


ITEM NO	
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AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT (AMR)

REPORT TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

	DATE	5 July 2023
	PORTFOLIO	Economy and Growth
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PURPOSE

1. This report presents the 2021/22 planning Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). The report is presented at the request of the Chair of Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That Scrutiny Committee notes content of the report and AMR.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. The item was requested by Chair of Scrutiny Committee.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

The Role and Purpose of the AMR

4. The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (formerly known as and still generally referred to as, the Annual Monitoring Report) sets out the Council’s progress in plan-making and monitors the performance of policies in the Local Plan to see whether they are helping to deliver the vision and objectives of the Plan as set out and whether there is any need to formally update the Plan. The AMR also sets out a wide range of contextual information to inform any future planning policy development and to inform other Council plans and strategies.

5. Legislation requires local authorities to publish information regarding the progress of their Local Development Scheme (LDS) and the implementation of their Local Plan policies; at least annually. Whilst the choice of indicators and scope of the monitoring report is generally for individual Councils to determine, the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require the report to contain as a minimum:

- Details of progress on each individual document proposed within the authority’s LDS;
- Details of any local plan policies not being implemented;

- Details of net additional dwellings/net additional affordable dwellings both in the monitoring period and since adoption of the plan;
- Details of any neighbourhood development orders or neighbourhood development plans;
- Details of the implementation of the Community Infrastructure Levy, if appropriate; and
- Details of activity relating to the duty to co-operate with other relevant authorities.

Reviewing the Local Plan

6. In 2017 the government introduced a legal requirement for a 'review' every five years to determine whether a Local Plan requires updating in whole or in part. This will be required by 31 July 2023. Monitoring information is a key factor in establishing whether an update of the Local Plan is necessary; and also its scope. Whilst this matter is informally assessed each year through the AMR, the five yearly 'review' will be considered by the Council's Executive on 12 July 2023.

Local Plan Monitoring

7. Burnley's Local Plan was adopted on 31 July 2018 and a monitoring framework is set out in its Section 6.2. Where resources allow, additional monitoring indicators are added each year e.g., where particular issues or trends locally or nationally suggest they would be useful.

8. We now have three full years of monitoring data to assess the effectiveness of the Plan, (it having only been adopted part way through the 2018/19 monitoring year); and even at this relatively early stage it is possible to assess the performance of its policies.

9. Among the key plan monitoring 'output' indicators are those on progress towards meeting the housing and employment land requirements set out in Policies SP2 (pages 42-44) and SP3 (page 72-75), and progress on the Plan's allocated Sites HS1, EMP1 and TC4 (pages 47-50, 76-77 and 82) as well as those showing housing delivery by site type and location (Tables 33 and 34). Key 'contextual' monitoring indicators include population and household statistics, town centre vacancies and empty homes, house prices, wages and unemployment statistics.

SPD Monitoring

10. The AMR is also used to monitor adopted SPDs. Future AMRs will for example include information on HMOs.

The latest AMR

11. The 2021/22 AMR was completed in December 2022 and is available on the Council's website [Authority Monitoring Report and Statistics - burnley.gov.uk](https://www.burnley.gov.uk/authority-monitoring-report-and-statistics). Work is currently underway on the 2022/23 AMR.

12. Pending the AMR's completion each year, the Council issues a 'Housing Statistics Release' setting out the headline housing development statistics. The Release for 2022/23 was published on the Council's website in June ([Housing Statistics Release - burnley.gov.uk](https://www.burnley.gov.uk/housing-statistics-release)) and shows delivery of 256 net additional dwellings for 2022/23 - above

the indicative annual target of 194. The Council is on track to meet the Plan's overall housing requirement.

13. In October each year, an updated 5-year housing land availability assessment is also published. At the present time the Council can demonstrate a deliverable housing land supply of 10.1 years (October 2022). Maintaining a 5-year housing land supply is important in ensuring that the 'tilted balance' in favour of development set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is not engaged. ([5yr Housing Land Supply – Assessment - burnley.gov.uk](https://www.burnley.gov.uk/5yr-housing-land-supply-assessment))

14. Population growth shown in the 2021 Census is considerably higher than projected and estimated by ONS (SNPPs and MYE) and is also higher the Local Plan's population projections (Table 5). The Census shows the borough's population in 2021 was 94,700 (rounded) - a growth of 8.8%% since the previous Census in 2011 (c 7641 people). The % increase is higher than the % increase for the North West (5.2%) and England (6.6%); and the Borough's population level is now above both the 1991 and 2001 Census levels.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION

15. None arising directly from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

16. As set out in the report.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

None.

FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:
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