



rhondda cynon taf
local development plan
cynllun datblygu lleol



Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan

Annual Monitoring Report 2012



STRONG HERITAGE | STRONG FUTURE
RHONDDA CYNON TAF
TREFTADAETH GADARN | DYFODOL SICR

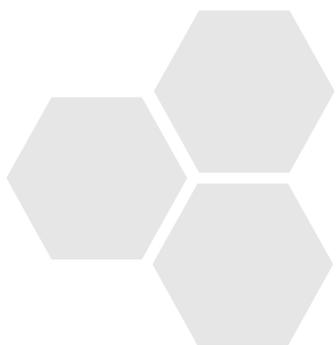


Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan

Annual Monitoring Report 2012

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted on 2nd March 2011. As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR will provide the basis for monitoring the effectiveness of the LDP core strategy and policies, the plan sustainable credentials and identify any significant contextual changes that might influence implementation

This is the first AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP and therefore provides an important opportunity for the Council to assess the impact the LDP is having on the social, economic and environmental well being of the County Borough.

Key Findings of the Annual Monitoring Process

Contextual Change

There were no significant changes in national planning policy during 2011-12.

There are two sectors of the UK economy in that are particularly relevant to the successful implementation of the LDP. These are the operations of the housing market and commercial markets. Research indicates that:

- House building activity in the County Borough in 2011-12 increased by 78% on the figure for 2010-11 and 63% on figures for 2009-10;
- The average house price in Rhondda Cynon Taf increased by 0.25% to £114,504;
- Despite difficulties in the employment market, there were proposals for a number of new commercial developments in the County Borough could result in the creation of nearly a 1000 new jobs; and
- Economic activity in town centres has increased over the period, with vacancy rates falling significantly from 15% in 2010-11 to 13% in 2011-12.

Local Development Plan Monitoring

The results of the core and local output monitoring exercise for 2011-12, provide an interesting and varied picture of development in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Some of the most notable results indicate that:

- 467 new dwellings were built in the County Borough at an average density of 32 dph;
- 7,320sqm of new retail floorspace was constructed within Pontypridd Town Centre;
- 42 mw of new renewable energy capacity was permitted in the County Borough; and

- major town centre schemes were being implemented during 2011-12.

Detailed consideration of the results of the monitoring exercise has allowed the Council to make an informed judgement about the nature of the progress that has been made during 2011-12 in delivering the LDP targets and therefore policies.

A summary of the delivery of each of the monitoring targets is contained in below:

LDP CORE POLICIES		
Core Policy		Result
CS 1	Development in the North	Green
CS 2	Development in the South	Green
CS 3	Strategic Sites	Green
CS 4	Housing Requirements	Amber
CS 5	Affordable Housing	Amber
CS 6	Employment Requirements	Amber
CS 7	Retail	Green
CS 8	Transportation	Green
CS 9	Waste Management	Green
CS 10	Minerals	Green

The results of the monitoring process for 2011-12 indicate that the targets in respect of 7 of the 10 core policies *are on going, being met or exceeded* (annotated in green), whilst the remaining targets are *not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention* (annotated in amber).

Whilst the pattern of growth in some parts of the County Borough is slower than wished, the Council believes that the development that has taken place since adoption, coupled with the projected future investment from the public and private sector will ensure that the core strategy is successfully delivered.

Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring

A key issue in determining the Plan's sustainability progress is in ensuring the proposed indicators are providing the necessary information to allow prediction of the effects of the plan. The monitoring process found that there is opportunity to improve the SA monitoring to ensure that appropriate data was collected. A number of recommendations have therefore been made to improve the indicator set for future monitoring.

A summary of the findings of the SA Monitoring Process is outlined below:

SA MONITORING INDICATORS		
Indicator		Result
SA 1	Housing	Amber
SA 2	Culture and Heritage	Green
SA 3	Communities	Green
SA 4	Health	Green
SA 5	Economy	White
SA 6	Employment	Green
SA 7	Transport	Green
SA 8	Built Environment	Green
SA 9	Landscape	White
SA 10	Biodiversity	White
SA 11	Water	Amber
SA 12	Climate Change	Green
SA 13	Energy	Green
SA 14	Land and Soils	Green
SA 15	Waste	Green
SA 16	Minerals	White
SA 17	Air Quality	Amber

The results of the monitoring process indicate that the targets in respect of the majority of the sustainability indicators *are on going, being met or exceeded* (annotated in green), a minority of SA targets are *not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention* (annotated in amber). The results also indicated that the targets and indicators for a number of indicators (annotated in white) need to be redefined.

Whilst the plan is still in the early stages of implementation, it is possible to make some broad predictions regarding how the plan is progressing in terms of sustainability. Overall, the plan is travelling in a positive direction for some aspects of sustainability. However in other the indicators suggest that further consideration may need to be given to how these targets can be achieved. There remains some uncertainty for some SA objectives until new indicators are agreed.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Whilst the pattern of growth in some areas is slower than anticipated at the time of writing the LDP, evidence collected through the monitoring process suggests that good progress is being made in the delivery of the majority of LDP targets. It is anticipated that the development that has taken place in Rhondda Cynon Taf since the adoption of the LDP, coupled with the projected future investment from the public and private sector will ensure the that LDP core strategy is successfully delivered. There is therefore, no evidence to suggest there is a need for a full or partial review of the LDP at this time.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted on 2nd March 2011. The LDP provides a land use framework which provides the basis on which decisions about future development in the County Borough are based.

1.2 As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR will provide the basis for monitoring the effectiveness of the LDP core strategy and policies, the plan sustainability credentials and identify any significant contextual changes that might influence implementation. The AMR is to be submitted to the Welsh Government by 31st October each year. The results of the monitoring processes will feed into the ongoing adjustment of the LDP. It should be noted that the Council does not currently propose to undertake a major review of the LDP until 2015.

1.3 This is the first AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP and therefore provides an important opportunity for the Council to assess the impact the LDP is having on the social, economic and environmental well being of the County Borough.

1.4 The structure of the AMR is as follows;

- **Introduction** – Outlines the requirements for the AMR;
- **Monitoring Framework** – explains the process for monitoring and, if necessary, reviewing the LDP and SA;
- **Contextual Change** – analyses the impact of factors such as changes to national policy, the economic climate and local issues have had on the implementation of the LDP;
- **Local Development Plan Monitoring** - provides an analysis of the effectiveness of the LDP policy framework in delivering the plans targets;
- **Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring** – analyses the impact the LDP is having on the social, economic and environmental well being of Rhondda Cynon Taf; and
- **Conclusions and Recommendations** – provide an overview of the findings of the AMR and makes recommendations about issues that require further consideration.

1.5 The AMR has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Town & Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005; Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations (2004) and the Habitats Assessment Regulations(2004).

2 MONITORING FRAMEWORK

2.1 The monitoring framework comprises 3 key elements. These are monitoring of:

- The LDP core strategy, policies and proposals;
- The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); and
- The LDP Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

2.2 A set of targets and indicators have been set out under each of the documents. Where the results of the monitoring indicate that the effectiveness of the plan and its constituent documents is falling significantly below the level required to deliver the identified targets then consideration will be given to the need for a review of the LDP.

LDP Targets and Indicators

2.3 The LDP identifies 19 individual targets and a set of core and local output indicators for every core strategy policy. It should be noted that whilst the target and indicators relate to each core strategy policy, the framework has been specifically designed to ensure that linkages are made between core strategy policies, area wide policies, strategy area policies and the plans objectives. Monitoring the delivery of core strategy policies therefore provides a mechanism for monitoring the LDP as a whole.

2.4 The LDP outlines 12 core output indicators and 19 local output indicators specifically designed to monitor the delivery of the LDP. The indicators are contained in Appendix 1.

The SA Targets and Indicators

2.5 The SA of the LDP identifies a set of targets and significant effects indicators which are intended to measure the social, economic and environmental impact of the LDP. The SA identifies 22 targets and 25 indicators specifically designed to monitor the environmental credentials of the LDP. The targets and indicators are contained in Appendix 2.

The HRA Targets and Indicators

2.6 The HRA (Appropriate Assessment) Report (January 2010) paragraph 5.4 states that *'The SA/SEA of the Deposit Draft Plan sets out suggested indicators for biodiversity monitoring and it is appropriate that monitoring for HRA is aligned with the SA/SEA requirement and linked to Annual Monitoring Reports as appropriate. In particular, it has been recommended that the proposed indicator for Air Quality includes focused monitoring for the Blaen Cynon SAC.'*

2.7 The monitoring requirements of the HRA will therefore be undertaken as part of the SA process.

Replacement Targets and Indicators

2.8 Where the Council has been unable to monitor a target or indicator or the indicator has been superseded, an explanation will be provided in the relevant monitoring section and an alternative indicator will be identified.

2.9 There may be occasions where it is necessary to amend a target or indicator. This may simply be to improve the clarity of the indicator or to re-align it with the relevant data sets. Where this is necessary an explanation will be provided in the relevant monitoring section and an alternative target or indicator will be identified

Monitoring Progress

2.10 Detailed written analysis in relation to each target and indicator will be provided in the LDP and SA monitoring sections of the AMR. As a visual aid in monitoring the effectiveness of policies and to provide an overview of performance, key targets and monitoring outcomes are highlighted as follows:

	Targets is on going, being met or exceeded
	Targets are not currently being achieved but the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention or sufficiently progressed not to require direct intervention
	Target are not being achieved and it is unlikely that this will be addressed without specific intervention

In instances where there is nothing to report the Monitoring results box will be left blank.

Trigger for Review

2.11 A review of the LDP in advance of the formal 4-year review will only take place in exceptional circumstances. The Monitoring Framework for the LDP does not identify specific triggers for each of the Core Policies. The Council will make a judgment on the need for a full or partial review based on the consideration of the following factors:

- A significant change in national policy or legislation;
- A significant change in external conditions;
- A significant change in local context e.g. closure of a significant employment site that undermines the local economy or the cumulative effect of a series of closures;
- A significant change in development pressures or needs and investment strategies of major public and private investors; and
- Significant concerns from the findings of the AMR in terms of policy effectiveness, site delivery, progress rates, and any problems with implementation.

2.12 The assessment of the Plan's success or otherwise as a strategic plan is wide ranging and circumstances will change over the plan period. As such, it is considered inappropriate to simply use performance measured against individual targets and indicators to automatically trigger a Plan review.

Local Development Plan Wales (2005)

2.13 In addition to the monitoring framework outlined in the Council's LDP, the Welsh Government in LDP Wales Paragraph 4.43, require:

'the AMR to identify any policy that is not being implemented and to give the reasons, together with any steps the authority intends to take to secure the implementation of the policy and any intention to revise the LDP to replace or amend the policy. The AMR should include an assessment of:

- *whether the basic strategy remains sound (if not, a full plan review may be needed);*
- *what impact the policies are having globally, nationally, regionally and locally;*
- *whether the policies need changing to reflect changes in national policy;*
- *whether policies and related targets in LDPs have been met or progress is being made towards meeting them, including publication of relevant supplementary planning guidance (SPG);*
- *where progress has not been made, the reasons for this and what knock on effects it may have;*
- *what aspects, if any, of the LDP need adjusting or replacing because they are not working as intended or are not achieving the objectives of the strategy and/or sustainable development objectives; and*
- *if policies or proposals need changing, what suggested actions are required to achieve this.*

The AMR must also specify the housing land supply (from the current Housing Land Availability Study) and the number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built in the authority's area, and report on other LDP indicators'

3 CONTEXTUAL CHANGE

3.1 The findings of the AMR will be fundamental in determining whether a full or partial review of the LDP is required. It is important that the assessment of whether a review is required, is fully informed by an understanding of how the implementation of the LDP has been influenced by local, regional, national and international factors. Rhondda Cynon Taf does not exist in isolation and as recent events have shown, development at even the most local level can be affected by national and international economic trends.

