive best and most versatile land around Kidderminster.

2.18 Tourism is an important facet of the District's economy and its proximity to the West Midlands conurbation makes it a popular day visitor and tourist destination. In particular the Severn Valley Railway and the West Midlands Safari Park attract a large number of day visitors to the area.

2.19 Data from the business register and Employment Survey (Nomis Dec.2011) shows that the total number of jobs in the district has increased slightly over the last year but over a third of these are part time.

Employee Jobs

	Employees	Wyre Forest	Worcestershire	West Midlands	England
2008	Part Time	11,600	74,900	733,800	7,322,200
	Full Time	21,400	156,400	1,653,200	16,009,000
	Total	33,000	231,300	2,387,000	23,331,200
2009	Part Time	11,600	75,200	733,700	7,240,100
	Full Time	19,000	144,200	1,529,700	15,430,300
	Total	30,600	219,400	2,263,400	22,670,400
2010	Part Time	11,800	77,700	754,700	7,252,600
	Full Time	19,300	141,000	1,525,900	15,367,700
	Total	31,100	218,700	2,280,600	22,620,300

The following table also from BRES 2010 shows the breakdown of employment by industry. It compares Wyre Forest with Worcestershire, the West Midlands and England. The largest employment sector is still Production which combines manufacturing and mining, quarrying and utilities at 15.5% of employee jobs compared with 18.4% in 2008. Datasets, however, are not directly comparable with the Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis used previously.

Employment by Industry 2010

Industry (SIC 2007)	Wyre Forest %	Worcestershire %	West Midlands %	England %
Production (B,C,D & E)	15.5	15.9	13.6	9.9
Health (Q)	12.8	13.4	13.3	12.9
Retail (part G)	14.9	11.7	10.4	10.3
Education (P)	10.4	10.4	10.7	9.7
Business administration & support services (N)	5.4	6.9	7.8	8.2

Industry (SIC 2007)	Wyre Forest %	Worcestershire %	West Midlands %	England %
Accommodation & food services (I)	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.6
Wholesale (part G)	6.3	4.8	4.9	4.3
Public administration & defence (O)	3.3	4.5	5.5	5.6
Construction (F)	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.3
Professional, scientific & technical (M)	3.0	4.3	4.6	7.2
Transport & storage (inc. Postal) (H)	3.5	3.7	4.7	4.7
Information & communication (J)	2.4	3.3	3.0	3.9
Arts, entertainment & recreation (R)	3.5	2.6	2.4	2.5
Motor trades (part G)	2.8	2.6	2.3	1.7
Financial & insurance (K)	1.9	2.1	3.2	4.0
Other service activities (S)	1.3	1.9	1.7	2.1
Property (L)	2.0	1.7	1.2	1.4

Transport and Access

2.20 The proximity of Birmingham provides opportunities for higher order and knowledge based jobs assisted by the improving rail service from Kidderminster. Worcester City is also accessible both by rail and road. Linkages with other nearby towns, such as, Wolverhampton and Bromsgrove, are less clear due to the poor road connections and the absence of direct rail services.

2.21 Traffic congestion is prevalent within and between the three main towns. Kidderminster Ring Road experiences severe congestion at peak times and from visitor traffic to the safari park during the summer months. The Stourport Road Corridor is a particularly congested route. Air quality is deteriorating in the town centres and there are two designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) at Horsefair in Kidderminster and Welch Gate in Bewdley.

2.22 Currently bus service coverage is poor with few high frequency routes linking to the town centres and key services. The quality of passenger transport accessibility between the Wyre Forest and key locations of employment, major health carers, retail and leisure is compromised by limited bus access to Kidderminster Rail Station, compounded by poor bus and rail infrastructure facilities at the station.

2.23 Passenger numbers at both the District's railway stations – Kidderminster and Blakedown, have increased significantly in recent years. 18% of the county's rail passengers travel from Kidderminster station with approximately 590,000 passengers a year. Kidderminster Station is a key gateway to the town and forms part of the core route into central Birmingham where 4 trains per hour operate.

Quality of Life

2.24 There is a complex network of communities ranging from the isolated rural areas, and market towns to the urban neighbourhoods of Kidderminster. Generally perceived to be relatively prosperous, the District is also home to the most deprived Worcestershire ward – Oldington & Foley Park, which along with the Greenhill and Broadwaters Wards has also been identified as a "health hotspot." Here the major causes of death are circulatory diseases and cancers, which are lifestyle related. Access to health care remains a major concern for local residents. Since Kidderminster Hospital was downsized, residents are now required to travel further distances for A&E facilities.

2.25 Levels of crime are lower than the national average although there are some areas of high incidence in the Kidderminster ward of Greenhill (which includes the town centre). Anti-social behaviour is the most common offence reported. The fear of crime amongst local residents remains disproportionately high. Educational attainment is lower than the regional and national averages and is particularly poor within the Oldington & Foley Park and Broadwaters Wards. However, the number of 16-18 year olds unemployed or in jobs without training is decreasing in the area. The Rifle Range area of Oldington & Foley Park Ward is particularly deprived; it currently ranks in the top 2.5% most deprived areas in England and the top 1% for education deprivation and crime.

2.26 There are approximately 44,000 dwellings in the District. Over 80% of new housing has been provided on previously developed sites since 1996. There has been an increase in the average density of housing developments within the urban areas of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn. Below average wage rates result in substantial demand for affordable housing provision across the District. Evidence of the last five years suggests social re-lets are likely to decrease meaning that extra pressure will be placed on increasing supply of all forms of affordable housing.

Rewyre Initiative

2.27 Future regeneration of Kidderminster town centre is a primary aim of the ReWyre initiative which seeks to bring in £300 million in private investment. The ReWyre Prospectus sets out a desire to improve accessibility to the town, safeguard and create more jobs and encourage new business, regenerate brownfield sites and improve environmental quality. The Prospectus focusses on on four main Action Areas which present the majority of the strategic development opportunities. These areas are:

1. Town Centre – creating a vibrant, mixed-used centre
2. Comberton Hill – making an attractive gateway to the town
3. Churchfields – establishing a mixed-use urban village
4. Former British Sugar Factor ('The Beet') – South Kidderminster Business and Nature Park

3 Implementation of the Local Development Scheme

3.1 It is a statutory requirement that the AMR monitors plan-making performance based on the Local Development Scheme (LDS). Since the monitoring year ends at 31st March, it is useful to show progress up to the end of October 2011.

3.2 The District Council's first LDS was formally submitted to the Secretary of State in February 2005 and came into effect on 27th March 2005. Since then the LDS has progressively been refined through a process of monitoring and review (in consultation with Government Office for the West Midlands and the Planning Inspectorate), detailed in the table below:

Local Development Scheme Revisions

March 2005	First LDS came into effect
August 2005	Revised LDS came into effect following minor amendment to the SCI timetable
May 2006	Revised LDS came into effect following review of the timetable for Development Plan Documents to reflect revisions to the RSS review timetable. Also a proposed 'Affordable Housing SPD' was replaced by a generic Planning Obligations SPD
November 2006	Revised LDS came into effect following review of the timetable for DPDs with consequential amendments to the Site Allocations, Development Control Policies and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs.
August 2008	Revised LDS came into effect following review of Core Strategy DPD timetable with consequential amendments to Site Allocations and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs. This was to ensure that the evidence base is in place. Following Government guidance the Development Control Policies DPD has been withdrawn as many policies will be covered by national and regional planning policy already. The Site Allocations and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs will also set out development control policies relating to specific areas within the District. It is also anticipated that detailed guidance on development management within the District's sensitive landscape areas will be produced in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document following the adoption of the Core Strategy.

3.3 The Statement of Community Involvement was formally adopted by Cabinet in April 2006. The District Council adopted a 'Planning Obligations' SPD in 2007. This SPD considers the delivery of affordable housing and education contributions to the County Education Authority to provide greater clarity for developers. This SPD will require a revision following adoption of the Core Strategy.

3.4 Consultation on the Core Strategy Issues and Options paper took place in July – September 2007. Following stakeholder response to this paper and in particular as a result of comments received from Government Office West Midlands, a further consultation on a Revised Issues and Options paper took place in January – March 2008. The Preferred Options consultation paper was consulted on during January and February 2009. Consultation on the Site Allocation & Policies and the Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs Issues & Options papers took place at the same time. The Pre-Submission Core Strategy was consulted on for a six-week period in early 2010 prior to submission to the Secretary of State in early April. The hearing sessions were held in July and the Inspector's Report was received in October. The Core Strategy was formally adopted on 9th December 2010.

3.5 During the early part of 2011, work was undertaken on preferred option papers for the two DPDs, Site Allocations and Policies and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan. A six-week consultation took place 26th May to 8th July 2011. The responses from this consultation were

3 Implementation of the Local Development Scheme

reported to Members in September. During 2011 a study was undertaken by consultants in order to identify potential sites for Gypsy and traveller use. Public consultation on these potential sites was undertaken during autumn 2011.

3.6 Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance has been formally adopted by Worcestershire County Council during 2011 and was formally endorsed by the District Council in December 2011. The Local Development Scheme is expected to be updated in early 2012 to take into account changes to the timetable.

4 Implementation of Housing Policies and Objectives

4.1 The aim of the Adopted Local Plan in relation to housing is:

- 'to enable the District's housing needs to be met'.

