

REPORT FOR: **CABINET**

Date of Meeting:	15 December 2010
Subject:	Annual Monitoring Report
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Andrew Trehern, Corporate Director Place Shaping
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Keith Ferry, Portfolio Holder Planning, Development and Enterprise
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	Yes
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 – Draft Annual Monitoring Report (2009/10) <i>[Due to the size of the appendix, it has been circulated to Cabinet, other key Members and the Corporate Director Place Shaping only. A copy has been placed in the Members' Library and the appendix has been published with this agenda for viewing.]</i> Appendix 2 – Recommendation from LDF Panel – 14 December 2010 – To be tabled

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report presents the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010. The AMR indicates the performance of Harrow Council against a set of nationally and locally defined indicators designed to monitor the implementation of planning policies.

Recommendations:
Cabinet is requested to:

1. Approve the Annual Monitoring Report (2009/10) attached as Appendix 1 for submission to the Secretary of State.
2. Delegate authority to the Divisional Director of Planning to make non material amendments to the Annual Monitoring Report prior to its submission to the Secretary of State.

Reason: (For recommendation)

To enable the Council to comply with the requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for submission of the Annual Monitoring Report before the 31 December 2010 deadline.

Section 2 – Report

1. In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the Act), the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for submission to the Secretary of State by 31 December each year. The draft AMR (2009/10), attached as Appendix 1, seeks to fulfil this statutory requirement.
2. The preparation of the AMR will assist the Council to meet its corporate priorities by monitoring the statutory planning policy framework put in place to help build stronger communities, support for vulnerable people and deliver cleaner and safer streets.

Options considered

3. None

Background

4. The AMR monitors the Council's progress in implementing national and local planning policies. Progress is measured against a series of established national core output indicators (COIs), as well as local monitoring targets developed in support of the Harrow Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The AMR also monitors the Council's progress in preparing its emerging Local Development Framework (LDF).
5. This is the sixth AMR that the Council has prepared. All previous reports are made available to view and download from the Council's website

6. The AMR reporting period is based on the financial year, and therefore the AMR will always report on the past year. The latest AMR provides an analysis of performance for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010. In doing so, it also draws upon the data gathered since 2005, which enables trends to be identified and conclusions to be reached about whether individual policies are achieving their intended outcomes or whether they, or our processes, need to be modified or revisited to address changing circumstances and/or any areas of under performance.

Executive Summary

7. The following provides a brief summary of the main findings in the AMR (2009/10):
 - Harrow's overall population is estimated at 228,100 with projections showing that the population is likely to continue to grow over the next 20 years.
 - Across London the average household size is 2.34, whilst in Harrow it is 2.6. There are far fewer one person households in Harrow, only 28%, while the average across London is 36%. Larger households will generally increase the need for more larger family housing.
 - The Government's 2007 Indices of Deprivation show that whilst multiple deprivation in Harrow is well below the national average, with Harrow ranking 197th out of 354 districts in England, Harrow's position has worsened since the 2004 Indices, when the borough was ranked in 232nd place.
 - There has been an overall loss of 66,856 m² gross external employment floorspace over the last five years along with a loss of employment land.
 - Violent crime rose in the monitoring year by 11%, however, in many other categories, such as burglary, robbery and vehicle theft, crime fell. Harrow remains London's second lowest crime borough after Richmond upon Thames, as measured by crime per 1,000 population.
 - Road accident rates rose slightly from the last monitoring period. There were a total of 401 recorded accidents including three fatalities in Harrow in 2009/10. However, the borough continues to meet the Government's casualty reduction target.
 - Harrow has met the London Plan Target of providing an additional 400 units per year, providing a net gain of 460 units. Harrow is expected to meet targets for the next five years. The Housing Trajectory indicates that Harrow may under-deliver 73 units in the final year of the projected period, 2025/26. Harrow can still expect to meet housing requirements given other sources of supply that have not been used in the

Trajectory. The emerging Core Strategy will also identify further opportunities for housing in these later years of the Trajectory.

- In 2009/10 98% of new residential completions were built on previously developed land meaning Harrow fell just short of its target of 100%.
8. With regard to progress on the Local Development Framework, this is assessed against the Local Development Scheme. As the Panel is aware, a revised LDS has now been submitted to the Mayor of London and the Secretary of State for approval. However, at the time of this year's AMR reporting period (1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010), the November 2007 LDS was still in effect and the analysis therefore does not reflect the changes agreed to the timetable for preparing the Core Strategy, the joint West London Waste Plan DPD, and the new Area Action Plan for the Harrow and Wealdstone Intensification Area.

Legal Comments

9. The Council is required to produce and submit an AMR to the Secretary of State annually pursuant to Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 covering the 12 month period commencing on 1st April in each year and ending on 31st March in the following year.
The form and content of the AMR must be as prescribed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.

Financial Implications

10. Costs associated with preparing the AMR 2009/10 relate to staff time and printing hard copies of the document. The cost of printing is approximately £1550 and these costs are being met from the existing approved LDF Service budget. There are no additional costs involved with submitting it to the Secretary of State.

Performance Issues

11. The AMR provides the monitoring data on all national core output indicators. It is therefore appropriate to refer to the attached AMR for such details. This report in itself has no effect on any performance indicator.

Environmental Impact

There are no environmental impacts associated with the preparation and submission of the AMR.

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? Yes

11. In the past, the main risk associated with the preparation of the AMR was that an element of Planning and Delivery Grant (PDG) was contingent on the AMR being submitted on time. However, this risk has diminished now that PDG is being done away with but the requirement to comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 still remains, although it is unclear what sanctions, if any, would be imposed by the Secretary of State if the Council failed to submit its ARM by 31 December 2010.
12. The only other implication of the AMR is where year-on-year data shows that the Council is unlikely to achieve a specific target. In such circumstances there will be an expectation that the Council will take action to address the situation. Where local indicators are concerned, the preparation of the emerging LDF affords this opportunity. With regard to national indicators, the coalition Government's intention to move away from nationally imposed targets has effectively mitigated this potential risk.

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

13. The AMR does not in itself contain any policies. Issues regarding equalities and diversity are to be considered in the context of preparing national and local planning policies but are not relevant to the AMR, which merely monitors the performance of implementing such policies.

Corporate Priorities

14. The AMR does not propose policies or actions that give effect to the corporate priorities. However, it does collate data gathered by the Council and its partners that is useful in monitoring performance associated with delivering:

- Cleaner and safer streets;
- Improved support for vulnerable people; and
- Stronger communities

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Anthony Lineker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 18 November 2010		
Name: Abiodun Kolawole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer

Date: 23 November 2010

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Martin Randall

on behalf of the
Divisional Director
Partnership,
Development and
Performance

Date: 22 November 2010

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name: Andrew Baker

on behalf of the
Divisional Director
(Environmental
Services)

Date: 17 November 2010

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Matthew Paterson, Senior Professional Policy Planning, Development and Enterprise, phone 02087366082

Background Papers: The AMR's for the periods 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08 & 2008/09. These are made available to view and download from the Council's website:

http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/856/local_development_framework_policy/1922/annual_monitoring.

**Call-In Waived by the
Chairman of Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee**

NOT APPLICABLE