3.2 By seeking to understand how different factors have affected the delivery of the LDP, the Council will gain a better understanding of what it can do to support the Plans implementation. In focussing on those factors it can influence and accepting that some factors are beyond its control, the Council will be able to better support delivery of its objectives and shape future strategies to respond to wider socio-economic issues.

3.3 The following section looks specifically at those factors that influence development in Rhondda Cynon Taf. These include changes in:

- A. National policy or legislation;
- B. External conditions;
- C. Local development context

A. National Policy or Legislation

The Council needs to consider through its AMR whether changes to national planning policy have any implications for the LDP. If the implications are significant, the Council will need to determine how it addresses the issues.

3.4 Between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012, the following policy documents have been issued by the Welsh Government:-

- Planning Policy Wales Edition 4
- 2010-based National Population Projections for Wales
- Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition

Planning Policy Wales Edition 4

3.5 The most recent revision to Planning Policy Wales (PPW 4) incorporates changes arising from Climate Change Strategy for Wales (2010); Technical Advice Note 6 Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010); Technical Advice Note 22 Planning for Sustainable Buildings (2010); A Low Carbon Revolution – The Welsh Government Energy Policy Statement (2010), and Planning for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy - A Toolkit for Planners (2010).

- 3.6 The changes to PPW 4 set out the strategic aims and objectives of the Welsh Government with regard to the delivery of a low carbon economy, planning for sustainable rural communities, low carbon and energy efficient design and the harnessing of renewable energy. There is no requirement in PPW to amend adopted development plans immediately to reflect these new policy documents. The new policy context outlined in PPW 4 is aligned with that contained in the Adopted LDP in respect of low carbon, sustainable rural communities, design and renewable energy. There is therefore, no need to amend or review the LDP at this time.

2010 - Based National Population Projections for Wales

- 3.7 The 2010 population projections provide estimates of the population growth in Wales up to 2035. The projections are based on assumptions about future fertility, mortality, international and domestic migration. The projections estimate that the population of Wales will increase by 5% to 3.17 million by 2020 and by 12% to 3.37 by 2025. Changes in the make up of the population relate principally to a projected increase of 7% in the number of children 16 yrs old by 2035. The population of Rhondda Cynon Taf is forecast to grow from 231,946 to 234,309 by 2035.
- 3.8 The growth forecasts and resultant allocations contained in the Adopted LDP were based on the 2006 - Based National Population and Household Projection. The *2010-Based National Household Projections for Wales* have yet to be issued. Once all the relevant data is available, the Council will consider the implications of the projections for the LDP. In the meantime, therefore, no need to amend or review the Plan.

Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition

- 3.9 The strategy outlines the Welsh Governments wish to create a sustainable, low carbon economy in Wales. The document outlines the Welsh Governments wish to maximise the potential for sustainable economic growth by ensuring long term private and public sector investment in the energy sector.
- 3.10 The document does not set out any specific, detailed requirements for LDPs. There is therefore, no need to amend or review the LDP at this time.

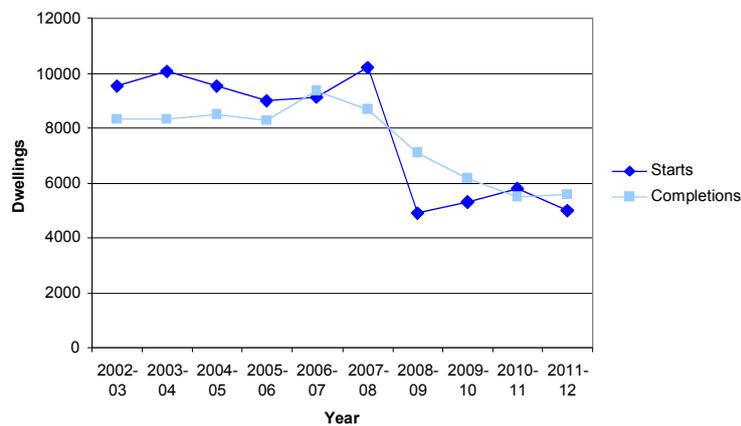
B. External Conditions

- 3.11 The UK, along with many countries, has been significantly affected by the global economic downturn. As a result the UK as a whole is undergoing a prolonged and gradual realignment of its economy and markets. Whilst the property and development market is more stable/static state than 2008/09, when the recession was at its peak, it is still fragile and growth is slow. This situation is likely to remain unchanged until economic stability can be achieved in the Euro zone.

3.12 There are two sectors of the UK economy that are particularly relevant to the successful implementation of the LDP. These are the operations of the housing and commercial markets.

3.13 At a national level the picture for house building looks gloomy. Welsh Government statistics indicate that the number of housing starts during 2011-12 decreased for the first time since 2008-09, returning the figures to a similar level to that seen at the beginning of the economic downturn in 2008-09. The fall follows two years of moderate growth. The current level of housing ‘starts’, approximately 4,971, accounts for around 50% of those seen prior to the downturn. During 2011-12 the annual rate of housing completions increased by 1% to approximately 5,500 dwellings. This is the first increase in the completion rate in Wales since 2006-07. Even though there was a slight increase in the number of completions during 2011-12, completions in the January to March 2012 quarter fell to the lowest level since records began in 1974.

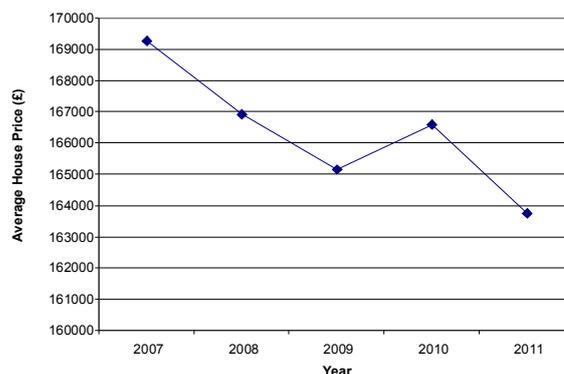
Figure 1: Seasonally adjusted trends in quarterly housing starts and completions, Wales



Source: Welsh Government

3.14 A review of the annual house prices for Wales for the period 2007 – 2011 indicates clearly the fluctuation that have taken place in house prices over the last 4 years. The average house price in Wales has dropped by 3% from 169,280 to £163,740.

Figure 2: Average annual change in residential property prices



Source: Homestep

- 3.15 Property market forecasts for England and Wales from Savills (April 2012), anticipate a slow but steady overall increase in house prices over the next 5 years (and beyond).
- 3.16 Research undertaken by Savills indicates that, levels of commercial development activity have significantly reduced nationally since the high of early 2007 and, as in the housing market, the market rebound peaked in early 2010 before another (less severe) fallback. Unlike housing, the commercial market in general remains a more mixed picture.
- 3.17 In the retail sector evidence suggests that since the downturn, the food sector has continued to performed well and sought to expand whilst smaller and non-food retailers have had mixed success. The major food retailers in the UK are all still pursuing expansion programmes. The non food market in contrast is suffering from challenging conditions. A number of high profile high street retailers including Peacocks (headquartered in Cardiff), Game, La Senza, Blacks and Clintons Cards have gone into administration. In February 2012, research undertaken for Retail Week indicated that high street vacancy rates had reached 14.6% nationally.
- 3.18 In terms of the B1, B2 and B8 market, research undertaken by the District Valuer for the Council, during 2011/12 indicates that the market remains problematic. Whilst quoted headline rents for B1 office space might appear stable, many landlords have offered more and more generous inducements to tenants, which have obscured the overall market drop in rents making speculative office developments less attractive to investors. B2 and B8 markets have been similarly affected. As with the housing market nationally, investment in the commercial B1, B2 and B8 markets remains very selective with developers favouring opportunities in primary areas over more risky secondary areas.
- 3.19 The impact of the global economic recession on the housing and commercial markets, are matter that can only be comprehensively addressed by Central Government. Whilst, a prolonged reduction in new investment in the housing and commercial markets will inevitably have an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the LDP the Council does not consider it necessary to amend or review the LDP at this time. The Council will however, keep the matter under review.

C. The Local Development Context

- 3.20 In order to properly understand the local context for the LDP, it is necessary to consider a range of factors which effect implementation. These factors include changes to the local policy framework, local economic conditions (in particular the operations of the housing and commercial markets) and the investment strategies of major public and private sector organisations.

Local Policy Framework

3.21 There have been no significant changes in the local policy context between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012. The following document was however added to the LDP evidence base:-

Rhondda Cynon Taf Joint Housing Land Availability Study 2011 (March 2012)

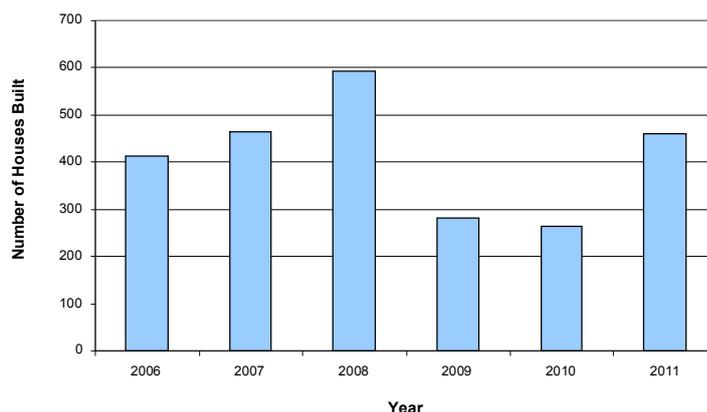
3.22 The Joint Housing Land Availability Study (JHLA) 2011 provides detailed information on the housing land supply in Rhondda Cynon Taf. The findings of the study indicate that there is a 5.3 year housing land supply in the County Borough. The housing land supply in Rhondda Cynon Taf accords with the requirements outlined in Technical Advice Note 1, there is therefore, no need to amend or review the LDP at this time.

Local Economic Conditions

3.23 There are two sectors of the economy in Rhondda Cynon Taf that are particularly relevant to the successful implementation of the LDP. These are the operations of the housing market and commercial market.

3.24 Statistics in relation to house building and prices in Rhondda Cynon Taf during 2011-12 suggest that the housing market in the County Borough is beginning to show signs of recovery. The JHLA (2011) shows that 467 new houses were built in the County Borough; this represents an increase of 78% on the figure for 2010 and 63% on figures for 2009.