Core Output Indicators for Housing

COI	Description	Output
H1	Plan period and housing targets	2006-2026 4,000 dwellings (Adopted Core Strategy) - 1069 dwellings completed
H2(a)	Net additional dwellings – in previous years	2006/07 – 297 2007/08 - 192 2008/09 - 239
H2(b)	Net additional dwellings for the reporting year	2009/10 - 191
H2(c)	Net additional dwellings - in future years	2010/11 - 150
H2(d)	Managed delivery target	3,200 in total from 20011/12 to 2025/26; for breakdown see housing trajectory in Appendix B
H3	New and converted dwellings - on previously developed land	As above
H4	Net additional pitches (gypsy & traveller)	92%
H5	Gross affordable housing completions	0
H6	Housing quality – Building for Life Assessments	29 – 10 intermediate, 19 for social rent
		No data currently available

Housing Trajectory

4.2 The Wyre Forest Adopted Core Strategy proposes a net housing allocation of 4,000 dwellings for the District 2006-2026. A full housing trajectory can be found at Appendix B. Net housing completions were lower than in recent years and only 75% of the number expected mainly due to the economic downturn. Predicted net completions for 2011/12 are likely to be around 250 dwellings with the demolition of maisonettes at Hurcott Road expected to take place towards the end of the year. At the end of March 2011 there were 292 dwellings under construction compared with 345 a year earlier. Projected net completions through to 2026 are shown in the housing trajectory at Appendix B. Housing completions are projected to rise in the period 2011-16 when the Site Allocations and Policies DPD comes into operation, and tail off in the second part of the plan period. The projected completions for the 5 year period starting from April 2012 are 1,750 dwellings compared with an annual requirement of 192 (960 dwellings in total) giving a 5-year supply of 182.3%. Projected completions up to 2015 are mostly on sites with extant permissions, whilst those for the latter 2 years are expected to come from a mix of extant permissions and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment sites expected to be available for development in the earlier part of the plan period. 53% of completions are expected to be within Kidderminster, 29% in Stourport-on-Severn, 7% in Bewdley and 11% in the rural villages. This is similar to the indicative split in the Adopted Core Strategy under Policy DS01 for development up to 2026 of 60% for Kidderminster, 30% for Stourport-on-Severn and 10% for Bewdley and the rural areas.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) / Brownfield Completions

4.3 92% of housing completions were on brownfield sites in 2010/11. This figure is slightly higher than 2009/10 when a figure of 90% was reached. During 2010, garden land was removed from the definition of brownfield land in PPS3. This resulted in the reclassification of some of the housing sites from brownfield to greenfield. (If garden land developments are not counted as greenfield, then the figure is 95% brownfield) There were 94 dwellings under construction on greenfield sites at the end of 2010/11. 69 were at the site off Puxton Drive Kidderminster where only the groundworks have been completed. There were 23 barn conversions underway. In addition there were 6 houses under construction in side gardens which will need to be reclassified to greenfield.

Gross completions by previous use

2010/11	Greenfield (%)	Former Residential (%)	Former Employment (%)	Other Brownfield (%)
Kidderminster	3 (5%)	10 (17%)	2 (3%)	45 (75%)
Stourport-on-Severn	1 (1%)	37 (46%)	41 (52%)	1 (1%)
Bewdley	0	1 (50%)	1(50%)	0
Rural areas	8 (67%)	4 (33%)	0	0
District	12 (10%)	52 (35%)	44 (15%)	46 (40%)

4.4 There were 292 dwellings under construction at the end of 2010/11 – 68% were on brownfield sites.

Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Provision

4.5 There have been no new pitches provided during the year.

Affordable Housing Completions

4.6 The Council generally seeks up to 30% affordable housing provision on housing sites of 15 or more units or 0.5 hectares. During 2010/11, only 29 units were provided. This is much lower than the previous 2 years when there were 99 and 66 affordable completions. None of these affordable units were provided through Section 106 Agreements. A redevelopment scheme by Community Housing of a former pre-fab site in Areley Kings, Stourport-on-Severn saw the completion of 27 dwellings. Two former housing offices in Kidderminster were also converted to residential use on the Habberley Estate and Offmore Farm Estate.

Affordable Housing Completions

Location	For rent	Shared ownership
Martley Road, Areley Kings, Stourport	8 x 2-bed flats; 4 x 2-bed houses; 5 x 3-bed houses; 2 x 4-bed houses	4 x 2-bed flats; 4 x 2-bed houses
85 Canterbury Road, Kidderminster	1 x 2-bed flat	
62 Wordsworth Crescent, Kidderminster	1 x 2-bed flat	

4 Implementation of Housing Policies and Objectives

4.7 At the end of March 2011 there were 117 affordable units under construction at 3 different sites (2 in Kidderminster and 1 in Bewdley). This number includes 69 dwellings at Puxton Drive where Wyre Forest Community Housing are proposing to sell the site on to a private developer. Groundworks were undertaken by the previous site owner. In January, redevelopment of the former Wribbenhall First School site in Bewdley began. Wyre Forest Community Housing are building 46 new homes. There were also another 100 affordable units with permission yet to start. 75% of these dwellings have been secured through Section 106 agreements (via planning policy H.10). It is likely that a number of these units may no longer be delivered as a result of the economic downturn.

Local Output Indicators

4.8 The following table shows the distribution of housing types between the 3 towns and the rural areas for 2010/11.

Housing Completions by Type and Location

Location	1-bed flat	2-bed flat	1-bed house	2-bed house	3-bed house	4-bed house	Total
Kidderminster	5	29	1	7	18	2	62
Stourport	3	46	0	18	9	5	81
Bewdley	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
Rural Areas	0	1	0	2	7	2	12
Total	8	76	3	27	35	9	158

NB. This table includes the 4 retained units from residential conversions

4.9 Just over half of new homes were flats and 72% had only one or two bedrooms (this is Local Output Indicator L2). This compares with 83% of completions catering for smaller households in 2009/10. 68% of new homes in Kidderminster had 1 or 2 bedrooms compared to last year when the figure was 68%. 93% of housing completions were in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn which was higher than the previous year. This reflects the Local Plan policy of concentrating housing provision within these two towns. (Local Output Indicator L1). Adopted Core Policy DS01 also looks to concentrate new development on brownfield sites within Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.

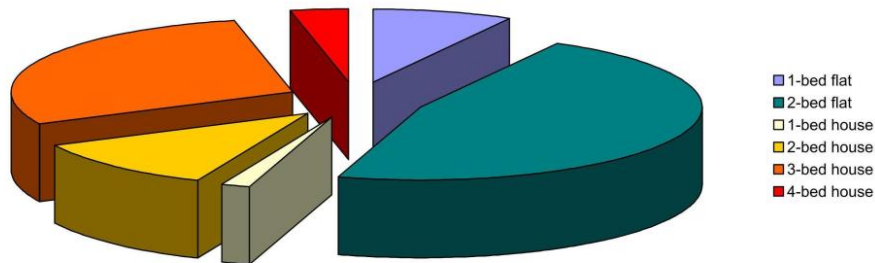
Replacement Rates

4.10 Only 4 houses were demolished during 2010/11. At Baldwin Road in Stourport-on-Severn one house was demolished to allow access to a development of 11 dwellings. This gives an overall replacement ratio of 1:4 (Local Output Indicator L3) which is much higher than in previous years.

Housing Completions in Kidderminster

4.11 Just over half of the completions in Kidderminster during 2010/11 were flats. Total completions in Kidderminster were less than half that of the previous year, continuing the downward trend. At Franchise Street, to the rear of the hospital, Miller Homes completed the remaining 23 dwellings - 8 of these were flats, the remainder were 2 or 3-bed houses. Following a change of ownership, work on the Castle Locks development of 46 canalside apartments resumed with the first 4 in the retained part of the building being completed. A development of 9 flats on the site of a public house just off the Ring Road was also completed. A total of 154 dwellings were under construction at the end of 2010/11 (only a third of the number two years previously) reflecting the effect of the economic downturn on the housing market.

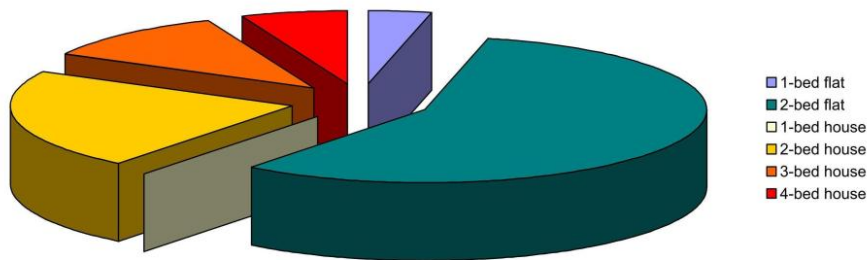
Kidderminster Completions 2010/11



Housing Completions in Stourport-on-Severn

4.12 2010/11 saw the completion of another 41 Barratt Homes dwellings at Lichfield Basin bringing the total completed to 101 dwellings with 26 under construction and 19 yet to start. On Baldwin Road, 7 dwellings were completed with the remaining 4 under construction. As previously mentioned, there were 27 affordable dwellings completed on the site of pre-fab bungalows at Martley Road in Areley Kings. There were only 35 dwellings under construction at the end of the monitoring year compared with 112 the previous year. In early 2011, outline permission was granted for a mixed use scheme including 159 dwellings at the Carpets of Worth site on Severn Road.

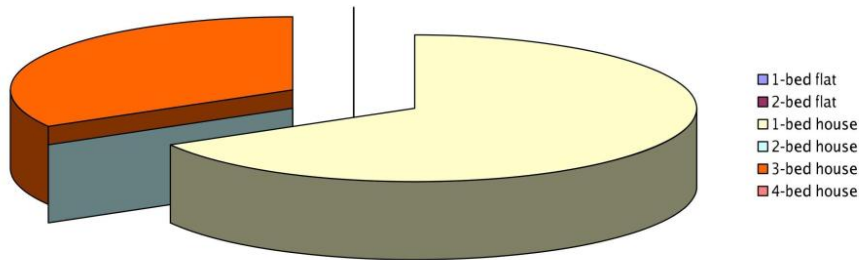
Stourport-on-Severn Completions 2010/11



Housing Completions in Bewdley and the Rural Areas

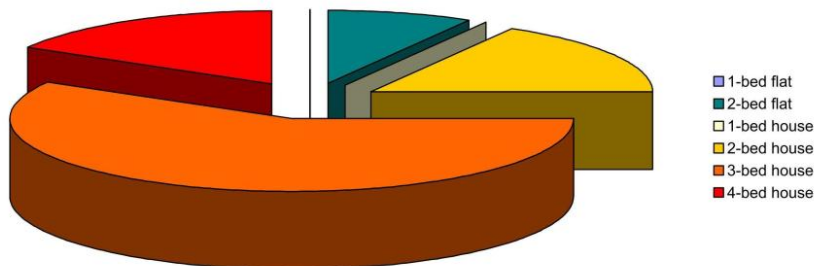
4.13 There were only 3 completions in Bewdley during 2010/11 - a subdivision of an almshouse to provide 2 1-bed dwellings and a conversion of a former office into a 3-bed dwelling. At the end of the year there were 67 under construction including 46 affordable dwellings at the former school site at Wribbenhall and 6 barn conversions at Blackstone as well as 36 unimplemented permissions.

Bewdley Completions 2010/11



4.14 There were 12 completions in the rural areas; 6 were barn conversions and 3 were replacement dwellings. At the end of the year there were another 36 under construction with 78 yet to be started (19 of these were barn conversions).

