

1	Introduction	1
2	Contextual Indicators	3
3	Implementation of Local Development Scheme	8
4	Implementation of Housing Policies and Objectives	10
5	Implementation of Employment Policies and Objectives	17
6	Implementation of Environmental Policies and Objectives	20
7	Implementation of Transport, Retail and Town Centre Policies and Objectives	27
8	Significant Effect Indicators	30
■	Appendices	
A	Glossary	31
B	Housing Trajectory	33
C	Map of Housing Completions 2008/09	34
D	Core Output Indicators	35
E	Significant Effect Indicators	37
F	Policies used for Decisions Determined 2008/09	44

1 Introduction

1.1 This is Wyre Forest District Council's 5th Annual Monitoring Report. It is a statutory requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It reports on the period 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009. The document assesses:-

1. the progress against Local Development Scheme milestones
2. the extent to which policies are being successfully implemented

1.2 The Wyre Forest District Local Plan was adopted in January 2004 and this is the plan which will be monitored in this AMR.

1.3 The AMR helps to highlight policy performance and identify whether policies are delivering sustainable development and having the intended effect. Where policies are not having the desired effect, measures can be put in place to amend or replace them.

1.4 There are 4 different types of indicators which can be used to highlight issues in Wyre Forest and show policy performance.

1.5 Contextual Indicators help to set the background and give greater understanding of the issues and opportunities facing Wyre Forest.

1.6 Core Output Indicators report on key policy themes. These are set out in national guidance ⁽¹⁾ and cover business development and town centres, housing and environmental quality.

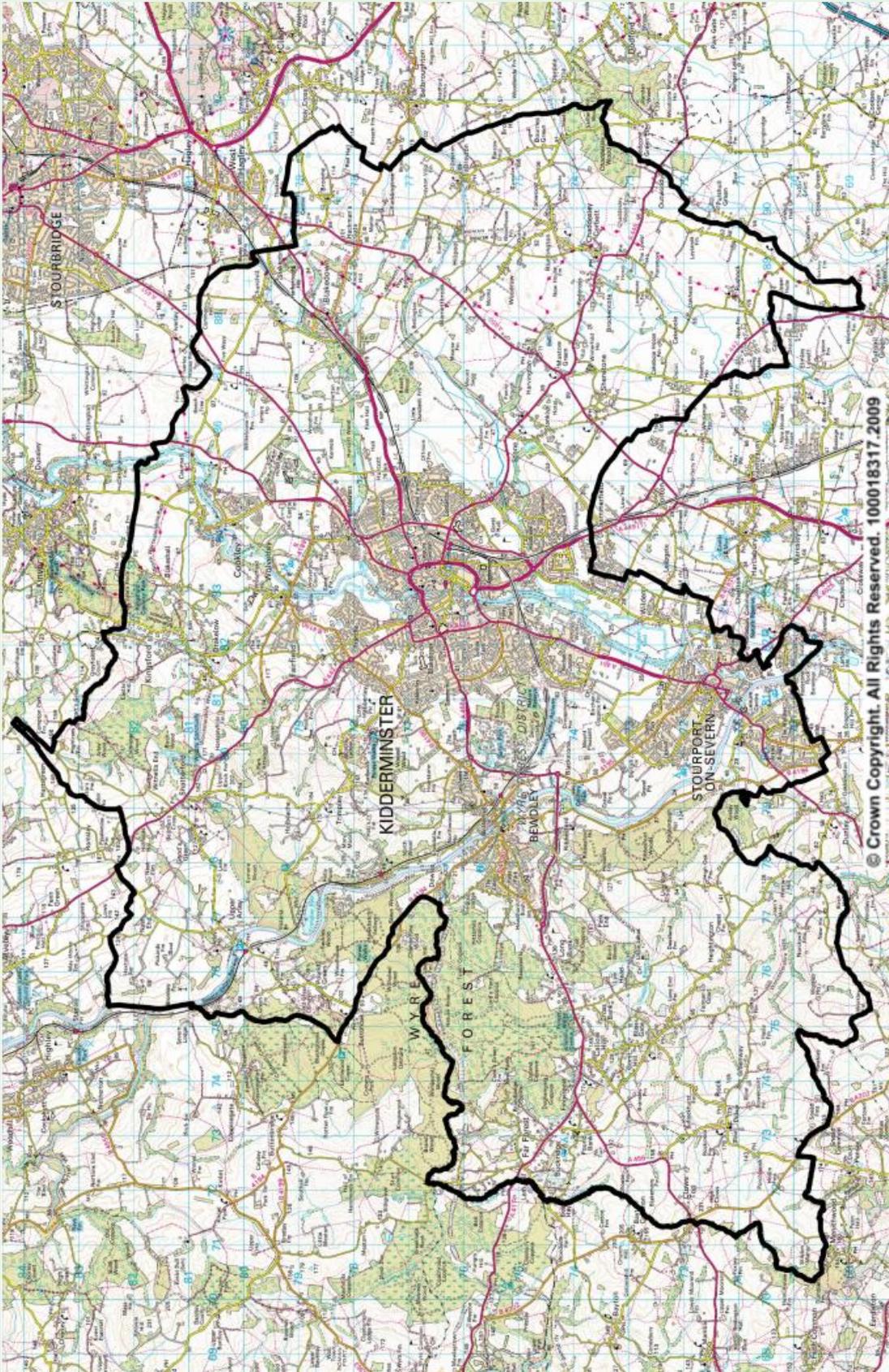
1.7 Specific policies are assessed using **Local Indicators**. These are designed to test the effectiveness of Local Plan policies.

1.8 Significant Effect Indicators have been identified for future use and are a key part of both the Sustainability Appraisal and monitoring processes. They help to monitor the impact of plans and policies on environmental, social and economic factors. There will be a need in the future to assess the wider impacts of Development Plan Documents (DPDs).

1.9 The AMR also needs to be seen in the context of the Community Strategy, Housing Strategy and Wyre Forest District Council's overall vision.

1 In July 2008 DCLG published an updated set of Core Output Indicators (Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators – Update 2/2008) which replaces those from 2005 (Local development Framework Core Output Indicators Update 1/2005 (October 2005) and Table 4.4 and Annex B of the Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide (March 2005)

Picture 1.1 Map of Wyre Forest District



2 Contextual Indicators

Settlement Hierarchy

2.1 Wyre Forest District is situated within North West Worcestershire. Covering 75 sq. miles, it has a population of approximately 98,700, which has grown at a modest rate since 1991, with stable migration rates. The over 65 age group is significantly higher than both national and regional averages and is anticipated to increase. By 2011 it is anticipated that 1 in 5 of the population will be of pensionable age.

2.2 The District comprises the three towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley, together with a rural hinterland which includes a number of small villages. The three towns form a triangle of settlements at the centre of the District separated by narrow areas of open countryside. Despite their close proximity, each has its own particular character and community identity.

2.3 Kidderminster (56,000) is the main centre for commerce and is recognised in the Regional Spatial Strategy as a local regeneration area. It developed rapidly in the 19th Century with the expansion of the carpet industry to become a world leading centre for carpet production. Since the 1970s the town's carpet industry has been in decline and a gradual process of economic diversification has taken place. It is one of 25 strategic centres in the West Midlands.

2.4 Stourport-on-Severn (20,000) developed as an important industrial Georgian Canal Town at the confluence of the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and the River Severn. For over 100 years this attractive town with its riverside meadows has been a popular day trip destination for residents from Birmingham and the Black Country.

2.5 Bewdley (9,000) is a Georgian riverside town which saw significant development during the 1960s. Today, Bewdley is an attractive historic market town and a popular visitor destination.

2.6 The District's rural settlements have a limited range of facilities and are poorly served by public transport. Part of the rural area to the north-west is covered by the Rural Regeneration Zone including the Bewdley Ward. The economy within the RRZ is changing, with employment in agriculture declining. However, some small businesses have been created and there has been significant growth in leisure and tourism in this area. To the east, the larger more accessible villages include Chaddesley Corbett, Blakedown, Cookley and Wolverley. Whilst to the West of the River Severn the smaller settlements of Clows Top, Far Forest, Callow Hill, Bliss Gate and Rock provide limited services to rural residents. The rural areas are influenced by the adjacent conurbation in terms of attractiveness for commuting and house prices here are generally high.

Environment

2.7 Topography is uniquely shaped by the Severn and Stour river valleys which flow through the town centres of Bewdley and Kidderminster respectively, before joining at Stourport-on-Severn. The District has an intricate network of main rivers, streams and pools resulting in some of the richest remaining wetland and marsh habitat in Worcestershire as well as presenting significant flood risks. Part of the flood zones pass through the regeneration areas of Kidderminster and Stourport where there is pressure for brownfield redevelopment.