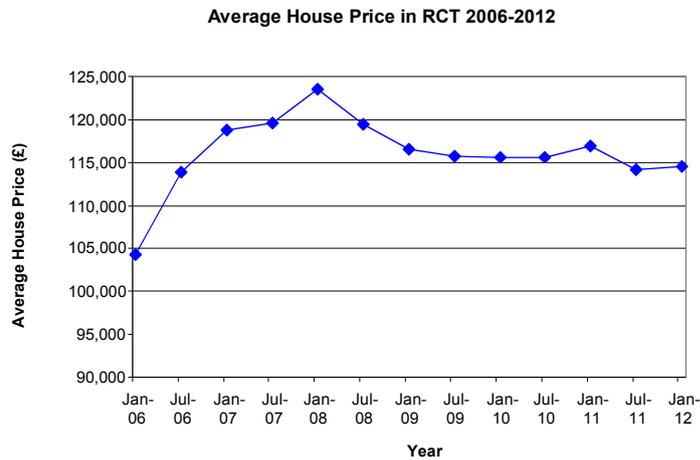
Figure 3: House Building Rates 2006 -2011



Source: RCT JHLA

3.25 For the period up to March 2012 the average house price in Rhondda Cynon Taf increased by 0.25 to £114,504.

Figure 4: Average House Prices in Rhondda Cynon Taf

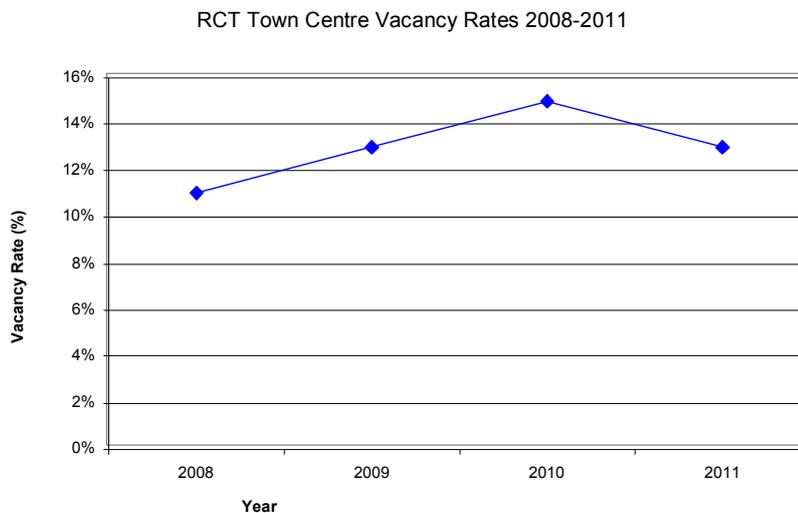


Source: Homestep

3.26 During 2011-12 the commercial market in Rhondda Cynon has experienced difficult economic conditions. The closure of high profile companies such as Peacocks and Clinton Cards added to the loss of companies such as Staedtler and Burberry over recent years have resulted in significant of job losses.

3.27 However, there have been clear signs that the economy in Rhondda Cynon Taf is beginning to improve. As figure 7 illustrates economic activity in town centres has increased, with vacancy rates falling significantly.

Figure 5: Vacancy Rates in Town Centres



Source: RCTCBC 2012

- 3.28 Proposals for a number of new commercial developments in the County Borough will result in the creation of a significant number of jobs in the local economy. These proposals include the development of a new head office at Llantrisant for Guardian Wealth Management which will create more than 100 jobs; the creation of up to 250 jobs with the opening of a new £7m renewable energy training centre for SWALEC in Treforest; the development of a new supermarket by Sainsbury's in Pontypridd which will create up to 350 new jobs; and a £30m investment in the reopening of mining operations at the Tower Colliery site at Hirwaun which will result in the creation of another 200 new jobs.
- 3.29 The impact of the global economic recession on the economy of Rhondda Cynon Taf is a matter of particular concern to the Council. A prolonged reduction in new investment in the housing and commercial markets will inevitably have an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the LDP. Evidence suggests however, that during 2011-12 both the housing and commercial markets in the County Borough experienced moderate growth. The Council considers that the LDP provides a land use framework that will assist in the recovery of the local economy and therefore does not propose to amend or review the LDP at this time.

Public and Private Sector Investment

- 3.30 There were no significant changes in the investment strategy of major public sector organisations during 2011-12. Public sector funding in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the last year has principally come from the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government has provided funding for a variety of projects through the Heads of the Valley Programme, investment in sustainable transport schemes, supported a grant programme for business, as a landowner has facilitated inward investment opportunities, invested in major town centre regeneration schemes in Pontypridd, Aberdare and Ferndale and supported the delivery of new affordable housing through the provision of social housing grant.
- 3.31 The successful implementation of the LDP is not wholly dependent on the availability of funding from the public sector. A reduction in funding will inevitably have an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the Plan. Whilst there is no need to amend or review the LDP at this time, the Council will keep the matter under review.
- 3.32 The continued development of new housing and commercial development in Rhondda Cynon Taf suggests that the private sector considers the County Borough to be a safe area for investment. The increase in development activity by the private sector is encouraging and provides a positive context for the implementation of proposals contained in the LDP. The Council is however, mindful that the recovery is fragile and will continue to monitor the delivery of major proposals.

4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN MONITORING

4.1 The AMR is the first to be prepared since the adoption of the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP and therefore provides an important opportunity for the Council to assess the impact the LDP is having on the social, economic and environmental well being of the County Borough. The following section will provide analysis of the results of the LDP monitoring process undertaken during 2011-12. In doing so this section will outline the results of monitoring exercise in respect of each of the core and local indicators, assess the performance of the each core policy in delivering its stated targets and consider the effectiveness of the Plans core strategy.

Core and Local Output Indicator Monitoring

4.2 Results of the core and local output monitoring exercise for 2011-12, provide an interesting and varied picture of development in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Some of the most notable results indicate that:

- 467 new dwellings were built in the County Borough at an average density of 32 dph;
- The average house price is now £114,504;
- No new employment led development took place;
- 7,320sqm of new retail floorspace was constructed within Pontypridd Town Centre;
- 42 mw of new renewable energy capacity was permitted in the County Borough; and
- 3 major town centre schemes were being implemented during 2011-12.

4.3 The results of the monitoring exercise are contained in Appendix 3.

Core Policy Monitoring

4.4 Detailed consideration of the results of the monitoring exercise has allowed the Council to make an informed judgement about the nature of the progress that has been made during 2011-12 in delivering the LDP targets. Analysis in respect of each core policy is contained in Appendix A.

4.5 A summary of the delivery of each of the Monitoring Targets is contained in Tables 1 below:

Table 1: LDP Core Policies Monitoring Summary Table

LDP CORE POLICIES		
Core Policy		Result
CS 1	Development in the North	
CS 2	Development in the South	
CS 3	Strategic Sites	
CS 4	Housing Requirements	
CS 5	Affordable Housing	
CS 6	Employment Requirements	
CS 7	Retail	
CS 8	Transportation	
CS 9	Waste Management	
CS 10	Minerals	

Overview of Monitoring Results

- 4.6 The LDP sets out an ambitious programme for sustainable economic growth and regeneration in Rhondda Cynon Taf. The approach taken looks even more ambitious when set against a backdrop of a global economic recession. Inevitably the results of the monitoring exercise indicate some areas for concern. These relate principally to Policy CS 4 and in particular the scale of new house building in the County Borough; Policy CS 5 in relation to the quantum of affordable housing being delivered to meet the defined need in Rhondda Cynon Taf, and Policy CS 6 which seeks the provision of new employment led investment in the areas.
- 4.7 The areas for concern are however counter balanced by areas where progress has been made in the delivery targets. These include the development of 7,230sqm of new retail floor space with a planning application submitted for the development of a further 40,000m² of retail floorspace (Policy CS 7); the submission of planning applications for development on 4 of the 8 Strategic Site (Policies CS 3.5, 3.6 3.7 and 3.9) and pre application discussions taking place in respect of a further 2 Strategic Sites (Policy CS 3.3 and 3.4); the implementation of 5 transportation schemes (Policy CS 8) and the granting of planning permission for 15 allocated sites (Policy CS 4). Details of the allocated sites with planning permission are contained in Appendix 4.
- 4.8 Whilst the pattern of growth in some parts of the County Borough is slower than wished, the Council believes that the development that has taken place

since adoption, coupled with the projected future investment from the public and private sector will ensure that the core strategy is successfully delivered.

5 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MONITORING

5.1 The SA of the LDP identifies 22 targets and 25 significant effects indicators which are intended to measure the social, economic and environmental of impact of the LDP. The monitoring requirement of the Habitats Regulations Assessment is also being undertaken as part of the SA process.

5.2 A key issue in determining the Plan's sustainability progress is in ensuring the proposed indicators are providing the necessary information to allow prediction of the effects of the plan. The monitoring process found that there is opportunity to improve the SA monitoring to ensure that appropriate data was collected. A number of recommendations have therefore been made to improve the indicator set for future monitoring. Analysis in respect of each of the Targets and Indicators is contained in Appendix 6.

5.3 A summary of the findings of the SA Monitoring Process is outlined in Table 2 below:

Table 2: SA Monitoring Summary Table

SA MONITORING INICATORS		
Indicator		Result
SA 1	Housing	Yellow
SA 2	Culture and Heritage	Yellow and Green
SA 3	Communities	Green and Yellow
SA 4	Health	Green
SA 5	Economy	White
SA 6	Employment	Green
SA 7	Transport	Green
SA 8	Built Environment	Green
SA 9	Landscape	White
SA 10	Biodiversity	White
SA 11	Water	Yellow
SA 12	Climate Change	Green
SA 13	Energy	Green
SA 14	Land and Soils	Green
SA 15	Waste	Green
SA 16	Minerals	White
SA 17	Air Quality	Yellow

Overview of Results

- 5.4 Whilst the plan is still in the early stages of implementation, it is possible to make some broad predictions regarding how the plan is progressing in terms of sustainability. Overall, the plan is travelling in a positive direction for some aspects of sustainability; particularly for employment, health, built environment, climate change, energy, land and soils and waste. However in other areas (affordable housing, education, air quality and water) the indicators suggest that further consideration may need to be given to how these targets can be achieved. There remains some uncertainty for some SA objectives until new indicators are agreed.

6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The LDP AMR (2012) is the first monitoring report to be prepared since the adoption of the Plan in March 2011. The findings of the AMR provide an important opportunity for the Council to assess the effectiveness of the LDP and to determine whether or not the Plan needs to be subject to amendment or review.
- 6.2 The monitoring framework for the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP requires detailed consideration of 5 factors as part of the assessment process. In addition to this framework, LDP Wales (2005) also asks a number of monitoring questions that need to be addressed in the AMR. Whilst all of the issues are addressed in the AMR, in order to meet the specific requirements of the monitoring process it is necessary to answer each of the monitoring questions.
- 6.3 The following section therefore provides a summary of findings of the monitoring process and specifically addresses the requirements of the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP and LDP Wales monitoring frameworks.

Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP Monitoring Framework

- 6.4 Responses to each of the assessment factors identified in the LDP are outlined below:
- 1) ***Has there been a significant change in national policy or legislation?***
- 6.5 There were no significant changes in national policy or legislation during 2011-12 that directly affect the effectiveness or implementation of the LDP.
- 2) ***Has there been a significant change in external conditions?***
- 6.6 Section 3 of the AMR outlines in detail the challenging economic conditions in which the LDP is being implemented. Whilst, a prolonged reduction in new investment in the housing and commercial markets will inevitably have an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the LDP, the Council recognises that the underlying economic factors can only be addressed comprehensively by Central Government. The Council believes once the economy starts to improve the LDP will provide a robust platform for the delivery of new housing and commercial development.
- 3) ***Has there been a significant change in local context e.g. closure of a significant employment site that undermines the local economy or the cumulative effect of a series of closures?***
- 6.7 The impact of the global economic recession on the economy of Rhondda Cynon Taf is matter of particular concern to the Council. As Section 3 evidences,

there has been a reduction in development activity in both the housing and commercial sectors in Rhondda Cynon Taf during 2008-10. Encouragingly, the results of the 2011-12 monitoring exercise show moderate growth in both of these sectors. The Council considers that the LDP provides an effective land use framework that will assist in the recovery of the local economy.