Rural Areas Completions 2010/11



Housing Densities

4.15 Policy H5 of the Local Plan specifies minimum densities for developments in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn town centres, near the station and along high frequency bus routes. Overall, 73% of dwellings completed in 2009/10 were built at a density of over 30dph. (Local Output Indicator L9)

Density of Housing Completions

Gross completions 2009/10	<30 dwellings per hectare	30-50 dwellings per hectare	>50 dwellings per hectare
Kidderminster	13% (8)	8% (5)	79% (49)
Stourport-on-Severn	2% (2)	46% (37)	52% (42)
Bewdley	33% (1)		67% (2)
Rural areas	83% (10)	9% (1)	8% (1)
District	13%(21)	27% (43)	60% (94)

Density of Completions based on Policy H.5

Location	Target Density	Average density of completions 2010/11	Total No. completions 2009/10
Within Kidderminster Town Centre inset	70dph	176 dph	6
Within 500m of Kidderminster Town Centre inset and Kidderminster railway station	50dph	66 dph	37
Within Stourport-on-Severn Town Centre inset	50dph	85 dph	42
Within 300m of bus stop on high frequency corridor in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn	40dph	47 dph	32
Elsewhere in settlements identified in Policy H.2	30dph	56 dph	32

4.16 Since Policy H.5 was adopted, the number of high frequency bus routes has reduced to just 2 – one linking Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn and one serving the Rifle Range Estate via Bewdley Hill in Kidderminster. 94% of housing completions during 2010/11 fell within the above designated housing areas. A map of housing completions can be found at Appendix C.

Evidence Base Studies Relating to Housing Issues

4.17 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for the South Housing Market Area of the West Midlands was published in early 2007. The SHMA is an assessment of housing market influences, current and future housing demand issues, impacts of past and planned housing supply and the impacts of economic and demographic changes. The SHMA is updated by Worcestershire County Council each year. Latest figures (for 2009/10) show the annual affordable housing shortfall is 207 dwellings. A refresh of the SHMA for the 6 Worcestershire Districts is being undertaken in 2011 by GVA Grimley.

4.18 A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was carried out on behalf of the South Housing Market Area as an extension to the SHMA work. This was published early in 2008. It recommended that 30 additional pitches are required for Gypsies on existing public

and private sites. It is likely that much of this provision will need to be in the form of Local Authority or RSL sites – although a lower level of public provision might be sufficient if further small private sites are established.

4.19 Work on the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) was undertaken during 2008/09. The purpose of the SHLAA is to identify sites with potential for housing in the district, to assess their housing potential, and to assess when they could be developed. Initial findings suggest that there are sufficient brownfield sites in the district which could accommodate the 4,000 dwellings as set out in the Adopted Core Strategy. The SHLAA was updated to reflect the situation at April 2010 when a number of additional sites were assessed for their suitability for housing. Information on all the sites considered to have housing potential was also updated with potential phasings and capacities fed into the housing trajectory.

5 Implementation of Employment Policies and Objectives

5.1 The key employment aim of the Adopted Local Plan 2004 is:

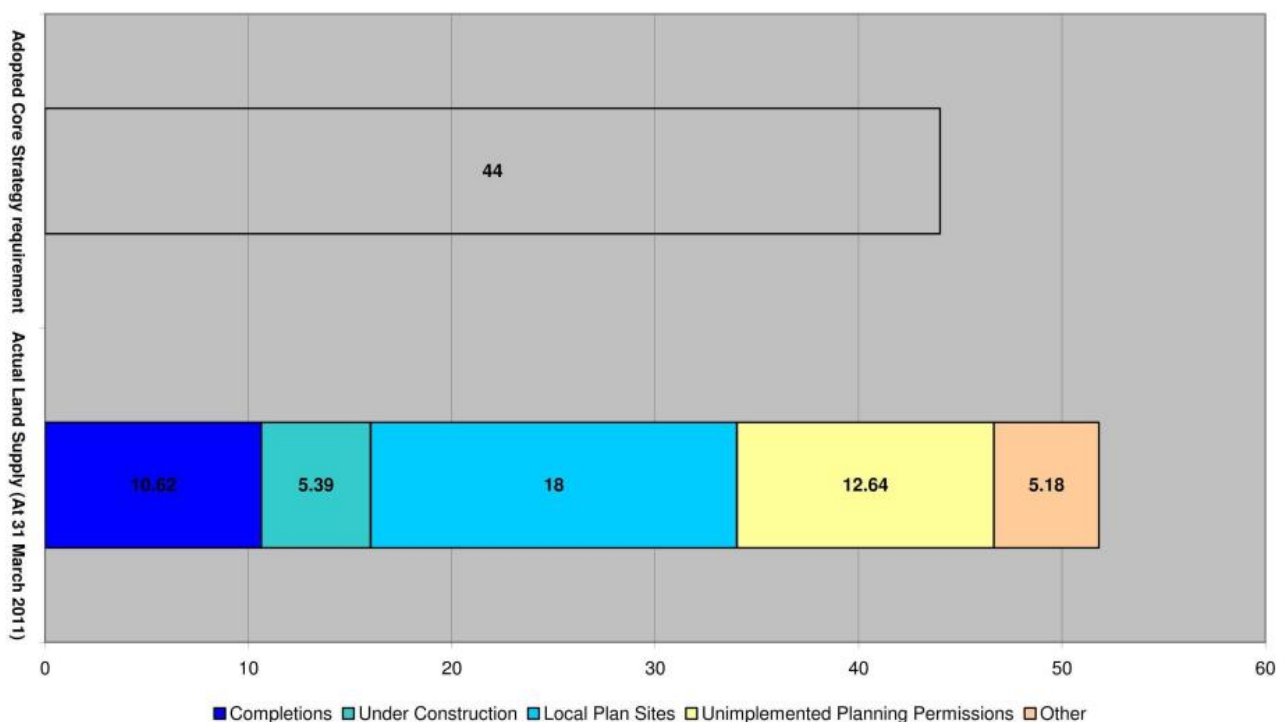
- **“to encourage economic prosperity and identify enough land to meet the District’s employment needs”**

Core Output Indicators for Business Development

CORE OUTPUT INDICATOR – BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	
BD1 Total amount of additional floorspace by type	0 sq.m
BD2 Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land	-
BD3 Employment land available by type	51.83 Ha

5.2 **Core Output Indicator BD1** measures the amount of floorspace developed for employment by type during 2010/11. There were no employment site completions during the year. **Core Output Indicator BD2** shows the amount of land developed for employment use which was on previously developed land. **Core Output Indicator BD3** shows the actual employment land supply for the whole district. The Adopted Core Strategy requires the provision of 44 hectares of land in the Wyre Forest District for employment uses within Classes B1, B2 and B8 between April 2006 and March 2026.

Employment land requirements and supply 2006-2026



5.3 During 2010/11 the amount of land available for employment use increased by just over 5 Ha. 10.62 Ha of employment land has been completed since 2006, with 5.39 Ha under construction as of 1st April 2011. The type of use for each of the allocated sites is shown in the table below.

Type of Site	Type of Unit	Area (Ha)
Sites under construction	B1/B2 unit	1.03
	13 B1/B2 units	2.84
	15 B1 units	0.91
	B1/B8 unit	0.07
	B1 unit	0.1
	B1 unit	0.44
Adopted local plan sites	Lea Castle Hospital	6.0
	British Sugar Factory	12.0
Rushock Trading Estate sites	Outline planning permission for B1/B2/B8 units on 4 plots	1.25
	Plot 6d lapsed permission	0.19
Other sites with outstanding planning permission	B1 use on 10 sites	7.59
	B2/B8 use on 1 site	2.72
	B2 use on 2 sites	0.54
	B1/B2/B8 use on 2 sites	0.68
	B8 uses on 3 sites	1.11
Other sites in areas allocated for B class uses	9 sites	3.74

Evidence Base Studies

5.4 Work has been undertaken looking at what employment land there is in the district, the future uses of such sites and which sites may be suitable for reallocating for alternative uses through the Site Allocations and Policies DPD. The Employment Land Review (ELR) provides background information on the employment portfolio within the District. The Review has been undertaken following Government guidance and is split into three stages. Stage 1 (Taking stock of the existing situation) and Stage 3 (Identifying a 'New' Portfolio of Sites) have been produced by the District Council whilst Stage 2 (Creating a Picture of Future Requirements) due to the technical nature, was undertaken by consultants.

6 Implementation of Environmental Policies and Objectives

Core Output Indicators Relating to Environmental Quality

CORE OUTPUT INDICATORS –ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	
E1 number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flooding and water quality grounds	0
E2 change in areas of biodiversity importance	0
E3 renewable energy generation	0

The Natural Environment

6.1 Two key objectives of the Adopted Local Plan are to retain the existing Green Belt boundary and prevent inappropriate development within it and to safeguard and enhance the District's landscape character and landmarks.

6.2 During the monitoring year 2010/11 there were no 'major' applications received for Green Belt locations. Most applications in the Green Belt are small-scale developments such as barn conversions, extensions and replacement dwellings. Green Belt policies were cited 254 times in 2010/11, 223 times as a reason for approval and 31 times as a reason for refusal. Landscape policies were cited 113 times as a reason for approval and 29 times as a reason for refusal.

6.3 The key aim of the Local Plan in relation to nature conservation is:

- “to safeguard and enhance the distinctive natural environment of the District.”

