

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2005/06
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Local Development Scheme

- The latest LDS came into effect in April 2006, following revisions to take account of reprogramming of the Core Strategy preparation and a new Planning Obligations SPD
- Bridge Street SPD adopted December 2005 in line with key milestones
- Statement of Community Involvement adopted April 2006 also in line with timetable

Population

- 2005 mid-year estimated population for Wyre Forest district is 98,510; an increase of just over 400 on the previous year; the largest component of change is from internal migration (from within the UK)
- Main increases were in 60-64 and 40-44 age groups. (+500 and +400)
- Largest decrease in 30-34 age group (-300)

Housing

- 386 dwellings completed in 2005/06; 5 units retained in flat conversions; 10 demolished
- 83% were built on previously developed land (brownfield) against a national target of 60%
- 350 dwellings were in the course of construction at the end of March 2006
- 25% of completions were at a density of over 50 per hectare, 22% were at under 30 per hectare
- 69 affordable housing units were completed in 2005/06 – 18% of total completions
- 60% of completions were 1-2 bed properties
- 85% of completions were in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn
- Replacement ratio where house have been demolished is 1:3.1
- 45% of completions in Kidderminster were flats
- 82% of completions in Stourport-on-Severn were at the Timber Lane development
- 9 of the 14 units completed in Bewdley were affordable
- 23 of the 44 rural completions were in Blakedown village, 14 of these being on the site of the petrol station. There were only 6 barn conversions completed during the year (20 were completed the previous year)

Employment

- Unemployment averaged 2.4%, with an increase in the last quarter (up to 2.9%)
- The percentage of district jobs in manufacturing had fallen below 20% (latest published results). Almost 75% were in the service sector, many of these being part-time
- Only 1,952 sq.m was completed – at Wilden Industrial Estate - for B2 use with ancillary B1
- This was on a brownfield site

- Current land supply is 62.68 Ha.
- 13.9 Ha have been completed since 1996

Local Environment

- Broadwaters Park in Kidderminster retained a Green Pennant
- Local List for Stourport-on-Severn drawn up; 6 week consultation undertaken February – March 2006. Around 270 buildings and structures included in draft list
- Chaddesley Corbett Conservation Area Character Appraisal published September 2005

Transport

- Cycle route linking Bewdley Bypass to Stourport Road employment area via Burlish Top Nature Reserve completed. Further link from Bewdley under construction
- All non-residential development completed in 2005/06 has complied with adopted car parking standards

Retailing and Town Centres

- No new retail or leisure developments have been completed since Weavers Wharf in 2004
- Extension to Piano Building (phase 5 Weavers Wharf) now under construction
- Proposals for KTC3 (Worcester Street Kidderminster) site are currently being drawn up.