4) *Has there been a significant change in development pressures or needs and investment strategies of major public and private investors?*

6.8 Research contained in Section 3 suggests that the investment strategies for both the public and private sector continue to include funding development activities in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Investment from the public sector in 2011-12 included funding for a variety of projects through the Heads of the Valley Programme, supported for a range grant programmes and funding for town centre regeneration schemes in Pontypridd, Aberdare and Ferndale. Whilst private sector investment in 2011-12, has resulted in proposals for the development of 467 new dwellings and 7320m² of new commercial floorspace.

5) *Are there any significant concerns from the findings of the AMR in terms of policy effectiveness, site delivery, progress rates, and any problems with implementation?*

6.9 The results of the LDP monitoring exercise are set out in Section 4. The findings of the monitoring process indicate that LDP targets in relation to Policies CS 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are on going, being met or exceeded and only 3 targets in relation to Policies CS 4, 5 and 6 not currently being achieved. In the case of Policies CS 4, 5 and 6 the Council is satisfied that the situation can be ameliorated without immediate intervention.

6.10 The findings of the SA monitoring exercise are outlined in Section 5 of the AMR. The results indicate that overall, the plan is travelling in a positive direction for some aspects of sustainability; particularly for employment, health, built environment, climate change, energy, land and soils and waste. However in other areas (affordable housing, education, air quality and water) the indicators suggest that further consideration may need to be given to how these targets can be achieved. There remains some uncertainty for some SA objectives until new indicators are agreed.

LDP Wales (2005) Monitoring Framework

6.11 Responses to each of the assessment factors identified in the LDP Wales are outlined below:

1) *Does the basic strategy remains sound (if not, a full plan review may be needed)?*

6.12 In the Council's opinion the evidence collected as part of the annual monitoring process for 2011-12 indicates clearly the LDP is sound, effective and being delivered. Whilst the impact of the global economic recession has meant that development in some areas is slower than envisaged, it is clear that the LDP will provide a robust platform for sustainable economic growth and regeneration over the plan period.

2) What impact are the policies are having globally, nationally, regionally and locally?

6.13 As outlined previously the results of the SA monitoring exercise indicate that the LDP is travelling in a positive direction for some aspects of sustainability; particularly for employment, health, built environment, climate change, energy, land and soils and waste.

3) Do the policies need changing to reflect changes in national policy?

6.14 As Section 3.1 indicates there were no significant changes in national policy or legislation during 2011-12 that directly affect the effectiveness or implementation of the LDP.

4) Are policies and related targets in LDPs being met or progress is being made towards meeting them, including publication of relevant supplementary planning guidance (SPG)?

6.15 The findings of the LDP and SA monitoring exercise are outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of the AMR.

6.16 The results of the LDP monitoring exercise indicate that good progress is being made in the delivery of all of the LDP targets. Whilst some concern has been expressed about the slow delivery of some aspects of the Plan, particularly in relation to house building, the provision of affordable housing and the development of land for employment purposes, the Council remains confident that monitoring targets can be achieved without intervention.

6.17 The findings of the SA monitoring exercise indicate that overall, the plan is travelling in a positive direction for some aspects of sustainability; particularly for employment, health, built environment, climate change, energy, land and soils and waste. However in other areas (affordable housing, education, air quality and water) the indicators suggest that further consideration may need to be given to how these targets can be achieved. There remains some uncertainty for some SA objectives until new indicators are agreed.

5) Where progress has not been made, what are the reasons for this and what knock on effects it may have?

6.18 The primary reason for the slow delivery of some aspects of the LDP is directly attributable to the impact of the global economic recession on the

operations of the housing and commercial markets. Whilst, a prolonged reduction in new investment in the housing and commercial development will inevitably have an adverse impact on the delivery of some elements of the LDP, the Council does not consider it necessary to amend or review the LDP at this time.

6) *What aspects, if any, of the LDP need adjusting or replacing because they are not working as intended or are not achieving the objectives of the strategy and/or sustainable development objectives; and*

6.19 Other than minor changes to the SA monitoring process, the Council does not consider that any aspects of the plan need adjusting or replacing at this time.

7) *If policies or proposals need changing, what suggested actions are required to achieve this?*

6.20 The Council does not consider that any policies or proposals need changing at this time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6.21 In the Council's opinion there no evidence to suggest there is a need for a full or partial review of the LDP at this time. Whilst the pattern of growth in some areas is slower than wished, evidence collected through the monitoring process clearly suggests that good progress is being made in the delivery of the majority of LDP targets. The Council believes that the development that has taken place in Rhondda Cynon Taf since the adoption, coupled with the projected future investment from the public and private sector will ensure the that LDP core strategy is successfully delivered.

6.22 In order to ensure the robustness of the LDP, the amendments suggested to the LDP local indicators and SA indicators will be implemented as part of the next AMR.

COMPLIANCE

6.23 The review found that the work undertaken to date on the Rhondda Cynon Taf AMR meets the requirements of the SEA Directive and current guidance. It also provides a foundation for assessing the effectiveness of the LDP in delivering sustainable development in the County Borough.

6.24 Details of the compliance assessment are contained in Appendix 7.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - LDP Targets, Core Output and Local Output Indicators

<i>Local Development Plan Targets</i>
CS 1 - Development in the North
To build strong and sustainable communities in the Northern Strategy Area
CS 2 – Development in the South
To ensure sustainable growth in the Southern Strategy Area that benefits Rhondda Cynon Taf as a whole over the plan period
CS 3.1 - Former Maerdy Colliery Site, Maerdy
The construction of 1 ha of B1 and or B2 of employment land, a visitor centre and area of informal recreation
CS 3.2 – Former Fernhill Colliery, Blaenrhondda
The construction of between 350 – 400 dwellings, a local retail centre and an area of informal recreation
CS 3.3 – Former Phurnacite Plant, Abercwmboi
The construction of 500 dwellings, 5.9 hectares of employment land, a new primary school and an area of formal / informal recreation
CS 3.4 – Land at Robertstown / Abernant
The construction of between 500 – 600 dwellings, 3.7 hectares of employment / leisure, a new primary school, medical centre and area of informal recreation
CS 3.5 – Land South of Hirwaun
The construction of 400 dwellings, 36 hectares of employment, a new primary school, 2000sqm of retail store, medical / community centre and area of informal recreation
CS 3.6 – Former Cwm Colliery and Coking Works, Ty Nant
The construction of between 800 – 950 dwellings, 1.9 hectares of employment, a new primary school and an area of informal recreation

Local Development Plan Targets
CS 3.7 – Land at Mwyndy / Talbot Green
The construction of 500 dwellings, 15 hectares of employment, 23,400sqm new retail floorspace, 10,000sqm of leisure floorspace, a new primary school, library / community centre and area of informal recreation
CS 3.8 – Former OCC Site Llanilid
The construction of 1950 – 2100 dwellings, 2500sqm retail floorspace, a medical centre, library / community facility, a new primary school and associated public open space
CS 4 – Housing Requirements
Construct 14,385 new dwellings in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the Plan period
CS 5 – Affordable Housing
Provide 1770 affordable homes in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the plan period
CS 6 – Employment Requirement
Development of 51 hectares of land for strategic employment and 47 hectares for local employment purposes
CS 7 – Retail Development
Improve viability and vitality of the 8 key settlements and 3 Principal Towns in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the plan period
Development of between 34,400 – 36,400sqm of new retail floorspace throughout the County Borough over the plan period
CS 8 – Transportation
Promote more sustainable forms of transportation throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf
Reduce the need to travel through the development of new services in accessible locations throughout the plan period.
CS 9 – Waste Management
To develop between 12.5 and 21.7 hectares to meet capacity requirements for waste management over the plan period
CS 10 – Minerals
To maintain a 10 year land bank of permitted aggregates reserves

<i>Core Indicators</i>	
CI 1	The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study per annum
CI 2	Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built in the Plan area per annum
CI 3	Net employment land supply/development per annum
CI 4	Amount of development, including housing, permitted on allocated sites in the development plan as a % of development plan allocations and as % of total development permitted (ha and units)
CI 5	Average density of housing development permitted on allocated development plan sites
CI 6	Amount of new development (ha) permitted on previously developed land expressed as a % of all development permitted per annum
CI 7	Amount of major retail, office and leisure development (sq m) permitted in town centres expressed as a % of all major development permitted
CI 8	Amount of development (by TAN 15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in CI and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all Tan 15 tests (paragraph 6.2 i-v)
CI 9	Amount of greenfield and open space lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the development plan
CI 10	Amount of waste management capacity permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the Regional Waste Plan (TAN 21) per annum
CI 11	The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted in accordance with the Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates expressed as a % of the total capacity required as identified in the Regional Technical Statement (MTAN)
CI 12	The capacity of Renewable Energy developments (MW) installed inside Strategic Search Areas by type per annum

<i>Local Indicators</i>	
LI 1	Number of dwellings permitted annually outside the defined settlement boundaries
LI 2	Number of affordable dwellings provided annually on rural exception sites throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf
LI 3	Average house price in Rhondda Cynon Taf per annum
LI 4	Amount of affordable housing provided by Social Housing Grant per annum
LI 5	% of employment land lost to alternative uses per annum
LI 6	Total convenience/comparison retail floorspace developed per annum
LI 7	Annual vacancy rates for each Principal Town and Key Settlement
LI 8	Number of applications approved per annum for non-retail use in primary and secondary shopping frontages
LI 9	Number of highway, roads, public transport and walking and cycling schemes implemented per annum
LI 10	Proportion of new housing, employment and retail development accessible by a range of transport modes per annum
LI 11	The amount of SINC lost to development and the number of mitigation schemes secured annually
LI 12	Annual recycling / recovery / composting rates
LI 13	Amount of mineral deposits sterilised by new development annually
LI 14	Pre-application discussions and masterplanning exercises undertaken with developers in relation to the development of strategic sites
LI 15	Planning permission granted for strategic sites
LI 16	Annual rate of residential and/or commercial development on strategic sites
LI 17	Annual provision of local centres, primary schools, open space and biodiversity management schemes on strategic sites
LI 18	Annual provision of highway and utility infrastructure on strategic sites
LI 19	Implementation of Regeneration Strategies during 2010-2021