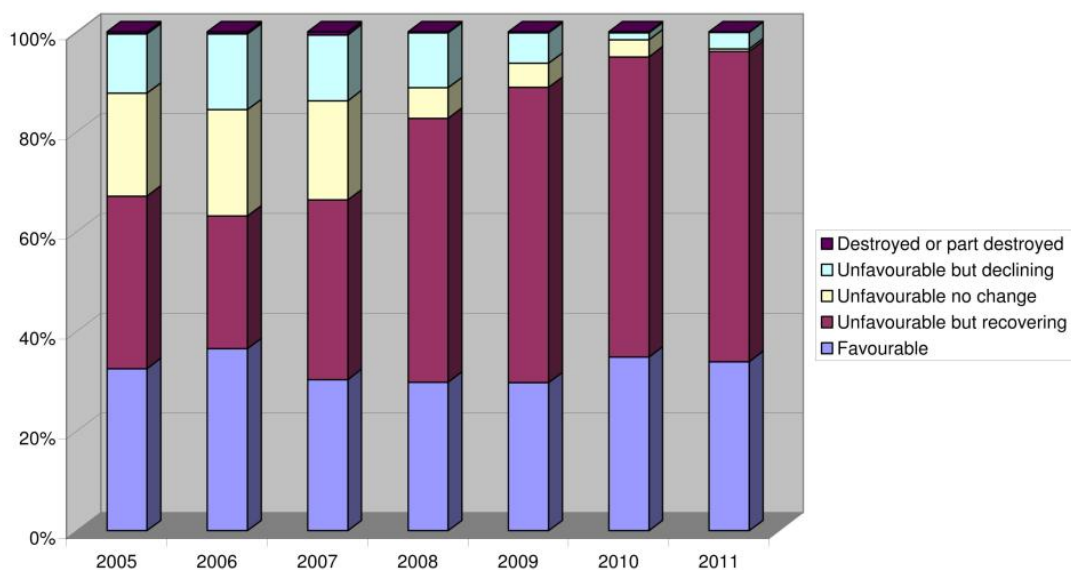
6.4 Natural England conducts a rolling six-year programme of site condition surveys. The latest results for those sites within the district are shown below.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Name of site	Size in hectares	Condition(from Natural England surveys)
Areley Wood	16.29	Favourable
	2.16	Unfavourable but recovering
Bliss Gate Pastures	1.23	Favourable
	0.78	Unfavourable but recovering
Browns Close Meadow	2.67	Favourable
Buckeridge Meadow	2.59	Favourable
Devil's Spittleful	22.15	Favourable
	77.13	Unfavourable but recovering
Dumbleton Dingle	1.49	Favourable
Eymore railway Cutting	0.22	Unfavourable no change
Feckenham Forest	56.64	Favourable
	3.21	Unfavourable but recovering
Hartlebury Common	0.77	Unfavourable but recovering
Hurcott and Podmore Pools	14.89	Unfavourable but recovering
	6.76	Favourable
Hurcott Pasture	4.69	Unfavourable but recovering

Name of site	Size in hectares	Condition(from Natural England surveys)
Kinver Edge	9.65	Unfavourable but recovering
Puxton Marshes	7.66 5.27	Favourable Unfavourable no change
Ranters Bank pastures	2.18	Unfavourable declining
River Stour Floodplain	17.64	Favourable
Showground Meadow Callow Hill	0.83	Favourable
Stourvale marsh	9.28	Unfavourable declining
Wilden Marsh	21.61 18.9	Unfavourable but recovering Unfavourable declining
Wyre Forest	248.15 598.97 0.35 1.69	Favourable Unfavourable but recovering Unfavourable no change Part destroyed

Conditions of SSSIs in Wyre Forest District



6.5 During 2010/11, several areas were resurveyed. Amongst those resurveyed were the Devil's Spittleful which now has almost a quarter of its area in a favourable condition. The Worcestershire Wildlife Trust are now working with the District Council's Ranger Service to restore this heathland with the aid of both cattle and sheep grazing. This area is an important scrub habitat for birds and invertebrates. Consequently, 96% of SSSIs by area were found to be in a 'favourable' or 'unfavourable but recovering' condition.

6.6 Wyre Forest District Council manages 9 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Puxton Marsh SSSI. In order to maintain and protect wildlife, the work of the ranger service aims to restore the biodiversity of natural habitats and to protect our local wildlife. This work is focused on partly

fulfilling the objectives laid down in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Worcestershire. The reserves managed by the District Council include some of the most important wetlands and marshes in the County as well as a large area of internationally rare lowland heath habitat. During the year a programme of works was carried out at Burlish Top LNR. Heathlands and acid grasslands support many rare and unusual species. Without regular management, these areas would become swamped by silver birch, broom and oak. An extensive area of young woodland was cleared and the area later mown or grazed. The resulting mosaic of heathland, scrub and bare ground has allowed species to migrate between Burlish Top and the neighbouring Rifle Range SSSI. This site is now considered to be the best quality acid grassland in the County.

Local Nature Reserves

Site	Size (Ha)	Habitat	Condition
Blake Marsh	4.33	Wet woodland / marsh	Favourable in most areas; still recovering in 10% of site. Additional works to manage scrub inundation and re-pollarding of willow scheduled.
Burlish Top	38.9	Heathland	Unfavourable recovering – BAP acid communities seen as best quality area of acid grassland in Worcestershire. 15% now in favourable condition. BAP scrub habitats seen to be in decline. Some works instigated to manage scrub.
Habberley Valley	24.83	Ancient Woodland	Favourable
		Acid Grassland	Unfavourable recovering – scrub encroachment becoming an issue. Bilberry areas need managing. Works to introduce grazing to the northern end of the valley implemented. Actual grazing delayed due to lack of resources. Some scrub encroachment.
		Heathland	Unfavourable no change in most areas, but decline in evidence in small pockets
Half Crown Wood	3.5	Mixed woodland	Unfavourable recovering
		Meadow	Unfavourable declining
Hurcott Pool	41.03	Wet & Mixed woodland	Unfavourable declining – some water level management works now in place with positive biodiversity gains in evidence. No invasive weeds management implemented due to lack of resources.
Redstone Marsh	7.07	Marsh, wet grassland	Unfavourable recovering - marsh condition improving; pig grazing implemented. Results awaited.
		Dry broadleaved woodland	Unfavourable recovering – works to create glades on south facing slopes showing positive signs.
Spennells Valley	15.77	Wet woodland/marsh	Unfavourable declining - management of wetland hit by lack of resources. Grazing not implemented as planned.
		Dry acid woodland	Unfavourable declining
		Mixed woodland	Favourable
Vicarage Farm Heath	11.4	Heathland	Unfavourable recovering. Probation Service work parties having positive impact.
Moorhall Marsh	1.4	Marsh	70% is now in a favourable condition – works to manage site in a sustainable manner implemented. Site now grazed and water level control structures in place.

6.7 Core Output Indicator E1 monitors planning applications granted contrary to Environment Agency advice. This is a proxy measure of inappropriate development in the flood plain and development that adversely affects water quality. There were no applications granted contrary to EA advice during 2010/11.

6.8 As part of the evidence base which was gathered to underpin the Core Strategy, a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1 was undertaken in 2007. The principal output from the study is a set of maps which categorises the District into Flood Zones according to PPS25. It depicts the presence of flood defences where they exist. These maps have been produced adopting a robust assessment to give the Council sufficient information so as to have an overall view of flood risk areas for strategic planning purposes. Following on from the recommendations in this assessment, a more detailed Level 2 SFRA has been produced by consultants in partnership with the Environment Agency, Severn Trent and Natural England. This study was published in early 2010 has considered in more detail a number of issues including over topping and breaching of flood defences in Kidderminster and Bewdley as well as providing information on appropriate sustainable drainage techniques for the District and giving guidance and appropriate policies to deal with flood risk. In addition to the level 2 SFRA, a Water Cycle Strategy has also been undertaken for the District. This study has looked at all aspects of the water cycle, considering water supply and resources, water supply networks, waste water treatment, environmental considerations, non-residential water use and planning considerations.

Renewable Energy

6.9 The Adopted Local Plan contains no specific policy relating to renewable energy. Policy D.6, however, requires sustainable energy sources to be used, where practicable, including solar and wind energy, passive ventilation and the use of recyclable building materials. It was considered unnecessary to include a particular policy on renewable energy given the absence of any initiatives or proposals for renewable energy in the Wyre Forest. PPS 22 seeks to increase the generation of energy from renewable sources in order to facilitate the delivery of the Government's commitments on both climate change and renewable energy. The Adopted Core Strategy Policy CP01: Delivering Sustainable Development Standards seeks to ensure that new development within the District will meet the highest standards of energy efficiency, incorporate on-site renewable and low-carbon energy technologies, reduce the volume of waste going to landfill and mitigate against climate change. This policy will be looked at in the next AMR.

6.10 **Core Output Indicator E3** measures renewable energy capacity installed by type. There have been no large-scale installations in Wyre Forest during 2010/11.

Brownfield Land

6.11 The Local Plan objective is 'to make the best use of land by encouraging the reuse of previously developed or brownfield land and buildings'.

6.12 During 2010/11 residential development was completed on 3.19 Hectares (Local Output Indicator L5) with another 6.27 Hectares under construction. Work is progressing well at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn with all but 19 of the planned 146 dwellings under construction at the end of the financial year. 101 dwellings had already been completed. In Kidderminster, the redevelopment of the former Quayle Carpets premises by Miller Homes was completed. Work commenced on the redevelopment of the Wribbenhall 1st School in Bewdley for 46 affordable dwellings. The redevelopment of the car park to the former Briars Public House for luxury housing also got underway.

Parks And Open Spaces

6.13 The Green Flag Award is a marker of good quality management and parks are judged on 8 criteria – environmental protection, management, community involvement, consultation, sustainability, safety, cleanliness and accessibility.

6.14 Brinton Park, Kidderminster and the smaller QEII Jubilee Gardens in the centre of Bewdley were again successful in their bids for Green Flag status. Broadwaters Park, in Kidderminster, has been awarded a Green Pennant for the seventh year running. This is the equivalent of a green flag for open spaces managed by voluntary groups.

6.15 The Wyre Forest District Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment was completed in November 2008. The study forms an important part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework.

6.16 The main outputs from the study are:

- A full audit of all accessible open spaces across the District categorized according to the primary purpose of the site (in line with the typologies set out within the PPG17 Companion Guide).
- An assessment of the open space, sport and recreational needs of people living, working and visiting the WyreForest derived from extensive consultations.
- Production of local provision standards (quantity, quality and accessibility) for each type of open space where appropriate, in accordance with local needs.
- Application of local standards to the existing open space provision, enabling the identification of surpluses and deficiencies based on the quantity, quality and accessibility.
- Recommendations to address the key findings and drive future policy.

6.17 One of the key recommendations of the PPG17 audit was that the District Council undertake a Green Infrastructure Study to maximise linkages between green spaces and create a multi-functional network of open spaces across the District. The Green Infrastructure Study was published in early 2010.

The Built Environment

6.18 Conserving and enhancing the quality of the environment is a key element in the achievement of sustainable development. A high quality built, natural and historic environment will help to attract and retain investment and contribute to the quality of life of residents and visitors. Improving the quality of the environment in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn town centres will discourage out-migration to the rural areas and encourage people to take up residence in the town centre redevelopment schemes.