2.8 The rural landscape and Severn Valley play an important supporting role to the local economy. All countryside to the east of the District and as far west as the River Severn is included within the

West Midlands Green Belt. The towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn, Bewdley and the smaller settlements of Blakedown, Cookley and Fairfield are excluded from the Green Belt. There are significant areas of lowland heathland, acid grasslands and wetlands, which make a key contribution to biodiversity. The linear landscape of the Severn and Stour Valleys accommodate a degree of annual flooding. To the west the land is elevated and is dominated by the Wyre Forest ancient semi-natural woodland. This part of the District also falls into the Abberley & Malvern Hills Geopark. The District is home to a number of protected species which are often found along the watercourses and in the pools and marshland areas. The Wyre Forest is recognised by Natural England as a potential Prime Biodiversity Area with its wide variety of habitats and protected species. The western half of the District also forms part of the Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark.

2.9 The Forestry Commission has been awarded £1.86 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards the delivery of a £3.71 million Landscape Partnership Conservation Strategy known as "Grow with Wyre". The total funding is over a 4 year period. The Strategy aims to:-

- Preserve and manage the Wyre Forest for future generations
- Restore the ancient Wyre Forest Landscape and associated ancient woodland habitats
- Deliver interpretation of the Wyre Forest landscape and raise awareness of its assets
- Identify the training needs to sustain traditional skills and practices
- Enhance the value of the Wyre Forest in people's daily lives

2.10 One of the projects includes the restoration of the Wyre's woodlands into active management, utilising traditional management skills and techniques. In addition, it aims to stimulate a market for timber, woodland crafts, and the by-products of forestry activity and encourages more young people to enter the forestry industry as an attractive career choice. In all, it aims to revive the economic value of the forest.

2.11 The Grow with Wyre initiative not only promotes natural restoration, but also how the area can benefit economically from the forest in a sustainable manner. The forest's role as a tourist attraction is perhaps its major economic opportunity. However, opportunities are also present in sustainable timber production and woodland crafts through re-establishing traditional forest management as well as producing bio-fuel as a sustainable energy source.

Rural Economic Strategy

2.12 In November 2008 a Rural Economic Strategy was adopted which covers the period from 2008 to 2014. This Strategy provides a framework to address the economic development needs of the District's rural areas and population. The Rural Economic Strategy aims to develop a sustainable and competitive economic base by encouraging new business formation through innovation, diversification and entrepreneurship. This will be aided by providing rural communities with a choice of quality learning and training opportunities. The Strategy is also about creating a sustainable rural environment with good public transport facilities and adequate access to rural services. There is also emphasis on the impact of climate change on the rural economy and supporting a low carbon energy infrastructure.

2.13 Furthermore, the Strategy does not forget the need to maintain, conserve and enhance the natural and historic environmental qualities which contribute to the overall character and quality of rural landscapes including their landscape character, biodiversity and locally distinctiveness.

2.14 A rich heritage is present, including buildings, conservation areas, monuments, landscapes

and archaeology. The physical environment is a key factor in the quality of life for local residents and access to nature parks, open spaces and the rural hinterland is highly valued. There are some 2,800 static holiday caravans in the area, which results in a proliferation of caravan sites, particularly concentrated along the Severn Valley and to the west of the District in the sensitive Landscape Protection Area.

Employment

2.15 There are pockets of high unemployment, noticeably in the urban wards of Oldington & Foley Park (6.8%) and Broadwaters (4.3%). The manufacturing industry remains the most significant employer in the District. Some of the District's largest employers are in the manufacturing sector including Brinton Carpets, Sealine Industries and Titan Steel Works. Recent years have seen a growth in the service sector and small-medium sized businesses are becoming more prevalent. There are marked commuting flows of 5,965 people from Kidderminster to the conurbation (Birmingham and the Black Country) and to Worcester and Droitwich Spa. The District also has a significant number of people working from home, at approximately 10%. The District enjoys some self containment in employment due in part to its location to the west of the conurbation and lack of direct motorway access. However it has not enjoyed significant office based development, other than generally local service sector companies.

2.16 Employment sites are concentrated in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn with the main focus on the Stourport Road Corridor (A451) running south out of Kidderminster. Well established as a manufacturing area, it contains some modern high quality premises together with significant major brownfield redevelopment opportunities. Although the majority of employment focuses on the urban areas including Worcester Road, Hoo Farm and the Sandy Lane Industrial Estates, there are some existing rural businesses such as Rushock Trading Estate and Titan Steel Wheels (Cookley), which often employ local workers and contribute significantly to the rural economy. Agriculture remains the main activity in the rural areas, with high quality productive best and most versatile land around Kidderminster.

2.17 Tourism is an important facet of the District's economy and its proximity to the West Midlands conurbation makes it a popular day visitor and tourist destination. In particular the Severn Valley Railway and the West Midlands Safari Park attract a large number of day visitors to the area.

Table 2.1 Employee Jobs in Wyre Forest

	Wyre Forest Employee Jobs		Wyre Forest %		West Midlands %	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Total employee jobs	35,200	34,000				
Full time	22,500	22,000	63.9	64.7	68.8	69
Part time	12,700	12,000	36.1	35.3	31.2	31
Manufacturing	6,500	5,900	18.5	17.4	14.7	14
Construction	1,400	1,700	4	5	5	5.1
Services	26,900	26,000	76.4	76.3	78.9	79.4
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	10,100	10,200	28.7	30	23.9	23.3

Transport & communications	1,200	1,200	3.4	3.4	5.6	5.6
Finance, IT, other business activities	4,900	4,700	14.0	13.7	17.8	19
Public admin, education & health	8,800	8,100	25.0	23.8	26.6	26.5
Other services	1,900	1,800	5.3	5.4	5.1	5
Tourism-related	3,400	3,600	9.7	10.5	7.7	7.7
<small>Source: Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis Dec.2007</small>						

2.18 The total number of jobs has continued to fall slightly in the district. Numbers employed in manufacturing continue to fall although the percentage employed in this sector is still significantly above the regional average. The tourism sector now accounts for over 1 in 10 jobs locally.

Transport and Access

2.19 The proximity of Birmingham provides opportunities for higher order and knowledge based jobs assisted by the improving rail service from Kidderminster. Worcester City is also accessible both by rail and road. Linkages with other nearby towns, such as, Wolverhampton and Bromsgrove, are less clear due to the poor road connections and the absence of direct rail services.

2.20 Traffic congestion is prevalent within and between the three main towns. Kidderminster Ring Road experiences severe congestion at peak times and from visitor traffic to the safari park during the summer months. The Stourport Road Corridor is a particularly congested route. Air quality is deteriorating in the town centres and there are two designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) at Horsefair in Kidderminster and Welch Gate in Bewdley.

2.21 Currently bus service coverage is poor with few high frequency routes linking to the town centres and key services. The quality of passenger transport accessibility between the Wyre Forest and key locations of employment, major health carers, retail and leisure is compromised by limited bus access to Kidderminster Rail Station, compounded by poor bus and rail infrastructure facilities at the station.

2.22 Passenger numbers at both the District’s railway stations – Kidderminster and Blakedown, have increased significantly in recent years. Kidderminster Station is a key gateway to the town and forms part of the core route into central Birmingham where 4 trains per hour operate.

Quality of Life

2.23 There is a complex network of communities ranging from the isolated rural areas, and market towns to the urban neighbourhoods of Kidderminster. Generally perceived to be relatively prosperous, the District is also home to the most deprived Worcestershire ward – Oldington & Foley Park, which along with the Greenhill and Broadwaters Wards has also been identified as a "health hotspot." Here the major causes of death are circulatory diseases and cancers, which are lifestyle related. Access to health care remains a major concern for local residents. Since Kidderminster Hospital was downsized, residents are now required to travel further distances for A&E facilities.

2.24 Levels of crime are lower than the national average although there are some areas of high incidence in the Kidderminster ward of Greenhill (which includes the town centre). Anti-social behaviour

is the most common offence reported. The fear of crime amongst local residents remains disproportionately high. Educational attainment is lower than the regional and national averages and is particularly poor within the Oldington & Foley Park and Broadwaters Wards. However, the number of 16-18 year olds unemployed or in jobs without training is decreasing in the area. The Rifle Range area of Oldington & Foley Park Ward is particularly deprived; it currently ranks in the top 2.5% most deprived areas in England and the top 1% for education deprivation and crime.

2.25 There are approximately 44,300 dwellings in the District. Over 80% of new housing has been provided on previously developed sites since 1996. There has been an increase in the average density of housing developments within the urban areas of Kidderminster and Stourport. Below average wage rates result in substantial demand for affordable housing provision across the District. Evidence of the last five years suggests social re-lets are likely to decrease meaning that extra pressure will be placed on increasing supply of all forms of affordable housing.