Appendix 2 - SA Targets and Indicators

SA Target	SA Indicator
1. Housing	
Reduce discrepancies between requirement and availability of affordable and special needs housing stock.	Number of new affordable housing units provided during the year as a percentage of all housing units provided during the year.
2. Culture and Heritage	
Reduce number of buildings on at risk register (year on year) Maintain/ protect locally designated sites of cultural value and areas of high archaeological value	Buildings at Risk (absolute number) Number of Designated Sites with Management Plans
3. Communities	
Improve access to public transport and community facilities for all Increase % of people with qualifications and improve skills	Percentage of total population with access to services Number of enrolments on adult education courses per 1000 population % of 15/16 year olds achieving the 'core subject indicator' (grade C in GCSE English or Welsh and Science in combination)
4. Health	
Increase access to recreation and sports facilities & the countryside	Number of visits to indoor and outdoor sports and recreational facilities per 1000 population
5. Economy	
Broaden the Economic base by creating more varied and stronger businesses	Economic activity by sector
6. Employment	
Increase opportunities to work within the district.	[%] increase in local job growth by sector/ reduction in numbers of economically inactive [%] of resident working age population employed

SA Target	SA Indicator
7. Transport	
All new developments located to support and encourage sustainable travel choices	% [or absolute number of] developments that deliver sustainable transport solutions
8. Built Environment	
Promote improved design standards and encourage community participation in the planning process	% (or number of) new developments and buildings meeting BREEAM and/or Code for Sustainable Homes Standards
9. Landscape	
Achieve favourable conditions of nationally and locally important landscape designations	% designations reporting favourable condition status
10. Biodiversity	
Protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity of the area.	% change in RCT BAP priority habitats and species
11. Water	
Promote sustainable water resource management Reduce Flood risk to people, property and maintain integrity of the floodplain and avoid development in flood risk areas.	% [or number of as proportion of total] of new development with integrated sustainable drainage systems Amount of new development in C1 and C2 as a proportion of the total development allowed contrary to TAN 15
12. Climate Change	
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	% change in carbon dioxide emissions in the housing stock
13. Energy	
Improve energy efficiency and maximise the use of renewable energy Encourage energy efficient design in development	% reduction in energy use in housing stock % [or number of as proportion of total] new developments and buildings meeting BREEAM and/or Code for Sustainable Homes Standards

SA Target	SA Indicator
14. Land and Soils	
Increase proportion of development on previously developed land	The number of new housing units provided during the year on previously developed land as a percentage of all new housing units provided during the year.
15. Waste	
Reduce tonnage of waste to landfill Move Waste up the Waste Hierarchy	% of municipal wastes sent to landfill % of municipal waste reused and/or recycled
16. Minerals	
Increase % of secondary and recycled aggregate sources in all developments	% use of aggregates from secondary and recycled sources in major developments
17. Air Quality	
Maintain and improve air quality	% decrease in pollutants monitored through Air Quality Management Area (NO _x , NO ₂ , PM ₁₀)

Appendix 3 Results of Core and Local Output Monitoring

<i>Core Output Indicators</i>		<i>Monitoring Results</i>
CI 1	The housing land supply taken from the current Housing Land Availability Study per annum	The Joint Housing Land Availability Study (2011) indicates that the Council has a 5.3yr housing land supply
CI 2	Number of net additional affordable and general market dwellings built in the Plan area per annum	The JHLA (2011) indicates that 389 general market and 78 affordable dwellings were built during 2011-12
CI 3	Net employment land supply/development per annum	The LDP employment land supply is 98 hectares of which 0 hectares were developed during 2011-12
CI 4	Amount of development, including housing, permitted on allocated sites in the development plan as a % of development plan allocations and as % of total development permitted (ha and units)	Development permitted on all allocated sites is 0.9% of all development plan allocations (10.98ha / 1183ha). Development permitted on allocated sites is 2.9% of all permitted (10.98ha / 366ha);
CI 5	Average density of housing development permitted on allocated development plan sites	The average density of housing development permitted on allocated sites is 31.8 dph.
CI 6	Amount of new development (ha) permitted on previously developed land expressed as a % of all development permitted per annum	14.5% of all development permitted during 2011-12 was on previously developed land.
CI 7	Amount of major retail, office and leisure development (sq m) permitted in town centres expressed as a % of all major development permitted	0.2% of major retail, office and leisure development was permitted in town centres during 2011-12;
CI 8	Amount of development (by TAN 15 paragraph 5.1 development category) permitted in C1 and C2 floodplain areas not meeting all Tan 15 tests (paragraph 6.2 i-v)	During 2011-12, no development was permitted within the C1 flood risk area or C2 flood risk area which did not meet all the requirements of TAN 15.
CI 9	Amount of greenfield and open space lost to development (ha) which is not allocated in the development plan	During 2011-12, planning permission was granted for the development of 37 hectares of greenfield land and 0.7 hectares of open space.

CI 10	Amount of waste management capacity permitted expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required, as identified in the Regional Waste Plan (TAN 21) per annum	9.04% of a total waste management capacity of 12.5ha or 5.2% of a total waste management capacity of 21.7ha was permitted during 2011-12
CI 11	The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted in accordance with the Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates expressed as a % of the total capacity required as identified in the Regional Technical Statement (MTAN)	Using apportionment method A in the Regional Technical Statement (RTS), the 2011-12 aggregate permissions for 3,463,580 tonnes would constitute a 32.99 percentage of the identified 10.5 million tonnes required capacity of supply of aggregate. Apportionment method B of the RTS, the 2011-12 aggregate permissions for 3,463,580 tonnes would constitute a 27.06 percentage of the identified 12.8 million tonnes required capacity of supply of aggregate.
CI 12	The capacity of Renewable Energy developments (MW) installed inside Strategic Search Areas by type per annum	Planning permission for 42MW of renewable energy capacity has been granted in Strategic Search Area F during 2011 -12. No new renewable energy capacity was installed.

<i>Local Output Indicators</i>		<i>Monitoring Results</i>
LI 1	Number of dwellings permitted annually outside the defined settlement boundaries	13 dwellings were permitted outside the defined settlement boundaries during 2011-12. Of which 7 accorded with the requirements of the LDP or PPW.
LI 2	Number of affordable dwellings provided annually on rural exception sites throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf	No affordable dwellings were permitted on rural exception sites in Rhondda Cynon Taf during 2011-12
LI 3	Average house price in Rhondda Cynon Taf per annum	The average house price in Rhondda Cynon Taf in March 2012 was £114,504.
LI 4	Amount of affordable housing provided by Social Housing Grant per annum	56 affordable houses were funded by Social Housing Grant during 2011-12
LI 5	% of employment land lost to	No employment land was lost to

	alternative uses per annum	alternative uses during 2011-12
LI 6	Total convenience/comparison retail floorspace developed per annum	4130 sqm of convenience and 3100 sqm of comparison floorspace were developed during 2011-12
LI 7	Annual vacancy rates for each Principal Town and Key Settlement	Annual vacancy rates for each of the principal towns and key settlements during 2011 -12 is as follows; Aberdare 13.2%;Pontypridd 6.7%;Llantrisant / Talbot Green 1%; Ferndale 13%; Hirwaun 5%; Llanharan; Mountain Ash 19.3%; Porth 15.1%; Tonypany 18.2%; Tonyrefail 9.2%, and Treorchy 3.4%;
LI 8	Number of applications approved per annum for non-retail use in primary and secondary shopping frontages	No applications were approved during 2011-12 for non-retail uses in primary shopping frontages
LI 9	Number of highway, roads, public transport and walking and cycling schemes implemented per annum	5 highways, roads, public transport, walking and cycling schemes were implemented during 2012.
LI 10	Proportion of new housing, employment and retail development accessible by a range of transport modes per annum	97.7% of all new housing permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode; 99.7 % of all new employment permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode, and 100% of all retail permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport modes.
LI 11	The amount of SINC lost to development and the number of mitigation schemes secured annually	148 hectares of SINC have been lost to development during 2011-12. A total of 9 mitigation schemes were agreed during 2011-12. Amended Indicator: In order to improve the clarity of the local indicator it is proposed to amend LI 11 to read as follows: The number of SINC affected by development and the number of mitigation schemes secured annually
LI 12	Annual recycling / recovery / composting rates	The recycling / reuse / composting rates for 2011-12 were as follows recycling 30.7%; reuse 0.28% and composting

		10.4%.
LI 13	Amount of mineral deposits sterilised by new development annually	The amount of mineral deposits sterilised by new development during 2011-12 was as follows Sandstone 167.84 hectares; Sand and Gravel 0 hectares; Limestone 16.62 hectares and Coal 7.29 hectares.
LI 14	Pre-application discussions and masterplanning exercises undertaken with developers in relation to the development of strategic sites	Pre-application discussions and /or masterplanning exercises were in respect of the Former Phurnacite Plant, Robertstown / Abernant, and Land South of Hirwaun Strategic Sites during 2011-12: No discussions took place in respect of the Former Maerdy Colliery or Former Fernhill Colliery Sites.
LI 15	Planning permission granted for strategic sites	Planning permission has not been granted for development on a Strategic Site since the LDP was adopted.
LI 16	Annual rate of residential and/or commercial development on strategic sites	No development has taken place on any strategic site during 2011-12
LI 17	Annual provision of local centres, primary schools, open space and biodiversity management schemes on strategic sites	No development has taken place on any strategic site during 2011-12
LI 18	Annual provision of highway and utility infrastructure on strategic sites	No development has taken place on any strategic site during 2011-12
LI 19	Implementation of Regeneration Strategies during 2010-2021	The Pontypridd, Aberdare and Ferndale Town Centre Regeneration Strategies were being implemented during 2011-12.

Appendix 4 – Results of LDP Core Policy Monitoring

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 1 - Development in the North	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 8	NSA 1 to NSA 27
MONITORING TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
To build strong and sustainable communities in the Northern Strategy Area over the Plan period	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: 40% of allocations	
	2021: 100% of allocations	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 2, CI 4, CI 5, CI 6, CI 8, CI 9, CI 12, LI 9, LI 11 and LI 19		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>A key element of the Rhondda Cynon Taf LDP core strategy is to build strong and sustainable communities in the Northern Strategy Area (NSA). In order to build strong and sustainable communities it will be necessary to halt the process of depopulation and decline and deliver beneficial, sustainable, development in northern Rhondda Cynon Taf. To fully understand the progress made in achieving this target it is necessary to consider the findings of the monitoring exercise in relation to the following interrelated factors:</p> <p>Housing – The JHLA (2011) indicates that 160 general market and 21 affordable homes were built in the NSA. This brings the total number of new dwellings constructed to 945 since 2006. The average density on housing sites in the NSA is 32.4dph, which accords with the requirements of the LDP. To date development has taken place on the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSA 9.4 - Site including the old brick works, old dairy and tipped land rear of Birchwood, Llwydcoed (part) • NSA 9.11 - Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash. • NSA 9.20 - Land at Dinas Road / Graig Ddu Road, Dinas. <p>18 allocated housing sites remain undeveloped.</p> <p>Economic Activity - There was no employment or retail led development in the NSA during 2011-12. The area has however, benefited from the recommencement of mining activities the Tower Colliery site at Hirwaun. Consent was granted for an open caste mining operation on a 253 hectare in July 2011.</p>		

Strategic Sites - Proposals for large scale residential and commercial development on Strategic Sites at Robertstown / Abernant, the Former Phurnacite Plant, Abercwmboi and a planning appraisal on Land South of Hirwaun are currently being discussed with the respective land owners. The Council is therefore confident these proposals will come forward by 2015.

