

AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT 2020-2021

Head of Service:	Victoria Potts, Head of Place
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision? (yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1: Authority Monitoring Report 2020/2021

Summary

The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) has two purposes; to monitor progress towards new Local Development Documents and to monitor the effectiveness of key policies set out in Local Development Documents.

The AMR is a factual report and is part of the evidence base to inform plan-making.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the contents of the Authority Monitoring Report (Appendix 1)**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (formerly known as the Annual Monitoring Report) is prepared for each financial year (April – March). The latest AMR covers the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 and is contained in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Local planning authorities are required by law to prepare and publish an AMR at least annually.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Authority Monitoring Report contributes to the suite of documents that comprise and support the Development Plan for Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. The purpose of the AMR is to review the progress of plan-making and the effectiveness of key Local Plan policies.
- 2.2 This is the first year in which Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has published this document as the 'Authority Monitoring Report'. In previous years it has been published as the 'Annual Monitoring Report'.

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- 2.3 Although the role of the AMR is to monitor adopted Local Plan policies, housing supply is a fundamental aspect of monitoring and where a Local Plan is considered out of date the national standard method for calculating housing requirements applies. This monitoring is reported through the calculation of a five-year housing land supply statement and the national Housing Delivery test. This AMR acknowledges these two assessments and the outcomes for Epsom and Ewell borough.
- 2.4 For the purposes of this AMR, the approach taken is to meet our statutory responsibilities which are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012. The reasons for taking this approach are:
- due to the age of the existing Local Plan (pre NPPF) the weight associated with the adopted policies is dependent on level of general conformity with the NPPF
 - as set out in paragraph 4.9 of this AMR the Council failed the Housing Delivery test in the reporting year, resulting in the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development applying
 - the effectiveness of the adopted planning policies as a result of the above two points is restricted and therefore reporting on their effectiveness is immaterial.
- 2.5 One of the purposes for monitoring your adopted Local Plan policies is to flag when policies are being ineffective and when a review may be necessary. The Council has already acknowledged the need for a new up to date Local Plan and preparation is underway. Until the new Local Plan is adopted, we will seek to meet our statutory responsibilities in preparing the AMR and will produce a detailed AMR once up to date policies are adopted.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Impact Assessment

3.1.1 As Local Planning Authority we are required by government to produce an Authority Monitoring Report, reporting on the performance and delivery of the Local Plan.

3.1.2 It should be noted that during the AMR reporting period the Council could not demonstrate a five-year housing land supply and had failed the Housing Delivery Test. This is significant in terms of monitoring the effectiveness of Local Plan policies because it meant that the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development applied during the reporting period.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

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3.2.1 None arising from this report

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None arising from this report

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None arising from this report

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None arising from this report

4 Financial Implications

4.1 None arising from the contents of this report

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 Regulation 34 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out the minimum requirements for the contents of an AMR. Appendix 1 meets these statutory obligations which are monitoring progress with Local Plan preparation against the current Local Development Scheme, assessing the current policies in the Local Plan that include annual numbers for new homes (including affordable housing) and include information about Neighbourhood Plans, the Community Infrastructure Levy and the Duty to Cooperate.

5.2 Legal Officer's comments: No comments made

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

6.1.1 Green and vibrant, Safe and Well, Cultural and Creative, Opportunity and Prosperity, Smart and Connected, Effective Council

6.1.2 The Local plan is fundamental towards delivering the Council's Visions and Objectives identified in the Four-Year Plan

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is/is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:**

6.3.1 There are no climate or environmental implications from this report

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:**

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6.3.1 There are no sustainability or community safety implications from this report

6.5 **Partnerships:**

6.5.1 There are no partnerships issues arising from this report

7 **Background papers**

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Annual Monitoring Report 2019-2020; Licencing and Planning Policy Committee 3rd Dec 2020

Other papers:

- None