3 Implementation of Local Development Scheme

3.1 It is a statutory requirement that the AMR monitors plan-making performance based on the Local Development Scheme (LDS). Since the monitoring year ends at 31st March, it is useful to show progress up to the end of October 2009.

3.2 The District Council's first LDS was formally submitted to the Secretary of State in February 2005 and came into effect on 27th March 2005. Since then the LDS has progressively been refined through a process of monitoring and review (in consultation with Government Office for the West Midlands and the Planning Inspectorate), detailed in the table below:

Table 3.1 Local Development Scheme Revisions

March 2005	First LDS came into effect
August 2005	Revised LDS came into effect following minor amendment to the SCI timetable
May 2006	Revised LDS came into effect following review of the timetable for Development Plan Documents to reflect revisions to the RSS review timetable. Also a proposed 'Affordable Housing SPD' was replaced by a generic Planning Obligations SPD
November 2006	Revised LDS came into effect following review of the timetable for DPDs with consequential amendments to the Site Allocations, Development Control Policies and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs.
August 2008	Revised LDS came into effect following review of Core Strategy DPD timetable with consequential amendments to Site Allocations and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs. This was to ensure that the evidence base is in place. Following Government guidance the Development Control Policies DPD has been withdrawn as many policies will be covered by national and regional planning policy already. The Site Allocations and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs will also set out development control policies relating to specific areas within the District. It is also anticipated that detailed guidance on development management within the District's sensitive landscape areas will be produced in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document following the adoption of the Core Strategy.

3.3 The Statement of Community Involvement was formally adopted by Cabinet in April 2006. The District Council adopted a 'Planning Obligations' SPD in 2007. This SPD considers the delivery of affordable housing and education contributions to the County Education Authority to provide greater clarity for developers. This SPD will require a revision following adoption of the Core Strategy in 2010.

3.4 Consultation on the Core Strategy Issues and Options paper took place in July – September 2007. Following stakeholder response to this paper and in particular as a result of comments received from Government Office West Midlands, a further consultation on a Revised Issues and Options paper took place in January – March 2008. The Preferred Options consultation paper was consulted on during January and February 2009. Consultation on the Site Allocation & Policies and the Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs Issues & Options papers took place at the same time. It is intended to publish the Core Strategy for a six-week period in early 2010 prior to submission to the Secretary of State.

4 Implementation of Housing Policies and Objectives

4.1 The aim of the Adopted Local Plan in relation to housing is:

- 'to enable the District's housing needs to be met'.

Table 4.1 Core Output Indicators for Housing

COI	Description	Output	
H1	Plan period and housing targets	2006-2026 3,400 dwellings (RSS preferred option) - 729 dwellings completed	
H2(a)	Net additional dwellings – in previous years	2003/04 – 317 2004/05 – 506	2005/06 – 376 2006/07 - 297 2007/08 - 192
H2(b)	Net additional dwellings for the reporting year	2008/09 - 240	
H2(c)	Net additional dwellings - in future years	3,550 in total from 2009/10 to 2025/26; for breakdown see housing trajectory in Appendix 1	
H2(d)	Managed delivery target	As above	
H3	New and converted dwellings - on previously developed land	96%	
H4	Net additional pitches (gypsy & traveller)	0	
H5	Gross affordable housing completions	99 – 48 intermediate, 51 for social rent	
H6	Housing quality – Building for Life Assessments	No data currently available	

Housing trajectory

4.2 The RSS Phase 2 Revision Preferred Option proposes a net housing allocation of 3,400 dwellings for the District 2006-2026. A full housing trajectory can be found at Appendix 1. Net housing completions were higher than in 2007/08 mainly due to the fact that there were no large-scale demolitions but numbers were still much lower than in recent years. Expected net completions for 2009/10 are likely to be around 200 dwellings as there have been fewer starts made this year. At the end of March 2009 there were only 329 dwellings under construction compared with 477 a year earlier. Projected net completions through to 2026 are shown in the housing trajectory. Housing completions are projected to rise in the period 2011-16 when the Site Allocations and Policies DPD comes into operation, and tail off in the second part of the plan period. The projected completions for the 5 year period starting from April 2010 are 1520 dwellings compared with an annual requirement of 154 (770 dwellings in total) giving a 5-year supply of 197.4%.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) / Brownfield Completions

4.3 96% of housing completions were on brownfield sites in 2008/09. This figure has risen each year since 2005/06 when it stood at 83%. Next year it is predicted to fall when an affordable housing scheme partly on a greenfield site is completed. All the greenfield completions were barn conversions except for an agricultural dwelling in Chaddesley Corbett. There were 62 dwellings under construction on greenfield sites at the end of 2008/09. 46 were at the site off Puxton Drive Kidderminster where only the groundworks have been completed. The others were all barn conversions.

Table 4.2 Gross completions by previous use

2008/09	Greenfield (%)	Former Residential (%)	Former Employment (%)	Other Brownfield (%)
Kidderminster	0	54 (33%)	45 (27%)	66 (40%)
Stourport-on-Severn	0	14 (24%)	38 (67%)	5 (9%)
Bewdley	0	0	0	4 (100%)
Rural areas	9 (35%)	3 (11%)	0	14 (54%)
District	9 (4%)	71 (28%)	83 (33%)	89 (35%)

4.4 There were 329 dwellings under construction at the end of 2008/09 – 81% were on brownfield sites. This is much lower than in the previous year when 447 dwellings were under construction.

Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Provision

4.5 There have been no new pitches provided during the year. However, one of the sites currently zoned for gypsy use (tolerated site) under Policy H.14 came up for auction during the year and a planning application will be encouraged early in 2009/10. It is not currently in use.

Affordable Housing Completions

4.6 The Council generally seeks up to 30% affordable housing provision on housing sites of 15 or more units or 0.5 hectares. During 2008/09, 99 units were provided. This is slightly higher than the previous year. Affordable units were provided through Section 106 Agreements as part of the Franchise Street development in Kidderminster (Miller Homes) and at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn (Barratt Homes).

Table 4.3 Affordable Housing Completions

Location	For rent	Shared ownership
Longfellow Green, Kidderminster		5 x 2-bed bungalows; 14 x 2-bed houses; 6 x 3-bed houses; 2 x 4-bed houses
Windsor Drive, Kidderminster	15 x 2-bed houses; 14 x 3-bed houses; 2 x 4-bed houses; 6 x 2-bed flats	
Franchise Street, Kidderminster	14 x 2-bed flats	6 x 2-bed flats
Lichfield Basin, Stourport-on-Severn	4 x 1-bed flats; 11 x 2-bed flats (changed to intermediate rent from shared ownership)	

4.7 At the end of March 2009 there were 48 affordable units under construction at 6 different sites (5 were in Kidderminster and 1 was in Stourport-on-Severn). This is half the number there were a year ago. 27 of these were on 3 100% affordable sites in Kidderminster. There were also another 161 affordable units with permission yet to start. Approximately half of these dwellings have been secured through Section 106 agreements (via planning policy H.10). It is likely that a number of these units may no longer be delivered as a result of the economic downturn.

Local Output Indicators

4.8 The following table shows the distribution of housing types between the 3 towns and the rural

areas for 2008/09.

Table 4.4 Housing Completions by Type and Location

Location	1-bed flat	2-bed flat	1-bed house	2-bed house	3-bed house	4-bed house	Total
Kidderminster	15	54	1	38	43	14	165
Stourport	6	34	0	3	5	9	57
Bewdley	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Rural Areas	8	4	1	3	6	4	26
Total	33	92	2	44	54	27	252

NB. This table includes the 1 retained unit from a residential conversion

4.9 50% of new homes were flats (slightly higher than in 2007/08) and 68% had only one or two bedrooms (this is Local Output Indicator L2). This compares with 71% of completions catering for smaller households in 2007/08. 65% of new homes in Kidderminster had 1 or 2 bedrooms compared to last year when the figure was as high as 80%. 88% of housing completions were in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn compared with 84% the previous year. This reflects the Local Plan policy of concentrating housing provision within these two towns. (Local Output Indicator L1).