Sustainable Transportation / Accessibility – During 2011-12 the following transportation schemes were implemented:

- NSA 21.3 - Expansion of existing park and ride facilities, Robertstown.
- NSA 23.3 - The Heads of the Valley Cycleway & links to Hirwaun Industrial Estate;

Regeneration – Two major town centre regeneration schemes were being implemented in the NSA during 2011-12. The Ferndale Regeneration programme will result in an investment of £3m in commercial property and public realm improvements in the town centre during 2010 - 15. The Aberdare Town Centre Regeneration programme will provide £8m investment in townscape heritage initiatives and townscape enhancements in Aberdare over the period 2009-15.

Sustainable Development - The overall figure for the construction on previously developed land in Rhondda Cynon Taf is 14.5% of all development permitted during 2011-12. In the NSA the figure is only 9.5% of all development is on previously developed land. The figure is reduced because of the development of 253 hectares of greenfield land at Tower Colliery. In total 152 hectares of SINC have been lost to development in the NSA during 2011-12. In order to compensate 5 mitigation schemes were agreed. Both the low development rate on previously developed land and the change in the profile of SINC in the NSA are attributable primarily to the open cast development at Town Colliery. In order to meet the renewable energy generating capacity requirements consent was granted for 8 wind turbines totalling 24MW at Maerdy.

The monitoring targets for Policy CS1 require 40% of the LDPs allocations in the NSA to be subject to planning consent or implemented by 2015 and 100% be subject to planning consent or implemented of allocations by 2021. To date 5 have been subject to planning consent or implemented. The Council recognises that the delivery of new development in the NSA in challenging economic conditions is going to be slower than in the South of the County Borough. However, the Council believes that the significant investment from both the public and private sector which has taken place in the NSA since 2006 will lay the foundations for future growth and ensure the monitoring targets are achieved.

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 2 - Development in the South	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 8	SSA 1 to SSA 27
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
To ensure sustainable growth in the Southern Strategy Area that benefits Rhondda Cynon Taf as a whole over the Plan period	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: 40% of allocations	
	2021: 100% of allocations	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 2, CI 4, CI 5, CI 6, CI 8, CI 9, CI 12, LI 9, LI 11 and LI 19		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>The objective in the Southern Strategy Area (SSA) is to ensure sustainable growth take place in a manner that benefits Rhondda Cynon Taf. In order to deliver sustainable growth it is necessary to manage residential and commercial growth in the SSA in a manner that balances the economic potential of the area within its environmental capacity. To fully understand the progress made in achieving this target it is necessary to consider the findings of the monitoring exercise in relation to the following interrelated factors:</p> <p>Housing – The JHLA (2011) shows that 224 general market and 57 affordable homes were built in the SSA. This brings the total number of new dwellings constructed to 1,273 since 2006. The average density on housing sites in the SSA is 31dph, which is slightly below the level required by the LDP. To date development has taken place on the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSA 9 Former OCC Site, Llanilid (part) • SSA 10 3 - Collenna Farm, Tonyrefail. • SSA 10.12 - Land east of Dolau County Primary School, Bridgend Road, Bryncae • SSA 10.13 - West of Llechau, Llanharry. • SSA 10.16 - The Link Site, Pen-yr-Eglwys, Church Village <p>13 housing allocations remain undeveloped.</p> <p>Economic Activity – Whilst there was no employment led development in the SSA during 2011-12, planning permission was implemented for the construction of a 7320 m² food store on the former Brown Lenox site, Pontypridd.</p>		

Strategic Sites – Planning applications for the development of large scale residential and commercial development on Strategic Sites at Former Cwm Coking Works and Colliery, Mwyndy /Talbot Green and Former OCC Site Llanilid have been submitted. In November 2011 the Council resolved to grant planning permission for Former OCC Site Llanilid subject to a S106. Decisions in respect of the Former Cwm Coking Works and Colliery and Mwyndy /Talbot Green are expected during the course of 2012-13.

Sustainable Transportation / Accessibility – During 2011-12 the following transportation schemes were implemented:

- SSA 21.1 - Treforest Connect 2
- SSA 21.2 - Extension of Connect 2 scheme to Pontypridd, and
- SSA 21.6 - Pontypridd to Tonyrefail via Llantrisant

Regeneration – The Pontypridd Town Centre regeneration schemes was being implemented in the SSA during 2011-12. The regeneration programme will result in an investment of £14m in commercial property and public realm improvements in the town centre during 2010 -15.

Sustainable Development - The overall figure for the construction on previously developed land in Rhondda Cynon Taf is 14.5% of all development permitted during 2011-12. In the SSA the figure is 42%. In total 1.9 hectares of SINC have been lost to development in the SSA during 2011-12. In order to compensate 2 mitigation schemes were agreed.

In order to meet the renewable energy generating capacity requirements consent was granted for 7 turbines providing 18mw of energy at Fforch Nest wind farm.

As with Policy CS 1 the monitoring targets for Policy CS2 require 40% of the LDPs allocations in the SSA to be subject to planning consent or implemented by 2015 and 100% be subject to planning consent or implemented of allocations by 2021. To date 8 have been subject to planning consent or implemented and discussions are on going in respect of a further 11 allocations. These are positive results particularly given the challenging economic conditions. The Council is therefore confident that the monitoring target for CS 2 will be met.

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.1 – Former Maerdy Colliery	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	NSA 4
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of 1ha of B1 and/or B2 of employment land, visitors centre and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Submission of application	
	2021: Development Complete	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
Public funding is required to reclaim the Former Maerdy Colliery Site. Discussions have taken place between the Council and the Welsh Government about the availability of funding. No progress has been made on the project since the adoption of the LDP. The Council however, remains confident that the monitoring targets will be met.		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.2 – Former Fernhill Colliery	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	NSA 5
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of between 350-400 dwellings, a local retail centre and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Submission of application	
	2021: Development complete	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS RESULTS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:
No progress has been made on the project since the adoption of the LDP. The Council has had informal discussions with the Developer as part of the JHLA process. The Developer confirmed that is their intention to submit an application prior to 2015 and that development would take place during 2015. The Council is therefore, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.3 – Former Phurnacite Plant	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	NSA 6
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of 500 dwellings, 5.9 hectares of employment, a new primary school and area of formal/informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Submission of planning application	
	2021: Development complete	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
Pre application discussions have taken place between the Council and the Developers of the site, Coal Products Limited and the Welsh Government, during 2011-12. An initial masterplan and brief for the site has been produced. The Council is therefore, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.4 – Land at Robertstown / Abernant	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	NSA 7
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of between 500-600 dwellings, 3.7 hectares of employment/leisure, a new primary school, medical centre and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Planning permission / implementation of development	
	2021: Development completed	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>Pre application discussions are at an advanced stage with the owners of both the Robertstown and Abernant elements of the Strategic Site. Masterplanning exercises have been undertaken for both sites. The masterplan for the Abernant element of the site, which is based around Aberdare Hospital, was discussed with the Design Commission for Wales in August 2011. It is anticipated that planning applications for both elements of the Strategic Site will be submitted during 2012-13. The Council is therefore, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.</p>		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.5 – Land South of Hirwaun	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	NSA 8
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of 400 dwellings, 36 hectares of employment, a new primary school, 2000m ² retail floorspace, medical/community centre and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Planning permission / implementation of development	
	2021: Development complete	
PERFORMANCE:		

CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:
Pre application discussions have taken place between the Council and the Developers of the site during 2011-12. A planning application for the retail element of the site was submitted by the developer in March 2012. Discussions in respect of the application are currently on going. The Council is however, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.6 – Cwm Colliery and Coking Works	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	SSA 7
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of between 800-950 dwellings, 1.9 hectares of employment, a new primary school and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: Submission of planning application	
	2021: Development complete	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
A planning application for 850 dwellings was submitted by the owners of the site in October 2010. Discussions between the applicant and the Council about the exact nature and scale of the development are ongoing. The initial monitoring target has been met and the Council is confident that the final monitoring target will also be met.		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.7 – Mwyndy/Talbot Green Area	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	SSA 7
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of 500 dwellings, 15 hectares of employment, 23,400m ² new retail floorspace, 10,000m ² of leisure floorspace, a primary school, library/community facility and area of informal recreation	ADOPTION: Planning permission B1 & residential Development	
	2015: Submission of planning application and implementation of development	
	2021: Development completed	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
Detailed pre application discussions have taken place in respect of this site. A planning application for the development of a new town centre was submitted by the owners of the site in November 2011. Discussions between the applicant and the Council in respect of the applications are currently ongoing. Planning permission for the B1 employment and residential development, which now only form part of the larger proposal, expired in October 2011. The owners of the site have indicated that it is the intention to revisit these elements of the site in due course. The Council is therefore, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 3.8 – Former OCC Site Llanilid	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 10	SSA 9
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The construction of 1950-2100 dwellings, 2,500m ² retail floorspace, a medical centre, library/community facility, a new primary school and associated public open space	ADOPTION: 248 dwellings	
	2015: Planning permission granted and implementation of development	
	2021: Development complete	

PERFORMANCE:	
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:	
LI 14, LI 15, LI 16, LI 17 and LI 18	
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:	
<p>Detailed pre application discussions have taken place in respect of this site. An initial application for 248 dwellings was approved by the Council in June 2008. The consent is currently being implemented. A further planning application for 1850 dwellings was received by the Council in August 2010. The Council resolved to approve the application subject to a S106 agreement in November 2011. Negotiations in respect of the S106 agreement are on going. The Council is therefore, confident that the monitoring targets will be met.</p>	

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 4 – Housing Requirements	1& 9	CS 3, AW 1, NSA 5, NSA 7 – 9 & SSA 7 - 10
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
Land will be made available for the construction of 14,385 new dwellings over the Plan period	ADOPTION: 1751 Dwellings	
	2015: 8631 Dwellings	
	2021: 14385 Dwellings	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 1, CI 2, CI 4 , CI 6 and LI 1		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>Policy CS 4 requires the provision of land for the development of 14,385 new dwellings over the plan period. During 2011-12 467 new dwellings were constructed in Rhondda Cynon Taf. This takes the total number of new dwellings constructed in the County Borough since 2006 to 2218 dwellings. In addition to construction, planning permission was granted for 5210 dwellings including the development of the following allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSA 9.4 - Site including the old brick works, old dairy and tipped land rear of Birchwood, Llwydcoed (part), • NSA 9.11 - Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash, 		

- NSA 9.20 - Land at Dinas Road / Graig Ddu Road, Dinas,
- SSA 9 - Former OCC Site, Llanilid (part),
- SSA 10 3 - Collenna Farm, Tonyrefail,
- SSA 10.12 - Land east of Dolau County Primary School, Bridgend Road, Bryncae,
- SSA 10.13 - West of Llechau, Llanharry,
- SSA 10.16 - The Link Site, Pen-yr-Eglwys, Church Village.

Discussions are on going in respect of a further 9 allocated sites.

Although below the annual target figure, the construction rate represents an increase in building activity of 78% over the previous year. As Section 3 of the AMR explains, the impact of the economic recession has had a significant effect on the operations of the housing market both nationally and at a local level. The situation in Rhondda Cynon Taf mirrors that of many South East Wales authorities and the under performance of the housing market locally is attributable to economic conditions not the availability of land. Indeed, this is demonstrated by the results of the Joint Housing Land Availability Study (2011), which indicates that the Council has a 5.3 year supply of developable land. Sufficient land to build over 5,000 new dwellings.