6.19 The following table shows the distribution of Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings between the 3 towns and the rural areas. The number of statutorily listed buildings is an approximate figure as List Entries often refer to more than one building or structure. There were no additions to the Statutory List during the monitoring year.

6.20 During early 2011 a Character Appraisal for Areley Kings Conservation Area in Stourport was published for public consultation. It is hoped to formally adopt this appraisal during 2011/12.

Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings

Location	Number of Conservation Areas	Number of Listed Buildings	Number of Locally Listed Buildings
Kidderminster	3 (2)	100	432
Stourport-on-Severn	4 (3)	144	270
Bewdley	1 (1)	460	157
Rural areas	7 (7)	227	108

Note: the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area extends throughout the District from Cookley via Kidderminster to Stourport-on-Severn. Numbers in brackets refer to the number of conservation areas with character appraisals

The Local List

6.21 In the Local Plan, the Council stated its intention to draw up a list of locally listed buildings. A Local List for Kidderminster was approved in 2004 following consultation as to which buildings and structures should be included. A Locally Listed Building is one that has been recognised by the District Council as being of local interest, either for historical associations, or for its architectural style. Entries range from large houses to entire terraces, as well as public houses, offices and shops, chapels, walls and viaducts. Any works requiring planning permission will need to be sympathetic to protect the character and appearance of the building or structure. The local list for Stourport-on-Severn was approved in July 2006. Those listed include structures connected with the canal, ginnels and lamp-posts, as well as lodges and walls of large estates. The Bewdley local list of buildings was adopted in June 2008. Included on the list are public houses, walls, a phone box and Second World War tank traps together with structures associated with the Severn Valley Railway. In July 2009, a local list for Wolverley and Cookley was approved. Entries include farms, school buildings, canal structures, caves and a World War II tunnel complex.

Local Output Indicators – Environmental Quality

Output Indicator	Ambition	Progress
L4 - % Local Nature Reserves meeting Biodiversity Action Plan criteria	To safeguard and enhance indigenous biodiversity	No data collected
L5 – Ha of brownfield land redeveloped	To make the best use of land	3.19 Ha redeveloped for housing; 6.27 Ha under construction April 2011.
L6 – number of character appraisals prepared	To preserve and enhance conservation areas and listed buildings	Character Appraisals prepared for Areley Kings during 2010/11.
L7 – Number of buildings and structures added to Local Lists		No further work undertaken owing to staff shortages.
L8 – amount and percentage of total open space managed to Green Flag Award standards	To improve the standard of local parks	Green Flags awarded to Brinton Park and Jubilee Gardens; Green Pennant awarded to Broadwaters Park.
L9 change in areas designated for intrinsic environmental value	To promote creation of appropriate new habitats	No new designations during 2010/11

7 Implementation of Transport, Retail and Town Centre Policies and Objectives

Transport

7.1 The key aim of the local plan in relation to transport is:

- “to reduce the need to travel, particularly by car, and to promote other ways of travelling.”

7.2 Locating as much development as possible within the town centres will help to reduce reliance on the private car and encourage greater use of public transport.

Local Output Indicators relating to Transport

7.3 Since the Adopted Local Plan has a policy covering car-parking standards, the Annual Monitoring Report will continue to look at the number of completed non-residential schemes which comply with parking standards. (Local Output Indicator L10). Worcestershire County Council have recently adopted a Highways Design Guide. All new development within the District will be required to meet these parking standards. During 2010/11 there were no completed non-residential schemes outside of the town centre.

7.4 Policy TR.6 Cycling Infrastructure seeks to improve and protect cycling infrastructure within the District through ensuring that all new major developments include cycle facilities in their proposals. Local Output Indicators have been drawn up which monitor cycling facilities in the district. Adopted Core Strategy Policy CP03:Promoting Transport Choice and Accessibility looks to encourage new or improved cycling facilities. The provision of safe and secure cycle parking facilities is an important factor in encouraging people to cycle.

7.5 There were 5 developments under construction during 2010/11 which provided cycle parking. The housing scheme at Franchise Street Kidderminster (Miller Homes) provides parking for 11 cycles and at the Barratt Homes development at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn cycle stores are being provided in each of the 6 apartment blocks. At the former swimming bath site at Zanzibars on Castle Road Kidderminster, parking for 15 cycles will be provided. At the small flats development at the former Milligans Pub site, 3 Sheffield cycle stands are being provided. The Community Housing redevelopment scheme at the former Wribbenhall School site in Bewdley will provide parking for 28 cycles for the houses in the form of garden sheds. Local Output Indicator L8 measures the number of developments under construction which provide facilities for cyclists.

7.6 Easy access to employment, health, education, leisure and retail services is important for all sectors of society. The transport network should be able to offer all sections of the population opportunities to travel. This can be achieved by ensuring that new developments are easy to reach and there is adequate investment in the transport network. At least 78% of residential completions in 2010/11 were within 30 minutes travel time by public transport of key facilities such as a hospital, GP, primary school, secondary school employment and retail facility. Sites outside the 30 minute travel time included some remote barn conversions. Much of Areley Kings, where there were 28 completions in 2010/11, lies just beyond the 30 minute cut-off by public transport accessibility to the Kidderminster Hospital. The District Council has used in-house mapping systems and bus timetables to decide which housing sites fall outside of the 30 minute zones. Local Output Indicator (L11) measures the accessibility of completed dwellings.

7.7 Policy IMP.1 of the Adopted Local Plan sets the background for the use of planning obligations to provide for related environmental works, infrastructure, community facilities and services. The transportation policies within the Local Plan set out the requirements for developer funding towards walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure in appropriate circumstances.

Retail And Town Centres

7.8 The retailing section of the Adopted Local Plan sets out the Council's approach and policies towards the District's retail offer. It aims to:

- Sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of existing designated centres within the district by focusing new development within those centres wherever possible;
- Provide opportunities to improve the range and variety of shopping facilities;
- Conserve and enhance the special character of the shopping environments of Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley centres and;
- Reduce the need to travel.

7.9 During 2010/11, there were no new retail developments in the town centre. At Broadwaters, Kidderminster, the local convenience store expanded into the neighbouring empty former cafe. Retail extensions started during 2010/11 included Sainsburys at Crossley Retail Park in Kidderminster (1,930 sq.m), Newtown Stores in Brindley Street (1,765 sq.m) and Lidl on Vale Road (325 sq.m) in Stourport-on-Severn. In June 2010, permission was granted for part demolition, part extension and alterations to provide 60 x 1 & 2 bed extra care residential units with 4 x A1/A3 retail units at ground floor together with ancillary care home facilities and associated parking at the Brintons Offices in Exchange Street in Kidderminster Town Centre. An application was also received for a 51 bed Travel Lodge adjacent to Kidderminster Town Centre.

7.10 Policy TC.2 aims to encourage the use of upper floors of town centre buildings for residential use. In 2010/11 there were just two schemes completed totalling 3 flats. By the end of March 2011 there were 80 dwellings under construction in the town centre insets; 10 in Bewdley, 42 in Kidderminster (at Castle Locks) and 28 in Stourport-on-Severn (including 26 at Lichfield Basin). It is important to encourage residential development within the town centres in order to boost the evening economy.

7.11 Core Output Indicator BD4 measures the total amount of floorspace completed for 'town centre uses'.

Core Output Indicator BD4

Location	Use Class	sq m
25A Worcester Street, Kidderminster	A2	50
20 Bull Ring, Kidderminster	A2	85

8 Significant Effect Indicators

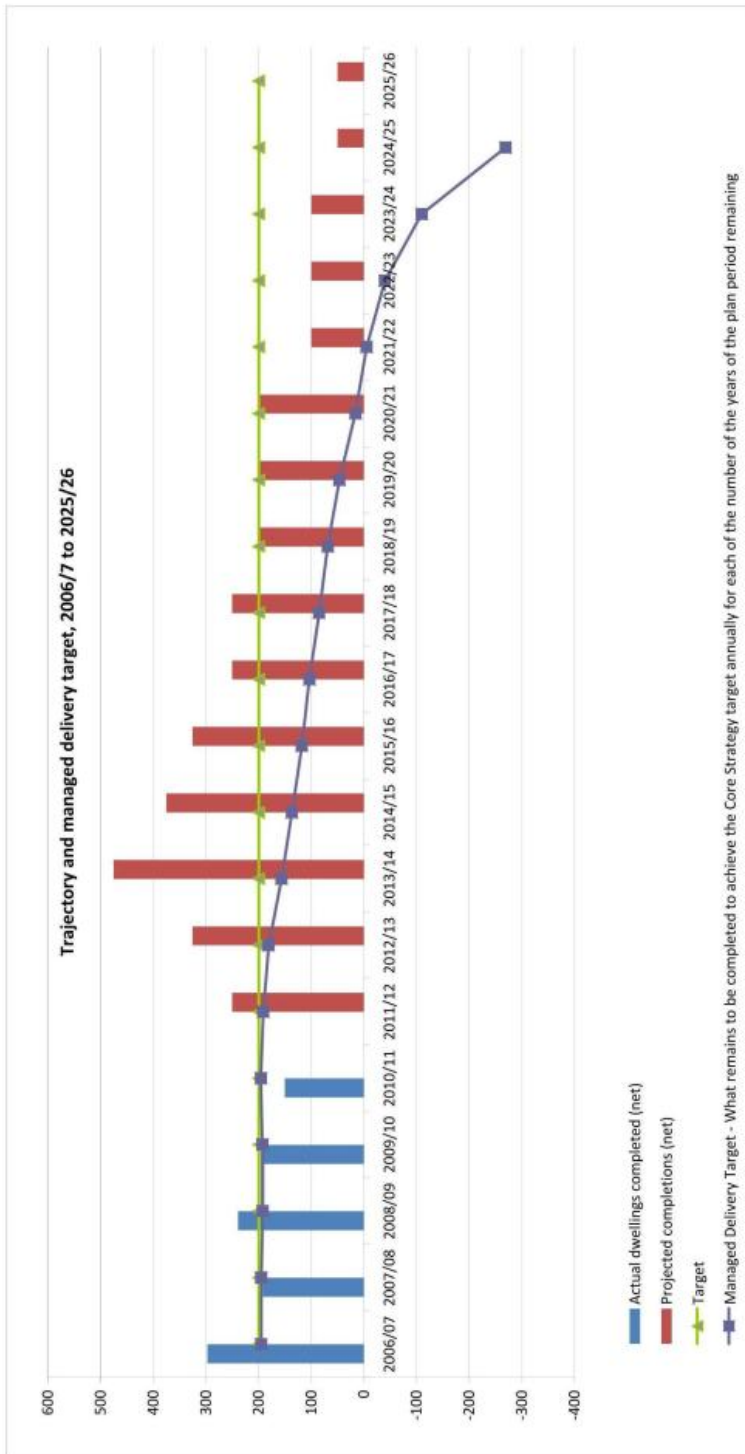
8.1 Significant Effect Indicators will be a key component in assessing the impact which the policies of the LDF are having on the economic, social and environmental objectives set out in the Sustainability Appraisal. They will help to identify any unpredicted significant effects. The data required for monitoring the indicators cannot always be updated annually and the indicators have not been applied to this year's AMR. However, they will be used to assess the wider impacts of future Development Plan Documents (DPDs) once they are adopted. The indicators can be found at Appendix E and will be used from next year's AMR.

