**Committee:** Local Plan Leadership Group **Date:** 

**Title:** Authority Monitoring Report Wednesday, 9 March 2022

**Report** Sarah Jones, Planning Policy Officer (Interim)

Author: sjones@uttlesford.gov.uk

# **Summary**

1. The Authority Monitoring Report for 2020/21 has been prepared to meet the Councils statutory obligations in respect of monitoring requirements.

#### Recommendations

2. That the Local Plan Leadership Group notes the findings of the Authority Monitoring Report (2020/21) prior to publication.

# **Financial Implications**

3. None. This work is within the 2021/22 budget.

# **Background Papers**

- 4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.
  - Authority Monitoring Report (2014)

### **Impact**

5.

Communication/Consultation	N/a (consultation is not required for an Authority Monitoring Report)	
Community Safety	N/a	
Equalities	The Authority Monitoring Report can form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan and its policies. The Local Plan will be subject to an Equalities and Health Impact Assessment (EqHIA)	
Health and Safety	N/a	
Human Rights/Legal Implications	Preparation of an Authority Monitoring Report is a statutory duty. It needs to fulfil the legislative requirements for monitoring.	

Sustainability	The Authority Monitoring Report can form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan and its policies. The Local Plan will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal.
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	N/a

#### **Situation**

- 6. The purpose of an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) is to review the progress against Local Plan policy objectives and targets as well as other key planning matters (e.g., progress in preparing new Local Plans). Monitoring information can be used to assess the effectiveness of planning policy and decision making and can help inform the need for a review of policies and/or their implementation in practice. This AMR has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of national legislation (the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004), the Localism Act (2011), and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) and takes account of the national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).
- 7. The AMR is required to report on specific topics and outline progress on key matters, as specified at Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004, as amended) and Regulation 34 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012, as amended). These requirements are reflected in the PPG, which advises that information on other matters can be included e.g., demand for Self and Custom Housebuilding.
- 8. The AMR meets the legislative requirements, and reflects the PPG, by reporting on:
  - Progress in the production of key planning policy documents as set out in the Local Development Scheme, and supplementary planning documents;
  - Monitoring of key Local Plan policies relating to the economy, environment, housing, leisure, retail and transport. Progress in respect of Self and Custom Building and housing for older and disabled persons is also reported;
  - Activities in respect of the Duty to Co-operate;
  - Progress in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and Development Orders; and
  - o The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- 9. The AMR proposed for publication provides data as of 1st April 2021 for the monitoring year 2020/21, unless otherwise stated. It follows on from the most recently published AMR in 2014 (for the 2013/14 monitoring year).
- 10. The AMR monitors progress against the saved policies of the adopted Local Plan (2005) in the first instance. As the Local Plan (2005) period only

extended to 2011, several of the relevant policy targets are now out of date and/or the original indicator data is no longer collected. Appendix 1 of the AMR identifies which Local Plan (2005) policies are being monitored and which indicators are now being used for monitoring. Where the Local Plan (2005) policies and/or targets are out of date and/or the original indicator data is no longer collected, the AMR continues to monitor overall performance in relation to the principles of the Local Plan (2005) objectives and policies, using additional performance indicators and up to date monitoring information that has become available since the Local Plan (2005).

- 11. The AMR also monitors against the most up to date targets and indicators in respect of local housing needs and delivery which post-date the Local Plan (2005) saved policies, namely the standard method for assessing local housing needs and the Housing Delivery Test. Regard is had to the emerging Local Plan evidence base where this is available. The extent to which the needs identified for Gypsy and Travellers and Self and Custom Build developments are being met is also monitored, using more recent evidence.
- 12. A range of targets are monitored against for each topic area, which are detailed in each relevant section. The AMR provides a summary of the key findings for each topic area and identifies whether targets have been achieved or not.
- 13. The content of the AMR can be kept under review for future iterations.

  Additional targets and indicators to those required by legislation which may be considered locally important can be reported upon, as appropriate.

#### **Risk Analysis**

14.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
The Council does not publish an Authority Monitoring Report	1	2 - the Council would not be meeting its statutory duties. There are no specific penalties, but some potential for adverse reputational impacts.	The Authority Monitoring Report for 2020/21 is approved for publication and future reports are published on an annual basis.

<sup>1 =</sup> Little or no risk or impact

<sup>2 =</sup> Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

<sup>3 =</sup> Significant risk or impact – action required

<sup>4 =</sup> Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.