Whilst the Council recognises that meeting the monitoring targets for the core policy will be challenging, it believes that the availability of developable land presents an opportunity to ameliorate the impact of the recession on Rhondda Cynon Taf's housing market. On balance, therefore the Council believes that that the monitoring targets can be met without intervention

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 5 – Affordable Housing	1, 6 & 10	AW 3, NSA 11 & SSA 12
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
To provide 1770 affordable homes in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the Plan period.	ADOPTION: 237 Dwellings	
	2015: 1062 Dwellings	
	2021: 1770 Dwellings	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 2, CI 4, LI 1, LI 2, LI 3 and LI 4		

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:
<p>Policy CS 5 seeks the provision of 1770 affordable homes over the LDP period. During 2011-12 77 new affordable homes were built in Rhondda Cynon Taf. Bringing the total number of homes built since 2006 to 314 dwellings. A further 503 affordable homes were secured through S106 negotiations but have yet to be constructed. The delivery of new affordable housing in Rhondda Cynon Taf is intrinsically linked to the development of new general market housing. The downturn in volume house building experienced nationally caused by the economic recession has resulted in a reduction of house building activity in the County Borough and therefore a reduction in the provision of affordable homes. As the economy recovers the Council is confident that opportunities to secure further affordable homes will increase. The Council therefore remains confident that the monitoring targets will be met without intervention</p>

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 6 – Employment Requirements	3	AW 11, NSA 14 – 16 & SSA 14
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
Development of 51 hectares for ‘strategic’ employment and 47 hectares for ‘local’ employment opportunities	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: 25ha ‘strategic’ employment / 23 ha for ‘local’ employment	
	2021: 51ha for ‘strategic employment’ / 47 ha for ‘local’ employment	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 3, CI 4, CI 6 and LI 5		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>Policy CS 6 the LDP allocates 51 hectares of land for strategic employment and 47 hectares for local employment purposes. No employment land was developed during 2011-12. As discussed in Section 3 of this report, the global economic recession has had an adverse impact on the market for new build employment related development. The Council believes that the sites allocated provide an excellent opportunity to secure investment in new employment related development when the commercial market recovers. Whilst the delivery of new employment land will be challenging the Council is confident that as the economy recovers opportunities to secure meaningful employment related inward investment will increase. The Council therefore remains confident that the monitoring targets will be met without intervention.</p>		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 7 - Retail Development	2 & 6	NSA 17 to SSA 15
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
<p>Improve viability and vitality of 8 Key Settlements and 3 Principal Towns in Rhondda Cynon Taf over the Plan period</p> <p>Development of between 34,400m²-36,400m² new retail floorspace throughout the County Borough over the Plan period</p>	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: 40% of allocations	
	2021: 100% of allocations	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 4, CI 6, CI 7, LI 6, LI 7 and LI 8		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>Retail activity in the principal towns and key settlements in Rhondda Cynon Taf has been significantly affected by the economic recession. At adoption, the vacancy rates in town centres were on average 16%. During 2011 -12 vacancy rates in the principal towns and key settlements reduced to 11%. Town centre vacancy rates in Rhondda Cynon Taf are below those being experienced nationally. The Council believes that the reduction in vacancy rates is positive and illustrates that there have been improvements in the vitality and viability in many town centres.</p> <p>The LDP allocates land for the development of between 34,400m² - 36,400m² new retail floorspace. Since the adoption of the Plan planning permission has been granted for 7320m² of new retail floor space at Pontypridd Retail Park (SSA 15.1). In addition a planning application has been submitted for nearly 40,000sqm of new retail floor space on the strategic site at Mwyndy / Talbot Green (SSA 8). The Council is therefore confident that the monitoring targets will be met.</p>		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 8 - Transportation	6 & 8	NSA 20 to NSA 23 & SSA 18 to SSA 21
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
Promote more sustainable forms of transport throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf Reduce need to travel through the development of new services in accessible locations throughout the plan period	ADOPTION: None	
	2015: 40% of allocations	
	2021: 100% of allocations	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
LI 9 and LI 10		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
<p>The LDP allocates land for a range of transportation schemes. During 2011-12 5 new cycling schemes were successfully implemented in the County Borough. This includes schemes allocated under policies NSA 23.1; NSA 23.3; SSA 21.1; SSA 21.2 and SSA 21.6. The findings of the 2011-12 monitoring exercise also indicate that the LDP has been successful in guiding development to sustainable locations. Data indicates that 97.7% of all new housing permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode; 99.7 % of all new employment permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode, and 100% of all retail permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport modes. The Council is therefore confident that the monitoring targets will be met.</p>		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 9 - Waste Management	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 8	NSA 1 to NSA 27
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
The development of between 12.5 and 21.7 hectares to meet capacity requirements for waste management over the Plan period	ADOPTION: N/A	
	2015: N/A	
	2021: N/A	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 10 and L1 12		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
In total 9.4% of the waste management capacity of 12.5ha or 5.2% of the waste management capacity of 21.7ha was permitted during 2011-12. Rhondda Cynon Taf continues to be able to meet its waste arising capacity for the plan period.		

POLICY:	OBJECTIVE:	RELATED POLICIES:
CS 10 - Minerals	10	AW 14 & SSA 26
TARGET:	MONITORING TARGET:	
Maintain 10-year land bank of permitted aggregates reserves	ADOPTION: N/A	
	2015: N/A	
	2021: N/A	
PERFORMANCE:		
CORE AND LOCAL OUTPUT INDICATORS:		
CI 11 and LI 13		
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:		
The Council has a 20 year land bank of permitted aggregates reserves.		

Appendix 5 - LDP Allocations

Policy	Location	Allocation Type	Status
<i>Northern Strategy Area</i>			
NSA 9.4	Site including the old brick works, old dairy and tipped land rear of Birchwood, Llwydcoed (part)	Housing	Consented
NSA 9.11	Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash.	Housing	Consented
NSA 9.20	Land at Dinas Road / Graig Ddu Road, Dinas	Housing	Consented
NSA 21.3	Expansion of existing park and ride facilities, Robertstown.	Transport	Implemented
NSA 23.3	The Heads of the Valley Cycleway & links to Hirwaun Industrial Estate	Transport	Implemented
<i>Southern Strategy Area</i>			
SSA 9	Former OCC Site, Llanilid (part)	Housing	Consented
SSA 10 3	Collenna Farm, Tonyrefail.	Housing	Consented
SSA 10.12	Land east of Dolau County Primary School, Bridgend Road, Bryncae	Housing	Consented
SSA 10.13	West of Llechau, Llanharry.	Housing	Consented
SSA 10.16	The Link Site, Pen-yr-Eglwys, Church Village	Housing	Consented
SSA 21.1	Treforest Connect 2	Transport	Implemented
SSA 21.2	Extension of Connect 2 scheme to Pontypridd,	Transport	Implemented
SSA 21.6	Pontypridd to Tonyrefail via Llantrisant	Transport	Implemented
SSA 26	Land at Beddau Caravan Park	Housing	Implemented

Appendix 6 - Results of the SA Monitoring

<i>SA Target</i>	<i>SA Indicator</i>
1. Housing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce discrepancies between requirement and availability of affordable and special needs housing stock. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new affordable housing units provided during the year as a percentage of all housing units provided during the year.
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2010-March 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 77 new affordable dwellings were built 462 dwellings were completed on large and small sites 17% of housing units provided during the year are affordable <p>From an SA perspective the overall figures on affordable housing are progressing in the right direction and the prediction made in the SA of an increase in provision of affordable housing is correct. The SA also predicted that this would have positive long term effects for health and economy through the retention of young people and families, and especially in the northern areas, where depopulation is an issue.</p> <p>However as noted in the analysis of results for CS 5- Affordable Housing, the delivery of affordable housing is closely tied to overall housing figures, which due to the recession have been reduced. In order to have a sustained long-term and positive effect on housing, employment and health, the number of affordable homes delivered will need to increase throughout plan delivery. This will be dependent on economic recovery (on a national and local scale).</p>	

<i>SA Target</i>	<i>SA Indicator</i>
2. Culture and Heritage	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce number of buildings on at risk register (year on year) Maintain/ protect locally designated sites of cultural value and areas of high archaeological value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings at Risk (absolute number) Number of Designated Sites with Management Plans

Monitoring Results	(Buildings at risk)	(Mgt plans)
<p>April 2010-March 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 47 Buildings at Risk • 5 Designated Sites with Management Plans <p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 47 Buildings at Risk • 7 Designated Sites with Management Plans <p>The target on reducing buildings at risk (year on year) has not progressed at this stage, however it is still early in the plan implementation and it is recognised that the current economic situation renders it more difficult to fund the restoration of buildings at risk (either through public or private funds).</p> <p>The target related to maintaining and protecting locally designated sites is being achieved, with the number of designated sites with Management Plans increasing from 5-7 sites. It is recommended that the rate of development of management plans be increased to ensure a higher level of protection by the plan's completion date. Likewise the Council and other stakeholders (e.g. Cadw) should seek to reduce the number of buildings at risk in the County Borough, looking for opportunities for reuse of buildings, or at the least, essential maintenance.</p> <p>It is considered that these two indicators may not be representative of the overall state of the County Borough's heritage and culture. It may therefore be useful to discuss any further data that is available from Cadw and that could be included in the AMR. This would help to better monitor the effects of the plan on heritage and culture.</p>		

SA Target	SA Indicator	
3. Communities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve access to public transport and community facilities for all • Increase % of people with qualifications and improve skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of total population with access to services • Number of enrolments on adult education courses per 1000 population • % of 15/16 year olds achieving the 'core subject indicator' (grade C in GCSE English or welsh and Science in combination) 	
Monitoring Results	(access to services)	(education)
<p>Unable to monitor percentage of total population with access to services because there is no available data source. Only able to monitor proximity of new developments to existing services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97.7% of all new housing permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode. • 99.7 % of all new employment permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport mode. • 100% of all retail permitted is accessible/within 400 metres of one or more transport modes. <p>April 2010-March 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26.86 enrolments on adult education courses per 1000 population • 42.54% of 15/16 year olds achieving the 'core subject indicator' (grade C in GCSE English or welsh and Science in combination) <p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21.31 enrolments on adult education courses per 1000 population • 43% of 15/16 year olds achieving the 'Level 2 threshold in Core Subject Indicator' <p>Overall, the indicators measured for accessibility illustrate a good level of performance. In particular, the proximity of new developments to transport modes is very high, from 97.7- 100 percent. It is clear that the LDPs strong policies on public transport are having the predicted positive effect with regard to new development. This will also have positive effects for existing communities in the long term.</p> <p>In terms of increasing skills and qualification, the figures show a decrease in the number of adults enrolling in adult education courses between 2010/11</p>		

and 2010/12. This reflects the economic situation more widely and subsequent increases in course fees. The situation should continue to be monitored. With regard to GCSE performance, the indicators have changed between 2011/2012, so it is difficult to compare results at this stage.