A Glossary

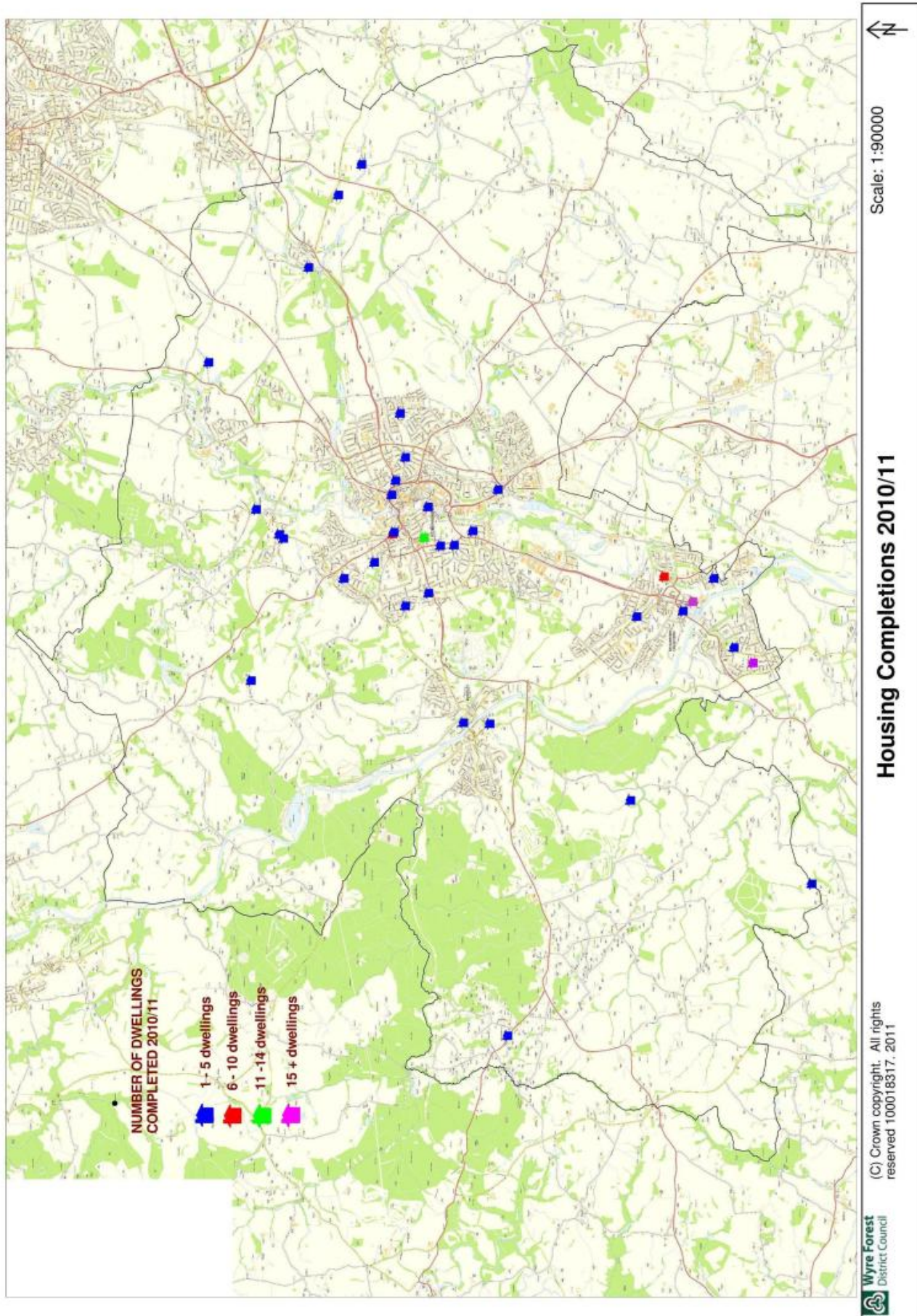
Area Action Plans (AAPs)	A Development Plan Document that focuses on specific parts of the District. Can provide the planning framework for areas in need of significant change or where conservation is required.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	Assesses whether targets within the Local Development Scheme are being met and the extent to which policies within Local Development Documents are being achieved.
Brownfield Land	A term used to describe land that has been built on or used before.
Core Strategy	Sets out the long-term spatial vision for the District along with spatial objectives and strategic policies to deliver that vision.
Green Belt Land	Refers to an area of land that is subject to restrictions on development in order to preserve open spaces between different towns.
Development Plan Documents (DPDs)	The collective term given to all statutory documents that form the Development Plan for the Local Authority. Comprises the Core Strategy, Site Specific Land Allocations, Area Action Plans and a Proposals Map.
Local Development Documents (LDDs)	The collective term for Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents and the Statement of Community Involvement.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	A portfolio of Local Development Documents and related documents that provides the framework for delivering the spatial vision for the district.
Local Development Scheme (LDS)	Sets out the programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents.
Local Indicators	Key indicators set out by the Local Authority to monitor specific local issues.
Local Plan	A document that was part of the old planning system in which proposals for land use within the district were set out. It also gave more detail to the broad policies set out in the Structure Plan.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS)	A key document prepared by Government to set out statutory provisions and provide guidance on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.
Proposals Map	A map that illustrates all the proposed policies contained within the Development Plan Documents.

Significant Effect Indicators (SEIs)	Key indicators that monitor the impact of the implementation of plans and programmes on environmental, social and economic factors in order to identify any unforeseen adverse effects.
Site Specific Allocations	Allocations of sites for specific or mixed uses of land.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Sets out the standard which the authority intends to achieve when involving the community in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all documents.
Structure Plan	A document that was part of the old planning system that was set out by the County Council and contained key strategic policies.
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)	Provides additional information to guide and support Development Plan Documents.
Use Class Orders	Separates different land uses into 4 main categories. These are then broken down further to help define what purpose land is being used for.

B Housing Trajectory



C Map of Housing Completions 2010/11



D Core Output Indicators

		B1a	B1b	B1c	B2	B8	Total
BD1	Gross	0 sq.m					0 sq.m
	Net	0sq.m					0 sq.m
BD2	Gross	0sq.m					0 sq.m
	% gross on pdl	-					-
BD3	Hectares	For details of breakdown between use classes see chapter 5					51.83Ha

		A1	A2	B1a	D2	Total
BD4	Gross		264			264 sq.m
	Net		264			264 sq.m

	Start of plan period	End of plan period	Total housing required	Source of plan target
H1	2006	2026	4,000	Adopted Core Strategy

	H2a	H2b	H2c			H2d
			A) net additions	B) hectares	C) target	
05/06	376					
06/07	297					195
07/08	192					195
08/09	239					192
09/10	191					193
10/11 Reporting		150				195
11/12 Current			250		192	192
12/13 1			450		192	181
13/14 2			475		192	157
14/15 3			325		192	137
15/16 4			300		192	118
16/17 5			275			103
17/18			225			85
18/19			225			69
19/20			225			47
20/21			250			16
21/22			125			-5

	H2a	H2b	H2c			H2d
			A) net additions	B) hectares	C) target	
22/23			100			-40
23/24			125			-110
24/25			125			-269
25/26			100			
5 year housing supply worked as net additions years 1-5 / target; supply years 1-5 = 1,750/960 x 100 =182.3%						

		Total
H3	Gross	154
	% gross on pdl	92%

	Permanent	Transit	Total
H4	0	0	0

	Social rent homes provided	Intermediate homes provided	Affordable homes total
H5	21	8	29

H6 - no data

	Flooding	Quality	Total
E1	0	0	0

	Loss	Addition	Total
E2	0	0	0

E3 - no relevant applications received.

E Significant Effect Indicators

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
Improved Health and Well-Being		
1. To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.	1. Will it improve access to health facilities across the District?	IMD health profiles
	2. Will it help to improve quality of life for local residents?	Life expectancy
2. To improve the quality of and accessibility to, cultural services and local services and facilities.	1. Will proposals enhance the provision of local services and facilities?	% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre.
	2. Will it contribute to rural service provision across the District?	% of villages with key facilities, i.e, primary school, post offices, GP, Pub, village hall, convenience store
	3. Will it enhance accessibility to services by public transport?	% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP or hospital.
	4. Will it enhance accessibility to the District's countryside by sustainable modes of transport?	Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
3. To provide decent, affordable housing for all, of the right quality and type, tenure and affordability for local needs in a clean, safe and pleasant local environment	1. Will it provide opportunities to increase affordable housing levels within urban and rural areas of the District?	Number of affordable housing completions % of housing completions which are affordable.
	2. Will it provide affordable access to a range of housing tenures and sizes?	% of housing completions by size. % of housing completions by tenure. Number of additional gypsy/traveller pitches granted permission. Number of extra care units completed.
	3. Does it seek to provide high quality, well-designed residential environments?	Number of residential applications refused as a result of poor quality design.
	4. Does it provide opportunities for the construction of sustainable homes?	% of homes constructed to Code level 4 and above
4. To enhance the quality of life for all residents within the District?	1. Does it seek to enhance the prospects and quality of life of disadvantaged communities?	Life expectancy.
	2. Does it provide fair access to all members of the community, regardless of social class?	% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre.
	3. Does it promote opportunities for easy access to the District's greenspaces?	Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
Community Safety		
5. Encourage pride and social responsibility in the local community and reduce crime.	1. Does it offer the opportunity to enhance civic pride?	NI3: Those who have participated in a local area.
	2. Do proposals offer the opportunity for community involvement?	Average number of neighbour and statutory consultation letters sent per planning application.
	3. Does it promote the principles of 'Secured by Design'?	Number of new developments incorporating 'Secured by Design' principles.
Better Environment		
6. To manage waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy:	1. Are opportunities to increase recycling incorporated into proposals?	% of residential apartment and all commercial developments providing storage for recycling (permissions granted).

