

REPORT FOR: **CABINET**

Date of Meeting:	15 December 2011
Subject:	Annual Monitoring Report
Key Decision:	No
Responsible Officer:	Andrew Trehern, Corporate Director Place Shaping
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Keith Ferry, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development & Enterprise
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	Yes
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 - Annual Monitoring Report 2010/11 <i>[Due to its size, the Appendix has been circulated to Cabinet Members, other key Members and officers. 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 – 8 December – To follow

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report presents the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011. 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 (2010/11) attached as Appendix 1 for submission to the Secretary of State
2. Delegate authority to the Divisional Director of Planning to make minor amendments to the Annual Monitoring Report (2010/11), if necessary, 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 to the Secretary of State before the 31 December 2011 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 (2010/11), 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. Following notification in March 2010 from Bob Neill MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government, some guidance relating to local plan monitoring has been withdrawn. This includes 'Core Output Indicators – Update 2/2008' (CLG, 2008). This effectively removes the need for Local Authorities to report on COI's. This AMR (2010/11) retains the COI's while their status in Harrow's monitoring schedule is reviewed.
6. This is the seventh AMR that the Council has prepared. All previous reports 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.
7. 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 2010 to 31 March 2011. 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

8. The following provides a brief summary of the main findings in the AMR (2010/11):
 - Harrow's current population is estimated to be 230,100
 - Household size in Harrow is the highest in London at 2.61 persons
 - Census results available from July 2012 will re-base population data
 - Harrow ranks 184th out of 326 districts in England on the 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation, an improvement since 2007
 - There has been a loss of 67,661m² of employment floorspace over the last five years
 - There was no change in the number of jobs in Harrow over the last year
 - 78.5% of Harrow's working age population were employed in 2010
 - 3% decrease in recorded crime, Harrow has the fourth lowest level of crime in London
 - Pinner Memorial Park became the fourth park in the borough to gain Green Flag status
 - 50% of waste was recycled or composted
 - Road accident rates increase slightly but Harrow remains on course to achieve casualty reduction targets
 - The London Plan housing target of 400 units was met and exceeded in 2010/11. A total of 434 units were completed
 - The revised London Plan (July 2011) reduces Harrow's housing target in future years to 350 units

- Harrow is on course to meet its five-year supply and its long-term London Plan housing target

Implications of the Recommendation

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 months period commencing on 1st April each year and ending on 31st March in the following year. The form and content of the AMR must be as prescribed by regulation 48 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004.

Financial Implications

10. Costs associated with preparing the AMR 2010/11 relate to staff time and printing hard copies of the document. The cost of printing is approximately £1,100 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.

Environmental Impact

- 11 There are no direct environmental impacts related to this report.

Risk Management Implications

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? Yes

12. 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 2011.
13. 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 withdrawal of

guidance on Core Output Indicators and with it the requirement to report on these indicators, has effectively mitigated this potential risk.

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

14. 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 & Performance Issues

15. 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:

- Keeping neighbourhoods clean, green and safe.
- Supporting and protecting people who are most in need
- United and involved communities: a Council that listens and leads
- Supporting our Town Centre, our local shopping centres and our businesses

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jennifer Hydari	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 18 November 2011		
Name: Abiodun Kolawole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 24 November 2011		

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Martin Randall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Divisional Director Partnership, Development and Performance
Date: 22 November 2011		

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name: Andrew Baker

on behalf of the
Divisional Director
(Environmental
Services)

Date: 18 November 2011

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 and 2009/10. 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

[Call-in applies]