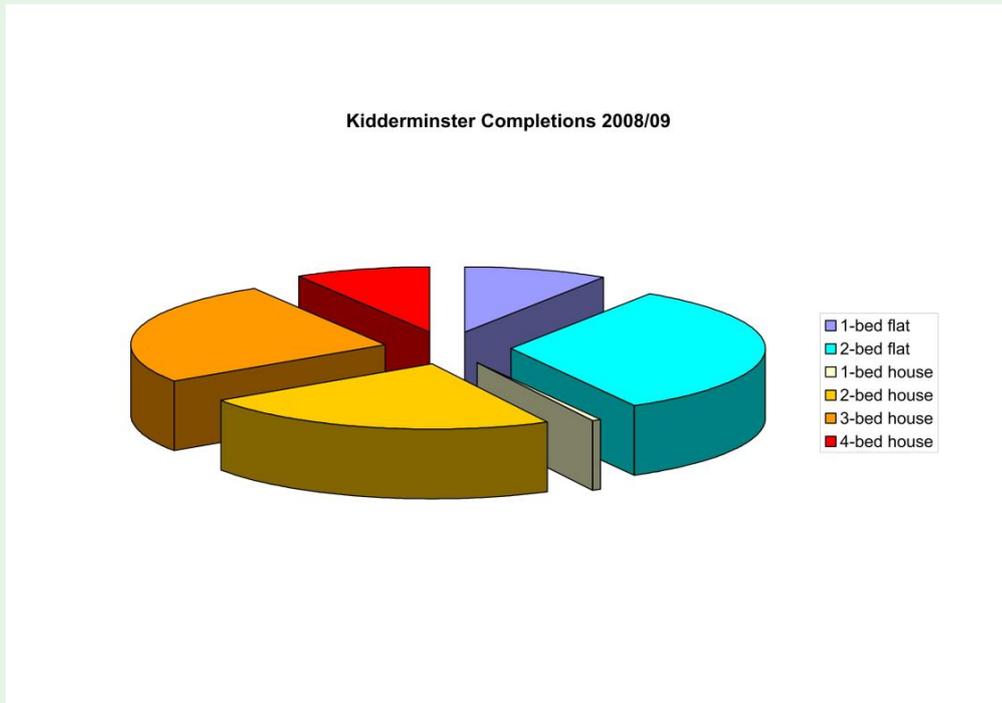
Replacement Rates

4.10 A total of 11 dwellings were demolished during 2008/09 compared with 61 the previous year. 3 demolished houses were replaced with a total of 34 flats. This gives an overall replacement ratio of 1:3.7 (Local Output Indicator L3) which is much higher than in previous years.

Housing Completions in Kidderminster

4.11 The following chart shows that the number of flat completions was half that of the previous year and houses made up over half of completions. Although total completions were similar to 2007/08, the numbers of 2 and 3-bed houses was significantly higher. Wyre Forest Community Housing schemes at Longfellow Green and Windsor Drive were largely made up of 2 and 3-bed houses. At Franchise Street, Miller Homes completed the first 37 dwellings - only 14 of these were houses. A former daycare centre was converted into 12 extra-care flats. During the year the developers of Castle Locks (46 canal side flats) went into administration and the site was mothballed. A total of 229 dwellings were under construction at the end of 2008/09 (almost 100 fewer than the previous year) reflecting the effect of the economic downturn on the housing market.

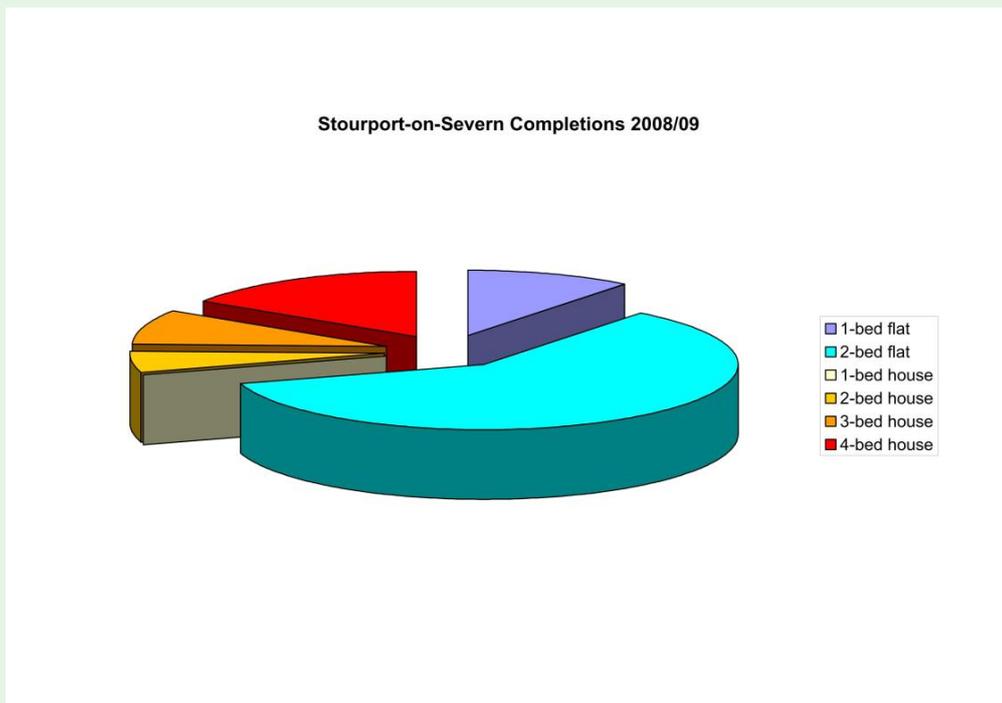
Figure 2



Housing completions in Stourport-on-Severn

4.12 2008/09 saw the completion of the first 29 Barratt Homes dwellings at Lichfield Basin. When completed, Waters Edge will contain 113 apartments and 32 houses. A total of 46 dwellings were under construction at the end of the monitoring year compared with 98 the previous year. Work to convert the listed Tontine building which overlooks the River Severn and the canal basins back into residential use (14 homes in total) also continued.

Figure 3



Housing completions in Bewdley and the Rural Areas

4.13 There were only 4 completions in Bewdley during 2008/09 - 2 conversion schemes to 1-bed flats. At the end of the year there were 13 under construction (mostly conversions) and 29 unimplemented permissions. 5 of these were for affordable dwellings.

4.14 There were 26 completions in the rural areas; 12 of these were extra-care flats in the listed Broome House. Only 8 were barn conversions. At the end of the year there were another 41 under construction with 68 yet to be implemented (33 of these were barn conversions).

Figure 4

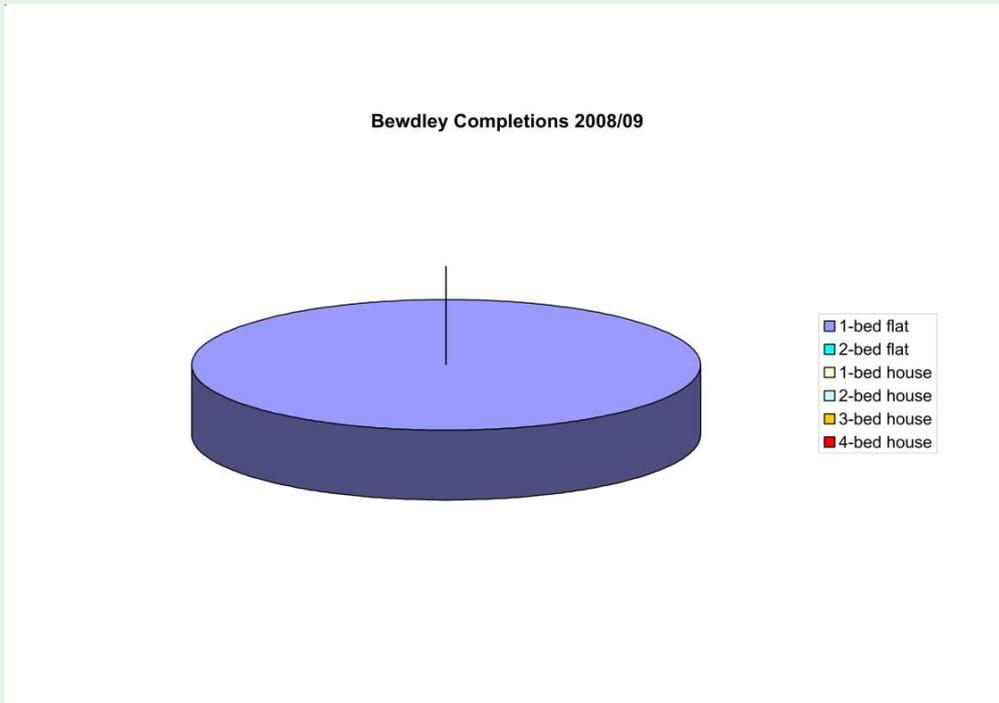
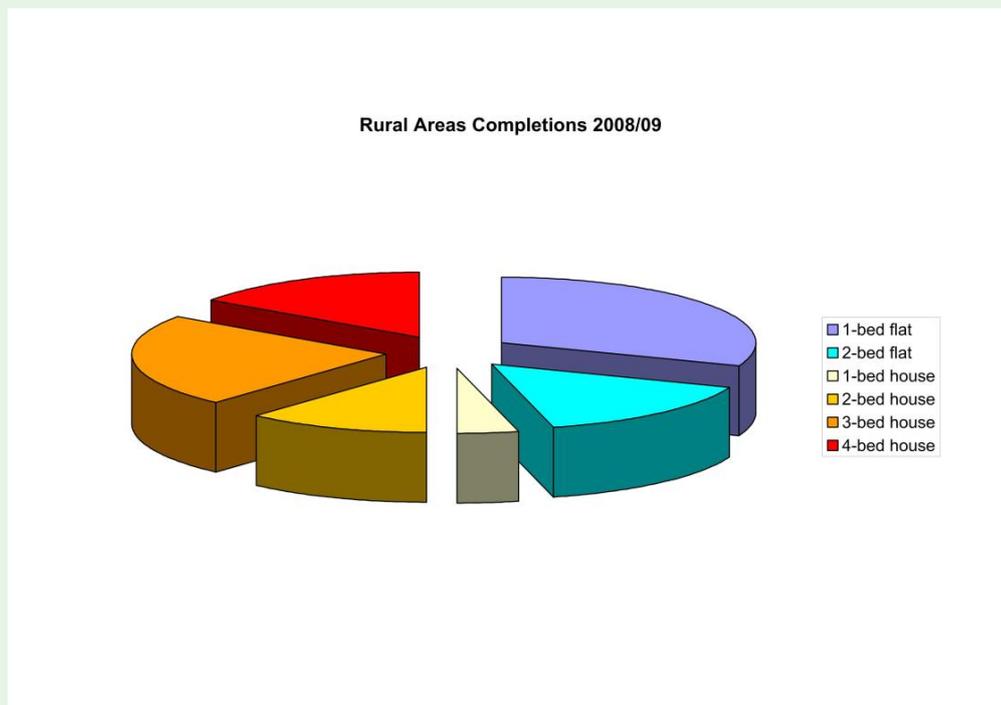