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
reduce, reuse, recycling and composting, recovery, disposal.	2. Will it reduce household waste?	Volume of household waste collected. Volume of household waste recycled.
7. Reduce contributions to climate change and promote energy efficiency and energy generated from renewable and low-carbon sources.	1. Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?	District per capita CO ₂ emissions
	2. Will it use sustainable construction methods?	% of homes built to Code level 4 or above.
	3. Will it encourage opportunities for the production of renewable energy?	Number of major new developments incorporating on-site renewable energy generation.
	4. Will it promote greater energy efficiency?	Average energy rating of new housing.
8. To reduce the need to travel and move towards more sustainable travel modes.	1. Will it reduce the need to travel?	% of residential development within Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley.
	2. Will it provide opportunities to increase sustainable modes of travel?	% of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre. Number of developments granted permission providing cycle parking. Number of developments granted permission which incorporate travel plans.
	3. Does it focus development in existing centres and make use of existing infrastructure to reduce the need to travel?	% of residential development within Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley.
9. Protect the use of water, soil and air, whilst maintaining or improving their quality.	1. Will it provide opportunities to reduce the District's Air Quality Monitoring Areas and other areas of concern?	Number of AQMAs and areas of air quality concern within the District.
	2. Will it improve air quality across the District?	Number of AQMAs and areas of air quality concern within the District.
	3. Will it provide opportunities to improve water quality?	% of new developments incorporating SuDS
	4. Will it encourage measures to improve water efficiency in new development, refurbishment and redevelopment?	% of new developments incorporating rain-water harvesting/water efficiency measures.
10. Ensure development does not occur in high-risk flood prone areas and does not adversely contribute to fluvial flood risks or contribute to surface water flooding in all other areas.	1. Does it protect the floodplain from development?	Number of new residential developments (permissions granted) located in flood plain (zones 2 and 3).
	2. Does it take account of all types of flooding?	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice.
	3. Does it reduce the risk of flooding in existing developed areas?	% of new developments incorporating SUDS.
	4. Does it promote Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems?	% of new developments incorporating SUDS.
11. Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	1. Will it achieve high quality, sustainable design for buildings, spaces and the public realm which is sensitive to the locality?	Number of applications refused as a result of poor quality design.
	2. Will it enhance the District's Conservation Areas?	Number of applications refused in Conservation Areas. Number of planning permissions granted in Conservation Areas.
	3. Does this preserve and enhance the historic character of the landscape and townscape?	Number of new records added to the HER. Number of Listed Building consents granted.

E Significant Effect Indicators

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
12. To conserve and enhance the District's biodiversity and geodiversity.	1. Will it help to safeguard the District's biodiversity and geodiversity?	Number of applications approved contrary to Natural England recommendation. Number of applications refused because of their potential impact on biodiversity/geodiversity.
	2. Will it provide opportunities to enhance local biodiversity/geodiversity in both urban and rural areas?	Condition of SSSIs. Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
	3. Will it protect sites designated for nature conservation?	Change in areas of biodiversity importance. Proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented(NI197)
	4. Will it help to achieve targets set out in the Biodiversity Action Plan?	Achievement of BAP targets.
	5. Will it provide opportunities to investigate/remediate potential contamination?	Amount of land that has been investigated and remediated
13. Conserve and enhance the historic and built environment through considerate siting and design and through respecting architectural, cultural and archaeological heritage.	1. Will it preserve, protect and enhance conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeological remains, historic parks and gardens and their settings and other features and areas of historic and cultural value?	Number of demolition consents (Listed Buildings) Number of demolition consents (Conservation Areas).
	2. Will it help safeguard the District's Listed, Locally Listed and other historic buildings?	Number of buildings on the national and local BARs.
	3. Will it improve and broaden access to and understanding of, local heritage, historic sites, areas and buildings?	% of Conservation Areas with Conservation Area Appraisals completed/updated within the last 5 years. % of Conservation Areas with Management Plans completed/updated within the last 5 years.
	4. Will it help to realise the physical, social, economic and environmental value of the historic environment in the regeneration of the District?	Number of derelict buildings brought back into use.
14. Ensure efficient use of land through the safeguarding of mineral reserves, the best and most versatile agricultural land and greenfield land; and maximise the use of previously developed land.	1. Will it safeguard the District's mineral resources?	To be developed
	2. Will it help to protect the District's agricultural land from adverse developments?	Amount of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to built development.
	3. Will it preserve the openness of the Green Belt?	Number of planning permissions granted in the Green Belt.
	4. Will it protect and enhance the District's open spaces of recreational and amenity value?	Number of hectares of open space and recreational/amenity space lost to development.
15. To promote the regeneration of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.	1. Does it focus development in the town centres of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn?	% of new residential completions located in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.
	2. Does it encourage the re-use of existing buildings and brownfield sites in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn?	% of new residential developments located on brownfield land in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.
16. Mitigate against the unavoidable negative impacts of climate change.	1. Does it promote development that is adaptable to and suitable for predicted changes in climate?	% of new developments incorporating SuDS
	2. Does it promote land uses that are suitable for the predicted changes in the District's climate?	% of new developments incorporating SuDS
17. Reduce noise and light pollution.	1. Does it mitigate against noise pollution?	Number of noise pollution complaints.
	2. Does it mitigate against light pollution?	Number of light pollution complaints received.

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
Greater Learning and Prosperity		
18. To raise the skills levels and qualifications of the workforce.	1. Will it provide opportunities to further develop adult and community learning facilities within the District?	% of school leavers with 5 A*-C grades. % of the District's working age population qualified to NVQ level 4 or higher.
19. To consult communities in accordance with the SCI, providing opportunities to participate in and contribute to the decisions that affect their neighbourhood and quality of life.	1. Do proposals incorporate consultation with local communities?	% of LDF consultations carried out in accordance with the SCI
	2. Are proposals transparent and open to the public?	Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
	3. Will it offer people the chance to directly affect decisions in their locality?	Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
	4. Does it promote community engagement?	Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
Shared Prosperity		
20. Create and maintain a diverse, knowledge-driven economy, ensuring all have the benefits, urban and rural.	1. Will it help enhance the District's economy?	Number of VAT registered businesses within the area.
	2. Will it contribute towards rural regeneration?	Number of VAT registered businesses in rural areas.
	3. Will it provide opportunities for businesses to develop and enhance their competitiveness?	De-registrations of VAT registered businesses in the area.
	4. Will it support sustainable tourism?	Number of bed spaces developed (Hotels and Guest Houses) Number of tourism related jobs
	5. Will it support the shopping hierarchy?	New retail development within or on the edge of primary shopping area (Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn) Net new retail floorspace completed (sq m)
21. Promote and support the development of new technologies, of high value and low impact, especially resource efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	1. Does it encourage innovative and environmentally friendly technologies?	% of employment land developed on brownfield land Number of B1 completions.

F Policies Used for Decisions Determined 2010/11

Wyre Forest District Adopted Local Plan - January 2004

The following tabled information is taken from the WFDC Innogistic database

Housing

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
H1	Housing Provision	4	4	0
H2	Residential Locations	58	44	14
H4	Housing Developments: Dwelling Mix	5	5	0
H5	Housing Density	9	7	2
H6	Backland Development	7	4	3
H7	Sub-division of Existing Dwellings	11	9	2
H9	Other Provision for Housing	19	15	4
H10	Affordable Housing	9	9	0
H11	Affordable Housing Exception Schemes in Rural Areas	0	0	0
H13	Residential Homes	2	2	0
H14	Gypsy Sites - Existing Provision	0	0	0
H15	Gypsy Sites - Future Provision	0	0	0
H16	Residential Caravans and Mobile Homes	0	0	0
H18	Accommodation for Dependants	7	7	0
	Totals	131	106	25

Employment

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
E1	Employment Land Provision	1	1	0
E2	Employment Development Proposals	10	10	0
E3	British Sugar Factory	0	0	0
E4	Lea Castle Hospital	0	0	0
E5	Rushock Trading Estate	0	0	0
E6	Areas Allocated for Mixed Uses	3	3	0
E7	Development involving Hazardous or Dangerous Substances	6	6	0
E8	Employment Development in the Rural Area outside the Green Belt	0	0	0
E9	Employment Development in the Green Belt	1	0	1
E10	Business Development Outside Allocated Areas	4	3	1
	Totals	25	23	2

Design

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
D1	Design Quality	354	311	43
D3	Local Distinctiveness	336	293	43
D4	Design (existing trees)	48	38	10
D5	Design of Development in the Countryside	49	40	9
D6	Safeguarding of Resources by Design	9	8	1
D7	Sustainable Drainage	26	22	4
D8	Designing for Materials Recycling	0	0	0
D9	Design for Movement	21	19	2
D10	Boundary Treatment	60	50	10
D11	Design of Landscaping Schemes	50	42	8
D12	Public Art	6	6	0
D13	Design of Private and Communal Amenity Spaces	22	18	4
D14	Street Furniture	4	4	0
D15	Car Park Design	19	19	0
D16	Design for Community Safety	10	9	1
D17	Design of Residential Extensions	283	256	27
D18	Design of Non Residential Extensions	23	22	1
D19	Designing for Adaptability	7	7	0
	Totals	1327	1164	163

Advertisements

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AD1	Local Character, Amenity & Safety	25	21	4
AD2	Built Heritage	13	12	1
AD3	Advertisement Hoardings	2	2	0
AD5	Advance Warning Signs	0	0	0
AD6	Free Standing Signs	8	8	0
	Totals	48	43	5

Natural Resources

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
NR1	Development of Greenfield Land	7	3	4
NR2	Contaminated Land	13	12	1
NR3	Development Adjacent to Landfill Sites	3	2	1
NR4	Land Stability	3	2	1

F Policies Used for Decisions Determined 2010/11

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
NR5	Floodplains	21	19	2
NR6	Development adjacent to Watercourses	9	6	3
NR7	Groundwater Resources	12	11	1
NR8	Water Supply	16	13	3
NR9	Sewage Disposal	27	21	6
NR10	Air Quality	8	8	0
NR11	Noise Pollution	29	27	2
NR12	Light Pollution	11	10	1
NR13	Development adjacent to High Voltage Overhead Power Lines	1	1	0
NR14	Development adjacent to Hazardous Establishments	1	1	0
NR15	Recycling Facilities	0	0	0
	Totals	161	136	25