Suggested new SA Indicator - The indicator monitoring the percentage of total population with access to services will be deleted and replaced with an indicator requiring the monitoring of the proportion of new housing, employment and retail development accessible by a range of transport modes per annum

SA Target	SA Indicator
4. Health	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to recreation and sports facilities & the countryside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of visits to indoor and outdoor sports and recreational facilities per 1000 population
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2010-March 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,313 visits per 1,000 population to indoor and outdoor sports and recreational facilities <p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9,876 visits per 1,000 population to indoor and outdoor sports and recreational facilities <p>The figures on recreation show an increase in the numbers of people accessing recreation, sports facilities and the countryside.</p>	

<i>SA Target</i>	<i>SA Indicator</i>																												
5. Economy																													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broaden the Economic base by creating more varied and stronger businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic activity by sector 																												
Monitoring Results																													
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Occupation</i></th> <th><i>% Displayed (NLP, 2008)</i></th> <th><i>% Displayed (2011)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Manufacturing</td> <td>17.9</td> <td>17.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Construction</td> <td>5.2</td> <td>5.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Distribution, hotels & restaurants</td> <td>21.1</td> <td>19.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transport & communications</td> <td>4.9</td> <td>4.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finance, IT, other business activities</td> <td>7.9</td> <td>6.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public admin, education & health</td> <td>37</td> <td>35.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other services</td> <td>5.1</td> <td>4.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tourism-related</td> <td>6.6</td> <td>6.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<i>Occupation</i>	<i>% Displayed (NLP, 2008)</i>	<i>% Displayed (2011)</i>	Manufacturing	17.9	17.9	Construction	5.2	5.2	Distribution, hotels & restaurants	21.1	19.1	Transport & communications	4.9	4.9	Finance, IT, other business activities	7.9	6.9	Public admin, education & health	37	35.3	Other services	5.1	4.1	Tourism-related	6.6	6.6
<i>Occupation</i>	<i>% Displayed (NLP, 2008)</i>	<i>% Displayed (2011)</i>																											
Manufacturing	17.9	17.9																											
Construction	5.2	5.2																											
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	21.1	19.1																											
Transport & communications	4.9	4.9																											
Finance, IT, other business activities	7.9	6.9																											
Public admin, education & health	37	35.3																											
Other services	5.1	4.1																											
Tourism-related	6.6	6.6																											
<p>The figures on the economic base illustrate that there has not been a sizeable shift in people occupied by sector. Further indicators are required to provide a broader picture of economic development.</p> <p>Suggested new SA Indicators – to include the annual vacancy rates for each Principal Town and Key Settlement and the number of new business started in Rhondda Cynon Taf per annum</p>																													

SA Target	SA Indicator
6. Employment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase opportunities to work within the district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [%] increase in local job growth by sector/ reduction in numbers of economically inactive • [%] of resident working age population employed
Monitoring Results	
<p>2011 base figures for SA 5 will allow us to work out the % change in the 2012-2013 financial year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2009 - 22.1% of all working age people in Rhondda Cynon Taf are economically inactive • 2010 – 25.6% of all working age people in Rhondda Cynon Taf are economically inactive • 2011- 23.7% of all working age people in Rhondda Cynon Taf are economically inactive <p>June 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 63.2% (of persons aged 16-64years) are economically active <p>StatsWales shows a drop in the number of economically inactive persons, from 25.6% of the population in 2010 to 23.7% in 2011. This is a positive trend in light of the current economic situation and wider national increase in unemployment.</p>	

SA Target	SA Indicator
7. Transport	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new developments located to support and encourage sustainable travel choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % [or absolute number of] developments that deliver sustainable transport solutions
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.9% [8] of new development delivered sustainable transport solutions <p>Based on the monitoring results of SA indicator 3 (Communities), which</p>	

considered the proximity of new developments to existing transport services, it would appear that this target is being met. However the indicator shows that only 3.9 per cent of new development delivered sustainable transport solutions. The indicator fails to make the linkage between the provision of, and need for new transport solutions. Additional indicators are required to examine this issue in more detail.

Suggested new SA Indicators- to include the 2011 Census Travel to work data and measure the increase in services and patronage of local bus services.

SA Target	SA Indicator
8. Built Environment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote improved design standards and encourage community participation in the planning process 	% (or number of) new developments and buildings meeting BREEAM and/or Code for Sustainable Homes Standards
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.8% [4] new builds meet BREEAM standards <p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 76.9% [87] new builds for C3 meet Level 3 Code for Sustainable Homes <p>The percentage of homes meeting code 3 of the Code for Sustainable Homes shows a positive result with regard to the construction of sustainable homes. The absence of earlier data makes the indicator difficult to assess however, the progression for this target will become clear in the next AMR. It may also be necessary to revise the indicator in 2013, depending on government changes to the requirements for zero-carbon development. The BREEAM requirement should relate to commercial buildings rather than all new build development.</p> <p>Amend SA Indicator – in relation to BREEAM standards specifically to relate to commercial buildings meeting the target.</p>	

<i>SA Target</i>	<i>SA Indicator</i>
9. Landscape	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve favourable conditions of nationally and locally important landscape designations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % designations reporting favourable condition status
Monitoring Results	
<p>Unable to monitor the % of designations reporting favourable condition status because the data is not available.</p> <p>Suggested new Target and Indicator - Amend the SA Target to read 'Protect the landscape value of Rhondda Cynon Taf' and the Indicator to monitor the 'Number of Special Landscape Areas affected by development'.</p>	

<i>SA Target</i>	<i>SA Indicator</i>
10. Biodiversity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance biodiversity and geo-diversity of the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % change in RCT BAP priority habitats and species
Monitoring Results	
<p>Unable to monitor % change in RCT BAP priority habitats and species because the data is not available.</p> <p>Suggested new SA Indicators – to include the number of biological SSSI and SACs in County Borough with 1 or more qualifying features in an unfavourable condition status and the amount of Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs) lost to development and the number of mitigation schemes secured annually.</p>	

SA Target	SA Indicator
11. Water	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable water resource management Reduce Flood risk to people, property and maintain integrity of the floodplain and avoid development in flood risk areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % [or number of as proportion of total] of new development with integrated sustainable drainage systems Amount of new development in C1 and C2 as a proportion of the total development allowed contrary to TAN 15
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.4% [19] of new development includes SUDS No new development in a C1 or C2 flood risk zone that is contrary to TAN 15 <p>The SA predicted negative cumulative effects for water and the potential for new development to exacerbate flood risk. The monitoring results indicate no new development in flood risk zones that is contrary to the requirements of TAN15 and a low uptake of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS). Whilst compliance with TAN 15 is positive, there is a low provision of SUDs. There may however, be good reason for why these developments have not included SUDs (e.g. due to minor scale of development), and this should be factored-in to future data collection. For example, considering how many developments over a certain size (e.g. 5 dwellings) were fitted with SUDs would be a more useful indication.</p> <p>At this stage, overall performance on water is uncertain, although likely to be negative due to an increase in development, which places additional pressure on the water environment.</p> <p>Amend SA Indicator – to read ‘% [or number of as proportion of total] of new development of 5 dwellings or more with integrated sustainable drainage systems</p>	

SA Target	SA Indicator																																	
12. Climate Change																																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % change in carbon dioxide emissions in the housing stock 																																	
Monitoring Results																																		
<p>Unable to monitor % change in carbon dioxide emissions in the housing stock because no data is available.</p> <p>It is noted that this Indicator is not possible to monitor. Instead, the following data is available from the DECC website: http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/statistics/climate_stats/data/data.aspx</p>																																		
<p>2009 Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Figures (September 2011) In tCO₂</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rhondda Cynon Taf</th> <th>Industry & commercial</th> <th>Domestic</th> <th>Road Transport</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2005</td> <td>2.8</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>7.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td>2.7</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>7.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td>2.6</td> <td>2.4</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>7.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>2.4</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>6.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>2.1</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>6.3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Rhondda Cynon Taf	Industry & commercial	Domestic	Road Transport	Total	2005	2.8	2.5	2.1	7.2	2006	2.7	2.5	2.1	7.2	2007	2.6	2.4	2.1	7.0	2008	2.5	2.4	2.0	6.8	2009	2.3	2.1	1.9	6.3
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<p>According to the data available from DECC, the Co2 emissions in RCT Borough per head of population are decreasing across all 3 indicators. Whilst this is a positive sign, and reflects overall CO₂ reductions across the United Kingdom, it is generally considered to be a response to the economic recession and reduced industrial activity. Domestic use may also have reduced due to the economic recession. Overall, a positive result for the County Borough, but one that requires ongoing monitoring to ensure that improved economic conditions in the future don't lead to an increase in Co2 emissions.</p> <p>Suggested new SA Indicator - to included: % change in per capita carbon dioxide emissions across industry/commercial, domestic, road transport and total CO₂</p>																																		

SA Target	SA Indicator
13. Energy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve energy efficiency and maximise the use of renewable energy • Encourage energy efficient design in development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % reduction in energy use in housing stock • % [or number of as proportion of total] new developments and buildings meeting BREEAM and/or Code for Sustainable Homes Standards
Monitoring Results	
<p>Unable to monitor % reduction in energy use in housing stock because data unavailable.</p> <p>The % [or number of as proportion of total] new developments and buildings meeting BREEAM and/or Code for Sustainable Homes Standards indicator duplicates SA indicator 8. The overall result for energy is considered to be positive in terms of the encouragement of energy efficient design.</p> <p>In order to allow for more in depth analysis it is suggested that an additional indicator in relation to renewable energy is added to the set.</p> <p>Suggested new SA Indicator - to include the capacity of Renewable Energy developments (MW) installed inside Strategic Search Areas by type per annum.</p>	

SA Target	SA Indicator
14. Land and Soils	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase proportion of development on previously developed land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of new housing units provided during the year on previously developed land as a percentage of all new housing units provided during the year
Monitoring Results	
<p>The JHLA (2010):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 263 dwellings were built of which 199 were on previously developed land • 76% of new housing approvals were on previously developed land 	

The JHLA (2011):

- 469 dwellings were built of which 289 were on previously developed land
- 61.6% of new housing approvals were on previously developed land

The indicators would suggest a decline in percentage of development built on Previously Developed Land, however it is probably important to consider a more longitudinal view of this indicator, as it will vary considerably from year to year depending on which sites are brought forward.

SA Target	SA Indicator
15. Waste	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce tonnage of waste to landfill • Move Waste up the Waste Hierarchy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of municipal wastes sent to landfill • % of municipal waste reused and/or recycled
Monitoring Results	
<p>April 2010-March 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52.75% of waste land filled • 0.28% of waste reused • 30.74% of waste recycled <p>April 2011-March 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43.2% of waste land filled • 0.32% of waste reused • 32.00% of waste recycled <p>The results of this indicator show a positive direction of travel for the waste indicators, which has been achieved despite the increase in development in the County Borough.</p>	

Appendix 5 - Detailed Compliance Review of Monitoring Proposals with SEA Directive

		<i>Requirements of SEA Directive</i>	<i>Compliance</i>	<i>Reference to Proposed monitoring measures</i>
	Monitoring measures			
1	Measures proposed for monitoring are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SEA.	Directive 2001/42/EC Article 5 (1) i	Yes	Yes, however additional refinements have been suggested to improve the indicators used.
2	Monitoring is used, where appropriate, during implementation of the plan or programme to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SEA.	Directive 2001/42/EC Article 10	Yes	Yes.
3	Monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage. (These effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect.)		Yes	See Appendix 1, including recommendations for inclusion of additional indicators (e.g. relating to health)
4	Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects.		Yes	See Appendix 1 for recommendations.



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