Figure 5



Housing Densities

4.15 Policy H5 of the Local Plan specifies minimum densities for developments in Kidderminster and Stourport town centres, near the station and along high frequency bus routes. Overall, 89% of dwellings completed in 2008/09 were built at a density of over 30dph, similar to the previous year. (Local Output Indicator L9)

Table 4.5 Density of Housing Completions

Gross completions 2008/09	<30 dwellings per hectare	30-50 dwellings per hectare	>50 dwellings per hectare
Kidderminster	7% (11)	43% (72)	50% (82)
Stourport-on-Severn	18% (10)	4% (2)	78% (44)
Bewdley			100% (4)
Rural areas	27% (7)	27% (7)	46% (12)
District	11% (28)	32% (81)	57% (142)

Table 4.6 Density of Completions based on Policy H.5

Location	Target Density	Average density of completions 2008/09	Total No. completions 2008/09
Within Kidderminster Town Centre inset	70dph	122 dph	11
Within 500m of Kidderminster Town Centre inset and Kidderminster railway station	50dph	44 dph	47
Within Stourport-on-Severn Town Centre inset	50dph	100 dph	39

Location	Target Density	Average density of completions 2008/09	Total No. completions 2008/09
Within 300m of bus stop on high frequency corridor in Kidderminster or Stourport-on-Severn	40dph	54 dph	81
Elsewhere in settlements identified in Policy H.2	30dph	30 dph	50

4.16 Since Policy H.5 was adopted, the number of high frequency bus routes has reduced to just 2 – one linking Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn and one serving Rifle Range via Bewdley Hill. 91% of housing completions during 2008/09 fell within the above designated housing areas. A map of housing completions can be found at Appendix 2.

Evidence Base Studies Relating to Housing Issues

4.17 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment for the South Housing Market Area of the West Midlands was published in early 2007. The SHMA is an assessment of housing market influences, current and future housing demand issues, impacts of past and planned housing supply and the impacts of economic and demographic changes. The SHMA is updated by Worcestershire County Council each year. Latest figures show an annual affordable housing shortfall of 181 dwellings.

4.18 A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was carried out on behalf of the South Housing Market Area as an extension to the SHMA work. This was published early in 2008. It recommended that 30 additional pitches are required for Gypsies on existing public and private sites. It is likely that much of this provision will need to be in the form of Local Authority or RSL sites – although a lower level of public provision might be sufficient if further small private sites are established.

4.19 Work on the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment was undertaken during 2008/09. The purpose of the SHLAA is to identify sites with potential for housing in the district, to assess their housing potential, and to assess when they could be developed. Initial findings suggest that there are sufficient brownfield sites in the district which could accommodate the RSS Preferred Option.

5 Implementation of Employment Policies and Objectives

5.1 The key employment aim of the Adopted Local Plan 2004 is:

- ***“to encourage economic prosperity and identify enough land to meet the District’s employment needs”***

Table 5.1 Core Output Indicators for Business Development

CORE OUTPUT INDICATOR – BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	
BD1 Total amount of additional floorspace by type	17,431 sq.m
BD2 Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land	7%
BD3 Employment land available by type	45.23 Ha

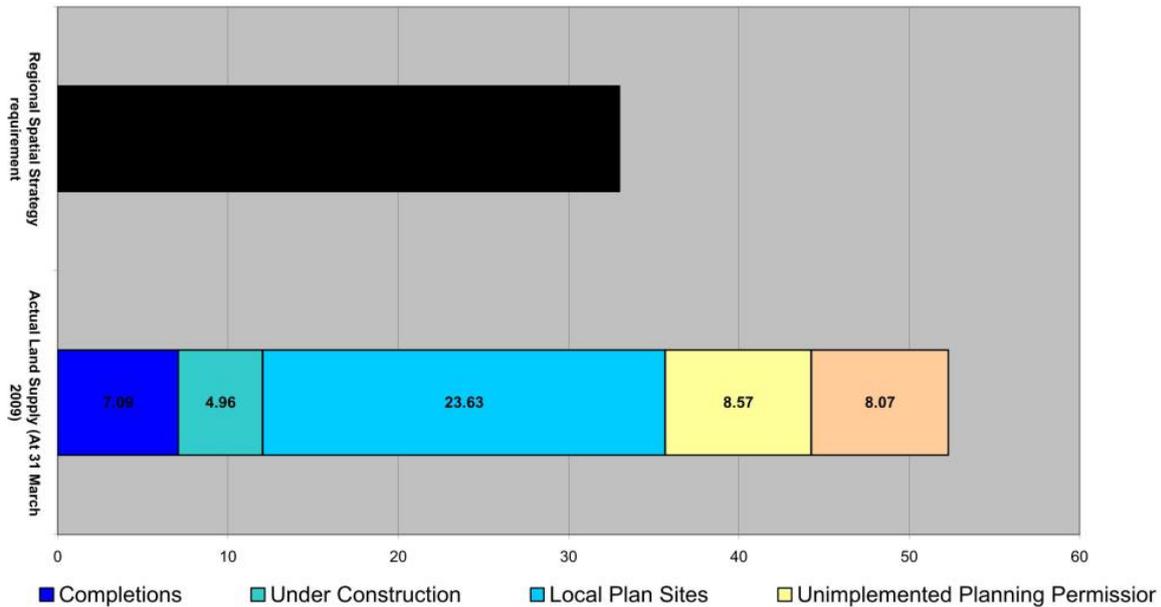
5.2 **Core Output Indicator BD1** measures the amount of floorspace developed for employment by type during 2008/09. There were four employment site completions – 2 units on Wilden Industrial Estate, a large unit for City Link at the Finepoint site on Stourport Road, Kidderminster, the Easter Park development on Worcester Road, Kidderminster and a small office conversion in Bewdley High Street . The following table (taken from the Employment Land Availability 1st April 2009) details the completed sites.

Location	Planning Application	Development	Floorspace	Area (Ha)
Wilden Industrial Estate, Wilden Lane, Stourport-on-Severn	WF/0799/03/FULL	2 industrial units for B1 B2 and B8 use with associated car parking.	1,096 sq.m	0.15
Finepoint (Phase 2) Walter Nash Road Stourport Road Kidderminster	WF:07/0875/RESE	Phase 2 of new B2, B8 Development comprising 1 No unit with ancillary offices, parking, servicing and landscaping.	2,665 sq.m	0.78
Worcester Road Opposite Hoo Farm Industrial Estate, Kidderminster	WF:06/0065/RESE	Reserved Matters: Erection of 9 industrial units (Class B1, B2 & B8) including new vehicular access.	2,058 sq.m	3.12
66 High Street Bewdley	WF:08/0569/FULL	Change of use of ground floor only to office use.	40 sq.m	0.015

5.3 **Core Output Indicator BD2** shows the amount of land developed for employment use which was on previously developed land. The developments at Wilden Estate and the conversion in Bewdley were on previously developed land. Easter Park was developed on farmland and Finepoint is being developed in a number of phases on the former Brinton’s sports ground.

5.4 **Core Output Indicator BD3** shows the actual employment land supply for the whole district. The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Preferred requires the provision of 33 hectares of land in the Wyre Forest District for employment uses within Classes B1, B2 and B8 between April 2006 and March 2026.