Countryside

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LA1	Landscape Character	62	51	11
LA2	Landscape Protection Area	63	50	13
LA3	The Severn Way	2	2	0
LA4	The Stour Valley	2	1	1
LA5	Streams and Pools Systems East of Kidderminster	1	1	0
LA6	Landscape Features	12	8	4
	Totals	142	113	29

Greenbelt

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
GB1	Control of Development in the Green Belt	93	81	12
GB2	Development in the Green Belt	62	56	6
GB3	Outdoor Sport and Recreation	5	4	1
GB4	Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	1	1	0
GB6	Re-Use of Existing Industrial Premises in the Green Belt	0	0	0
GB6	Protection of Visual Amenity	93	81	12
	Totals	254	223	31

Areas of Development Restraint

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
DR1	Areas of Development Restraint	1	1	0
	Totals	1	1	0

Agriculture

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AG1	Agricultural Land Quality	2	1	1
AG2	Agricultural and Forestry Workers' Dwellings	4	4	0
AG3	Agricultural and Forestry Workers' Dwellings – Removal of Conditions	1	1	0
AG4	New Agricultural Buildings	3	3	0
AG5	Intensive Livestock Units	0	0	0
AG7	Farm Shops	0	0	0
AG8	Farm Diversification	5	3	2
	Totals	15	12	3

Re-Use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
RB1	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Conversion Criteria	19	13	6
RB2	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Appropriate Uses	13	10	3
RB3	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Impact of Existing Uses	8	6	2
RB4	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Operational Space	8	6	2
RB5	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings- Extensions and Curtilage Buildings	10	8	2
RB6	Provision for Protected Species	9	7	2
	Totals	67	50	17

Chalets

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CH1	Extensions and Improvements to Permanently Occupied Chalets	2	2	0
CH2	Extensions to Holiday Chalets	0	0	0
CH3	Change of Nature of Occupation	0	0	0
CH4	Replacement	0	0	0
	Totals	2	2	0

Development involving Horses

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
EQ1	Development for Commercial Equestrian Activities	1	1	0
EQ2	Stables and Field Shelters for Leisure Activities	5	4	1
EQ3	Landscape Impact of Development Involving Horses	6	5	1
	Totals	17	10	2

Listed Buildings

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LB1	Development Affecting a Listed Building	89	81	8
LB2	Repairs, Alterations, Extensions and Conversions	80	75	5
LB3	Fixtures and Fittings	40	38	2
LB4	Parks and Gardens	4	2	2
LB5	New Development Affecting the Setting of Listed Buildings	32	29	3
	Totals	245	225	20

Conservation Areas and Other Areas

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CA1	Development in Conservation Areas	58	54	4
CA2	Demolition in Conservation Areas	9	7	2
CA3	Shopfronts in Conservation Areas and in relation to Listed Buildings	4	4	0
CA4	Trees and Hedgerows in Conservation Areas	1	1	0
CA6	Other Areas of Special Character or Appearance	5	5	0
	Totals	77	71	6

Archaeology

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AR1	Archaeological Sites of National Importance	0	0	0
AR2	Archaeological Sites of Regional, County or Local Importance	6	5	1
AR3	Archaeological Evaluations and Mitigation Measures	8	6	2
	Totals	14	11	3

Historic Landscapes

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
HL1	Historic Landscapes	1	1	0
	Totals	1	1	0

Enabling Development

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
ED1	Enabling Development	0	0	0
	Totals	0	0	0

Nature Conservation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
NC1	Areas of National Importance	4	2	2
NC2	Areas of Regional, County or Local Importance	27	2	5
NC3	Wildlife Corridors and Stepping Stones	9	6	3
NC5	Biodiversity	22	19	3
NC6	Landscaping Schemes	14	11	3
NC7	Ecological Surveys and Mitigation Plans	25	19	6
NC8	Public Access	1	0	1
	Totals	102	79	23

Transport

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TR1	Bus Infrastructure	3	3	0
TR2	Interchange Improvements at Kidderminster Railway Station	1	1	0
TR3	Sustainable Transport Route	2	2	0
TR4	Access to Rail Freight	0	0	0
TR5	Lorry Route Network	0	0	0
TR6	Cycling Infrastructure	6	5	1
TR7	Provision for Pedestrians	11	8	3
TR8	Highway Network	4	3	1
TR9	Impacts of Development on the Highway Network	155	130	25
TR10	Environmental Impact of Highway Works	3	3	0
TR11	Developments Fronting Unmade Roads	2	1	1
TR12	Area Wide Traffic Management Schemes	1	1	0
TR13	The Horsefair, Kidderminster	1	1	0
TR15	Proposed Stourport Relief Road	0	0	0

F Policies Used for Decisions Determined 2010/11

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TR17	Car Parking Standards and Provision	182	150	32
TR18	Transport Assessment of New Development	4	4	0
TR19	Implementation of Travel Plans	4	4	0
TR20	The Location of Telecommunications Equipment	0	0	0
	Totals	379	316	63

Leisure and Recreation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LR1	Parks, Public Open Spaces and Other Open Space Areas	8	7	1
LR2	Amenity Space	3	3	0
LR3	Children's Play Space	3	3	0
LR4	Allotments	0	0	0
LR5	Informal Countryside Facilities	0	0	0
LR6	Stour Valley Country Park	0	0	0
LR7	Hurcott Pool and Woods	0	0	0
LR8	Public Rights of Way	15	12	3
LR9	Outdoor Sports Pitches and Playing Fields	3	3	0
LR10	Minster Road Outdoor Sports Area	1	1	0
LR11	Noisy or Intrusive Sports	0	0	0
LR12	Airborne Sports	0	0	0
LR13	Water Sports	0	0	0
LR14	Golf Courses and Related Developments	0	0	0
LR15	Staff Accommodation for Golf Facilities	0	0	0
LR16	Arts, Entertainment and Museum Facilities	0	0	0
LR17	Commercial Leisure Developments	0	0	0
	Totals	33	29	4

Tourism

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TM1	Tourism Development	5	4	1
TM2	Development of Hotels and Guest Houses	0	0	0
TM3	Extensions to Hotels and Guest Houses in the Green Belt	0	0	0
TM4	Conversions to Tourism Uses in the Green Belt	0	0	0
TM5	New Holiday Caravan and Chalet Sites	0	0	0
TM6	Improvement of Existing Holiday Caravan and Chalet Sites	1	1	0
TM7	Farm Tourism	1	0	1

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TM9	Stourport-on-Severn Tourist Information and Heritage Centre	0	0	0
	Totals	7	5	2

Community

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CY2	Community Facilities	10	9	1
CY3	Kidderminster Hospital	1	1	0
CY4	Education Facilities – Developer Contributions	3	3	0
CY5	Existing Education Sites	5	5	0
CY6	Cemeteries	1	1	0
	Totals	20	19	1

Retailing

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
RT1	Sequential Approach	4	4	0
RT2	Primary Shopping Areas: Groundfloor Uses	9	9	0
RT3	Bewdley District Centre	1	1	0
RT4	Edge-of-Centre Retail Proposals	6	6	0
RT5	Retail Parks and Major Stores	6	6	0
RT6	Local Centres and Other Groups of Shops	7	6	1
RT7	Small Shop Change of Use	1	1	0
RT8	Outside the Identified Centres	1	1	0
RT9	Petrol Filling Stations	1	1	0
RT12	Horticultural Retailing	0	0	0
RT13	Food and Drink	5	5	0
	Totals	41	40	1

Town Centres

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TC1	Town Centre Strategies	3	3	0
TC2	Town Centre Uses	19	19	0
TC3	Commercial Leisure Facilities	0	0	0
TC4	Key Movement Corridors	0	0	0
TC5	Town Centre Car Parking Areas	1	1	0
KTC1	Town Centre Redevelopment Area	2	2	0

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
KTC2	Bromsgrove Street	1	1	0
KTC3	Worcester Street Enhancement Area	0	0	0
KTC4	Green Street Mixed Use Area	3	3	0
STC1	Lichfield Basin (Severn Road Phase One)	2	2	0
STC2	Carpets of Worth (Severn Road Phase Two)	3	3	0
STC3	Cheapside (Severn Road Phase Three)	0	0	0
STC4	Bridge Street / Basins Link	0	0	0
STC5	Canal Basins Area	1	1	0
STC6	Vale Road (West)	0	0	0
	Totals	35	35	0

Implementation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
IMP1	Planning (Section 106) Obligations	10	8	2
	Totals	10	8	2

Wyre Forest District Adopted Core Strategy

Adopted Core Strategy

Policy Number	Policy Name	Total usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
DS01	Development Locations	14	11	3
DS02	Kidderminster Regeneration Area	3	3	0
DS03	Market Towns	6	6	0
DS04	Rural Regeneration	8	7	1
DS05	Phasing and Implementation	2	2	0
CP01	Delivering Sustainable Development Standards	16	14	2
CP02	Water Management	20	19	1
CP03	Promoting Transport Choice and Improving Accessibility	47	39	8
CP04	Providing Affordable Housing	1	1	0
CP05	Delivering Mixed Communities	2	2	0
CP06	Providing Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	0	0	0
CP07	Delivering Community Wellbeing	5	5	0
CP08	A Diverse Local Economy	7	7	0
CP09	Retail and Commercial Development	5	5	0

Policy Number	Policy Name	Total usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CP10	Sustainable Tourism	4	4	0
CP11	Quality Design and Local Distinctiveness	128	112	16
CP12	Landscape Character	26	24	2
CP13	Providing a Green Infrastructure Network	17	15	3
CP14	Providing Opportunities for Local Biodiversity and Geodiversity	13	10	3
CP15	Regenerating the Waterways	5	5	0
		329	290	39

There were 21 appeal decisions during the reporting year, of which 14 were dismissed. This is slightly lower than the number of appeal decisions in 2009/10.

Departures

Departure Applications

Application Number		
09/0292/FULL	Erection of 46 affordable residential units and associated access and parking	Former Wribbenhall First School, Shaw Hedge Road, Bewdley
10/3006/AG	Construction of a general purpose machinery workshop and fodder store	Land adjacent Jastine, Sugar Loaf Lane, Ismere, Kidderminster