Figure 6 Employment Land Supply 2006-26



5.5 During 2008/09 the amount of land available for employment use decreased by 3.2 Ha. In total, 7.09 Ha of employment land has been completed since 2006, with 4.96 Ha under construction as of 1st April 2009 compared to 8.01 Ha the previous year. The type of use for each of the allocated sites is shown in the table below.

Type of Site	Type of Unit	Area (Ha)
Sites under construction	B1/B2 unit	1.03
	13 B1/B2 units	2.84
	2 B1/B2/B8 units	0.11
	15 B1 units	0.91
	B1/B8 unit	0.07
Adopted local plan sites	Folkes' Foundry	5.63
	Lea Castle Hospital	6.0
	British Sugar Factory	12.0
Rushock Trading Estate sites	Outline planning permission for B1/B2/B8 units on 5 plots	4.18
	Plot 6d lapsed permission	0.19

Type of Site	Type of Unit	Area (Ha)
Other sites with outstanding planning permission	B1 use on 10 sites	3.35
	B1/B2 use on 1 site	0.04
	B1/B8 use on 1 site	0.4
	B2/B8 use on 1 site	2.72
	B2 use on 1 site	0.27
	B1/B2/B8 use on 2 sites	0.68
	B8 uses on 3 sites	1.11
Other sites in areas allocated for B class uses	8 sites	3.7

Table 5.2

Date	Completions Since April 1st 2006	Under Construction	Local Plan Sites	Unimplemented Planning permissions	Other	Total incl. completions	RSS Preferred Option Requirement
At 1st April 2006	0	4.69	27.66*	9.13	7.3	48.78	
At 1st April 2007	0.71	10.33	23.63*	6.86	7.4	48.93	
At 1st April 2008	3.04	8.01	23.63*	8.36	8.2	51.24	
At 1st April 2009	7.09	4.96	23.63	8.57	8.07	52.32	About 33 hectares
<i>Figures in Hectares</i>							
<i>*excludes Phase II of British Sugar site</i>							

Evidence Base Studies

5.6 Work has been undertaken looking at what employment land there is in the district, the future uses of such sites and which sites may be suitable for reallocating for alternative uses through the Site Allocations and Policies DPD. The Employment Land Review (ELR) provides background information on the employment portfolio within the District. The Review has been undertaken following guidance set out by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and is split into three stages. Stage 1 (Taking stock of the existing situation) and Stage 3 (Identifying a 'New' Portfolio of Sites) have been produced by the District Council whilst Stage 2 (Creating a Picture of Future Requirements) due to the technical nature, was undertaken by consultants.

6 Implementation of Environmental Policies and Objectives

Table 6.1 Core Output Indicators relating to Environmental Quality

CORE OUTPUT INDICATORS –ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY		
E1	number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flooding and water quality grounds	1
E2	change in areas of biodiversity importance	0
E3	renewable energy generation	0

The Natural Environment

6.1 Two key objectives of the Adopted Local Plan are to retain the existing Green Belt boundary and prevent inappropriate development within it and to safeguard and enhance the District's landscape character and landmarks.

Table 6.2 Major Applications in the Green Belt 2008/09

Address	Size of site (Ha)	Size of development	Proposed use	Decision at April 2009
Gilt Edge Sports & Social Club, Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster	0.18	790 sq.m	Judo club building	Application approved
Cookley Sports & Social Club, Lea Lane, Cookley	10.4	574 sq.m	Replacement social club and village hall	Application approved
Former Sion Hill Middle School, Sion Hill, Kidderminster	1.67	3447 sq.m	Proposed conversion and changes of use into training facilities and offices	Application approved
Hodge Hill Farm Barns, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster	0.54	5	Conversion of barns to residential use	Application approved

6.2 The previous table shows that few 'major' applications were received for Green Belt locations. Most applications in the Green Belt are small-scale developments such as barn conversions, extensions and replacement dwellings. Green Belt policies were cited 447 times in 2008/09, 373 times as a reason for approval and 74 times as a reason for refusal. Landscape policies were cited 184 times as a reason for approval and 40 times as a reason for refusal.

6.3 The key aim of the Local Plan in relation to nature conservation is:

- "to safeguard and enhance the distinctive natural environment of the District."

6.4 Natural England conducts a rolling six-year programme of site condition surveys. The latest results for those sites within the district are shown below.

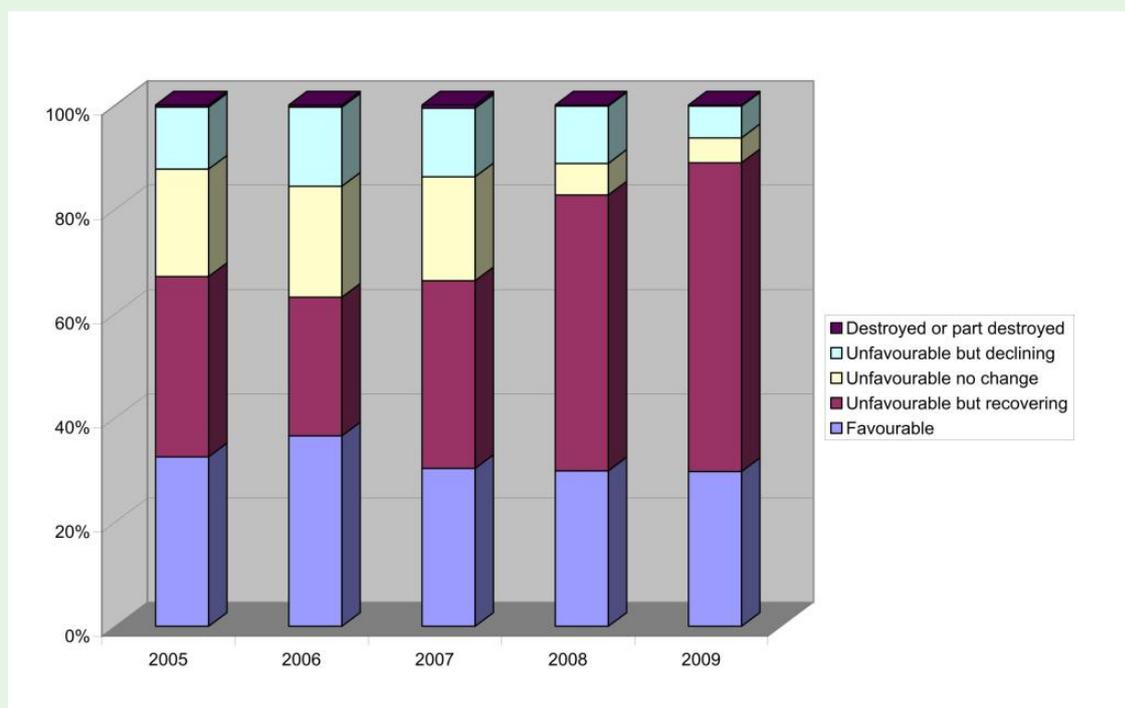
Table 6.3 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Name of site	Size in hectares	Condition(from Natural England surveys)
Areley Wood	16.95	Favourable
Bliss Gate Pastures	1.23 0.78	Favourable Unfavourable but recovering

Name of site	Size in hectares	Condition(from Natural England surveys)
Browns Close Meadow	2.67	Favourable
Buckeridge Meadow	2.59	Favourable
Devil's Spittleful	22.15 77.13	Unfavourable – no change Unfavourable but recovering
Dumbleton Dingle	1.49	Favourable
Eymore railway Cutting	0.22	Unfavourable , no change
Feckenham Forest	59.85	Mostly unfavourable but recovering
Hartlebury Common	0.77	Unfavourable - no change
Hurcott and Podmore Pools	14.89 6.76	Unfavourable – no change Favourable
Hurcott Pasture	4.69	Unfavourable but recovering
Kinver Edge	9.65	Unfavourable but recovering
Puxton Marshes	7.66 5.27	Favourable Unfavourable – no change
Ranters Bank pastures	2.18	Unfavourable but recovering
River Stour Floodplain	17.64	Favourable
Showground Meadow Callow Hill	0.83	Favourable
Stourvale marsh	9.28	Unfavourable – declining
Wilden Marsh	40.51	Unfavourable – declining
Wyre Forest	285.05 529.5 12.45 20.47 1.69	Favourable Unfavourable but recovering Unfavourable – no change Unfavourable – declining Part destroyed

6.5 During 2008/09, several areas of the Wyre Forest itself were resurveyed. 76.37 Ha moved into the 'unfavourable but recovering' category from the 'unfavourable - no change' and 'unfavourable - declining' categories. This is a significant improvement on previous years with 96% of the Wyre Forest being either 'favourable' or 'unfavourable but recovering' compared with just 35% 2 years ago. Consequently, 89% of SSSIs by area were found to be in a 'favourable' or 'unfavourable but recovering' condition compared with 83% the previous year. The Government has set a target of 95% of SSSIs by land area to be in favourable condition by 2010.

Figure 7 Conditions of SSSIs in Wyre Forest District



6.6 6.5 Wyre Forest District Council manages 9 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and Puxton Marsh SSSI. In order to maintain and protect wildlife, the work of the ranger service aims to restore the biodiversity of natural habitats and to protect our local wildlife. This work is focused on partly fulfilling the objectives laid down in the Biodiversity Action Plan for Worcestershire. The reserves managed by the District Council include some of the most important wetlands and marshes in the County as well as a large area of internationally rare lowland heath habitat. During the year conditions continued to improve at both Blake Marsh in Kidderminster and Moorhall Marsh in Stourport-on-Severn. Conditions on the Burlish Top reserve also continued to improve. This site is now considered to be the best quality acid grassland in the County.

Table 6.4 Local Nature Reserves

Site	Size (Ha)	Habitat	Condition
Blake Marsh	4.33	Wet woodland / marsh	Favourable in most areas; still recovering in 10% of site
Burlish Top	38.9	Heathland	Unfavourable recovering – BAP acid communities seen as best quality area of acid grassland in Worcestershire. 15% now in favourable condition. BAP scrub habitats seen to be in decline
Habberley Valley	24.83	Ancient Woodland	Favourable
		Acid Grassland	Unfavourable recovering – scrub encroachment becoming an issue. Bilberry areas need managing.
		Heathland	Unfavourable recovering
Half Crown Wood	5	Mixed woodland	Unfavourable recovering
		Meadow	Unfavourable declining
Hurcott Pool	41.03	Wet & Mixed woodland	Unfavourable declining – major reductions in invasive weeds. Tree structure is now moving towards better quality habitat. Problem of water management is yet to be addressed.

Site	Size (Ha)	Habitat	Condition
Redstone Marsh	7.07	Marsh, wet grassland	Unfavourable recovering - wet years have improved the marsh's condition and works to control bramble have been successful.
		Dry broadleaved woodland	Unfavourable recovering – works to create glades on south facing slopes implemented; level of success yet to be determined.
Spennells Valley	15.77	Wet woodland/marsh	Unfavourable recovering - works to remove invasive weeds from a large section of the wet woodland have been implemented.
		Dry acid woodland	Unfavourable declining
		Mixed woodland	Favourable
Vicarage Farm Heath	11.4	Heathland	Unfavourable recovering
Moorhall Marsh	1.4	Marsh	50% is now in a favourable condition – works to manage site in a sustainable manner about to be implemented.

6.7 Core Output Indicator E1 monitors planning applications granted contrary to Environment Agency advice. This is a proxy measure of inappropriate development in the flood plain and development that adversely affects water quality. There was one such approval in the District in 2008/09. This was for the conversion the Listed Slingfield Mill on Weavers Wharf in Kidderminster to a Debenhams store.

6.8 As part of the evidence base being gathered to underpin the Core Strategy, a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 has been undertaken. The principal output from the study is a set of maps which categorises the District into Flood Zones according to PPS25. It depicts the presence of flood defences where they exist. These maps have been produced adopting a robust assessment to give the Council sufficient information so as to have an overall view of flood risk areas for strategic planning purposes. The Level 2 SFRA has been undertaken by consultants Royal Haskoning in partnership with the Environment Agency, Severn Trent and Natural England. The final study will provide guidance for approaches to dealing with flood risk, implementation on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and will provide advice on potential new development sites. The final study is expected to be published in late 2009.

Renewable Energy

6.9 The Adopted Local Plan contains no specific policy relating to renewable energy. Policy D.6, however, requires sustainable energy sources to be used, where practicable, including solar and wind energy, passive ventilation and the use of recyclable building materials. It was considered unnecessary to include a particular policy on renewable energy given the absence of any initiatives or proposals for renewable energy in the Wyre Forest. This will be considered further, in the light of the latest guidance, as part of the Core Strategy. PPS 22 seeks to increase the generation of energy from renewable sources in order to facilitate the delivery of the Government’s commitments on both climate change and renewable energy.

6.10 **6.9 Core Output Indicator E3** measures renewable energy capacity installed by type. There have been no such installations in Wyre Forest during 2008/09. However, in recent months the authority has received a number of inquiries.

Brownfield Land

6.11 The Local Plan objective is 'to make the best use of land by encouraging the reuse of previously developed or brownfield land and buildings'.

6.12 During 2008/09 residential development was completed on 5.06 Hectares (Local Output Indicator L5) with another 10.03 Hectares under construction. Work is progressing well at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn with 52 of the planned 144 dwellings under construction at the end of the financial year. In Kidderminster, the redevelopment of the former Quayle Carpets premises saw starts made on 57 of the 84 dwellings approved. Two large redevelopment schemes for affordable housing were started early in 2008 at Windsor Drive and Longfellow Green in Kidderminster. Both were completed by the end of the financial year.

Parks And Open Spaces

6.13 The Green Flag Award is a marker of good quality management and parks are judged on 8 criteria – environmental protection, management, community involvement, consultation, sustainability, safety, cleanliness and accessibility.

6.14 Brinton Park, Kidderminster gained its first Green Flag and the smaller QEII Jubilee Gardens in the centre of Bewdley was again successful in their bid for Green Flag status. Broadwaters Park, in Kidderminster, has been awarded a Green Pennant for the fifth year running. This is the equivalent of a green flag for open spaces managed by voluntary groups.

6.15 The Wyre Forest District Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment was completed by Consultants PMP in November 2008. The study forms an important part of the evidence base for the emerging Core Strategy and other Local Development Framework documents. It has been prepared in accordance with guidance set out by the Government in Planning Policy Guidance Note 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002) and its Companion Guide – Assessing Needs and Opportunities (September 2002).

6.16 The main outputs from the study are:

- A full audit of all accessible open spaces across the District categorized according to the primary purpose of the site (in line with the typologies set out within the PPG17 Companion Guide).
- An assessment of the open space, sport and recreational needs of people living, working and visiting the WyreForest derived from extensive consultations.
- Production of local provision standards (quantity, quality and accessibility) for each type of open space where appropriate, in accordance with local needs.
- Application of local standards to the existing open space provision, enabling the identification of surpluses and deficiencies based on the quantity, quality and accessibility.
- Recommendations to address the key findings and drive future policy.

The Built Environment

6.17 Conserving and enhancing the quality of the environment is a key element in the achievement of sustainable development. A high quality built, natural and historic environment will help to attract and retain investment and contribute to the quality of life of residents and visitors. Improving the quality of the environment in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn town centres will discourage out-migration to the rural areas and encourage people to take up residence in the town centre

redevelopment schemes.

6.18 The following table shows the distribution of Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings between the 3 towns and the rural areas. The number of statutorily listed buildings is an approximate figure as List Entries often refer to more than one building or structure.

6.19 During 2008/09 Character Appraisals for Churchill, Broome and Church Street in Kidderminster were formerly adopted.

Table 6.5 Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings

Location	Number of Conservation Areas	Number of Listed Buildings	Number of Locally Listed Buildings
Kidderminster	3 (2)	100	432
Stourport-on-Severn	4 (3)	144	270
Bewdley	1 (1)	460	157
Rural areas	7 (6)	226	88

Note: the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area extends throughout the District from Cookley via Kidderminster to Stourport-on-Severn. Numbers in brackets refer to the number of conservation areas with character appraisals

The Local List

6.20 In the Local Plan, the Council stated its intention to draw up a list of locally listed buildings. A Local List for Kidderminster was approved in 2004 following consultation as to which buildings and structures should be included. A Locally Listed Building is one that has been recognised by the District Council as being of local interest, either for historical associations, or for its architectural style. Entries range from large houses to entire terraces, as well as public houses, offices and shops, chapels, walls and viaducts. Any works requiring planning permission will need to be sympathetic to protect the character and appearance of the building or structure. The local list for Stourport-on-Severn was approved in July 2006. Those listed include structures connected with the canal, ginnels and lamp-posts, as well as lodges and walls of large estates. The Bewdley local list of buildings was adopted in June 2008. Included on the list are public houses, walls, a phone box and Second World War tank traps together with structures associated with the Severn Valley Railway. During the year, a draft local list for Wolverley and Cookley was drawn up. This was consulted on in April - June 2009. Entries included farms, school buildings, canal structures, caves and a World War II tunnel complex.

Table 6.6 Local Output Indicators – Environmental Quality

Output Indicator	Ambition	Progress
L4 - % Local Nature Reserves meeting Biodiversity Action Plan criteria	To safeguard and enhance indigenous biodiversity	No data collected
L5 – Ha of brownfield land redeveloped	To make the best use of land	5.06 Ha redeveloped for housing; 10.03 Ha under construction April 2009.
L6 – number of character appraisals prepared	To preserve and enhance conservation areas and listed buildings	Character Appraisals for Broome, Churchill and Church Street (Kidderminster) published during 2008/09.
L7 – Number of buildings and structures added to Local Lists		Local List for Wolverley & Cookley drawn up. Includes cottages, farms, school buildings and canal structures.

Output Indicator	Ambition	Progress
L8 – amount and percentage of total open space managed to Green Flag Award standards	To improve the standard of local parks	Green Flags awarded to Brinton Park and Jubilee Gardens; Green Pennant awarded to Broadwaters Park.
L9 change in areas designated for intrinsic environmental value	To promote creation of appropriate new habitats	No new designations during 2008/09

7 Implementation of Transport, Retail and Town Centre Policies and Objectives

Transport

7.1 The key aim of the local plan in relation to transport is:

- “to reduce the need to travel, particularly by car, and to promote other ways of travelling.”

7.2 Locating as much development as possible within the town centres will help to reduce reliance on the private car and encourage greater use of public transport.

Local Output Indicators relating to Transport

7.3 There are no longer any Core Output Indicators that relate to transport. However, since the Adopted Local Plan has a policy covering car-parking standards, the Annual Monitoring Report will continue to look at the number of completed non-residential schemes which comply with parking standards. (Local Output Indicator L10). All of the schemes in the table below complied with the parking standards as set out by Worcestershire County Council.

Table 7.1 Parking at Completed Non-residential Schemes

Location	Development	Floorspace	No. of parking spaces
Wilden Industrial Estate, Wilden Lane, Stourport-on-Severn	2 industrial units for B1 B2 and B8 use with associated car parking.	1,096 sq.m	42 spaces for cars including 4 disabled
Finepoint (Phase 2) Walter Nash Road, Stourport Road, Kidderminster	Phase 2 of new B2, B8 Development comprising 1 No unit with ancillary offices, parking, servicing and landscaping.	2,665 sq.m	26 staff car parking spaces, 10 visitor spaces, 9 lorry spaces, 12 van spaces plus cycle parking.
Worcester Road, Opposite Hoo Farm Industrial Estate Kidderminster	Reserved Matters: Erection of 9 industrial units (Class B1,B2 & B8) including new vehicular access.	2,058 sq.m	219 spaces for cars; 15 lorry spaces
Stourvale Mills, Green Street, Kidderminster	Part demolition of existing buildings; construction of supermarket (use class A1) with car park & works to highway; extension to Woodward Grosvenor building fronting Green Street & change of use to museum (use class D1).	7,153 sq.m	414 car parking spaces plus service yard plus cycle parking.
Tennyson Way, Kidderminster	Demolition of existing retail units and apartments over plus lock up garages and provision of 5 new retail units and 27 new houses and bungalows together with associated parking and landscaping works.	521.5 sq.m	28 car parking spaces plus cycle parking for retail units.

7.4 Policy TR.6 Cycling Infrastructure seeks to improve and protect cycling infrastructure within the District through ensuring that all new major developments include cycle facilities in their proposals. Local Output Indicators have been drawn up which monitor cycling facilities in the district.

7.5 There were 6 developments under construction during 2008/09 which provided cycle parking. The new Morrison’s supermarket provides 2 sets of covered cycle parking by the entrance as well as cycle lockers for staff whilst the small retail development at Tennyson Way on the Offmore Farm Estate

in Kidderminster also provides cycle parking. The housing scheme at Franchise Street Kidderminster (Miller Homes) provides parking for 11 cycles and at the Barratt Homes development at Lichfield Basin in Stourport-on-Severn there will be cycle stores in each of the 6 apartment blocks. The supported housing scheme under construction at Franche Road Kidderminster will provide 8 cycle spaces and the mixed use development of flats over commercial premises in Mill Street Kidderminster will also provide parking for cycles. Local Output Indicator L8 measures the number of developments under construction which provide facilities for cyclists.

7.6 Easy access to employment, health, education, leisure and retail services is important for all sectors of society. The transport network should be able to offer all sections of the population opportunities to travel. This can be achieved by ensuring that new developments are easy to reach and there is adequate investment in the transport network. At least 91% of residential completions in 2008/09 were within 30 minutes travel time by public transport of key facilities such as a hospital, GP, primary school, secondary school employment and retail facility. Sites outside the 30 minute travel time included some remote barn conversions and the Broome House conversion scheme. (It is worth noting that schools and a GP surgery were accessible from Broome). The figure for accessibility to the hospital in 2007/08 was only 75%. Much of Areley Kings lies just beyond the 30 minute cut-off by public transport. Accessibility maps are no longer generated by the County Council, but the district council has used in-house mapping systems and bus timetables to decide which housing sites fall outside of the 30 minute zones. Local Output Indicator (L11) measures the accessibility of completed dwellings.

7.7 Policy IMP of the Adopted Local Plan sets the background for the use of planning obligations to provide for related environmental works, infrastructure, community facilities and services. The transportation policies within the Local Plan set out the requirements for developer funding towards walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure in appropriate circumstances. The Morrison's supermarket scheme has provided a cycle/pedestrian link and crossing point connecting the new store to the Kidderminster town centre. Funding provided through other developments has been used during 2008/09 to implement new cycle links within Kidderminster, notably a cycle lane connecting the railway station and the town centre and a cycle link from Springfield Park to routes along the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal towpath and the national cycle network.

Retail And Town Centres

7.8 The retailing section of the Adopted Local Plan sets out the Council's approach and policies towards the District's retail offer. It aims to:

- Sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of existing designated centres within the district by focusing new development within those centres wherever possible;
- Provide opportunities to improve the range and variety of shopping facilities;
- Conserve and enhance the special character of the shopping environments of Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley centres and;
- Reduce the need to travel.

7.9 The final phase of Weavers Wharf is nearing completion (conversion and extension of the Piano Building) but an occupier is yet to be found. An application to extend the adjacent listed Slingfield Mill and convert it to a Debenhams store with hotel above has been approved and Debenhams is due to open in Autumn 2009. The new Morrison's supermarket at Green Street on the edge of Kidderminster Town Centre was completed in September 2008. This scheme has created a 7,153 sq m building with 3,413 sq m of retail floorspace. A carpet museum is also planned as part of the

development. Much more of the River Stour has been opened up with associated wildlife enhancement measures. Small shop units (giving a total of 389 sq.m) with residential units on the upper floors were completed on two sites in Kidderminster town centre during the year. On the Offmore Estate in eastern Kidderminster, a redevelopment scheme provided 521 sq.m of retail space (367 sq.m A1) centred on a local convenience store together with new affordable housing. In Stourport-on-Severn, the former indoor market was converted into a clothing store and the club opposite was converted into 5 small units, with permission for A1, A2 and A3 use.

7.10 Policy TC.2 aims to encourage the use of upper floors of town centre buildings for residential use. During 2008/09, there were a number of schemes completed within the town centres. In Kidderminster, a site in Coventry Street was redeveloped to provide 5 flats over new retail premises and a former social club in New Road was converted and extended to provide 6 flats above new retail units. In Stourport-on-Severn the upper floors of Salford House were converted into 6 flats and 2 flats were provided above a shop on York Street. As part of the conversion of the former 'Outback' in Lombard Street, the upper floor was sub-divided into 2 flats. In the centre of Bewdley 2 former shops were converted into residential use. At the end of March 2009 there were 121 dwellings under construction within the town centre insets; 7 in Bewdley, 68 in Kidderminster and 46 in Stourport-on-Severn.

7.11 Core Output Indicator BD4 measures the total amount of floorspace completed for 'town centre uses'. The scheme at 66 High Street Bewdley involved the conversion of 2 small groundfloor flats into a solicitor's office and that at 2a High Street in Stourport-on-Severn involved a shop's basement storage area being converted to office use.

Table 7.2 Core Output Indicator BD4

Location	Use Class	sq m
Morrison's, Stourvale Mill, Green Street, Kidderminster	A1	7153
Coventry Street, Kidderminster	A1/2	199
New Road, Kidderminster	A1	190
M&Co, Lombard Street, Stourport-on-Severn	A1	1374
Baldwin House, Lombard Street, Stourport-on-Severn	A1/2	310
2a High Street, Stourport-on-Severn	A2	64
66 High Street, Bewdley	B1a	40

8 Significant Effect Indicators

8.1 Significant Effect Indicators will be a key component in assessing the impact which the policies of the LDF are having on the economic, social and environmental objectives set out in the Sustainability Appraisal. They will help to identify any unpredicted significant effects. The data required for monitoring the indicators cannot always be updated annually and the indicators have not been applied to this year's AMR. However, they will be used to assess the wider impacts of future development Plan Documents (DPDs) once they are adopted. The indicators are currently draft and will be finalised as the DPDs develop. They can be found at Appendix 4.

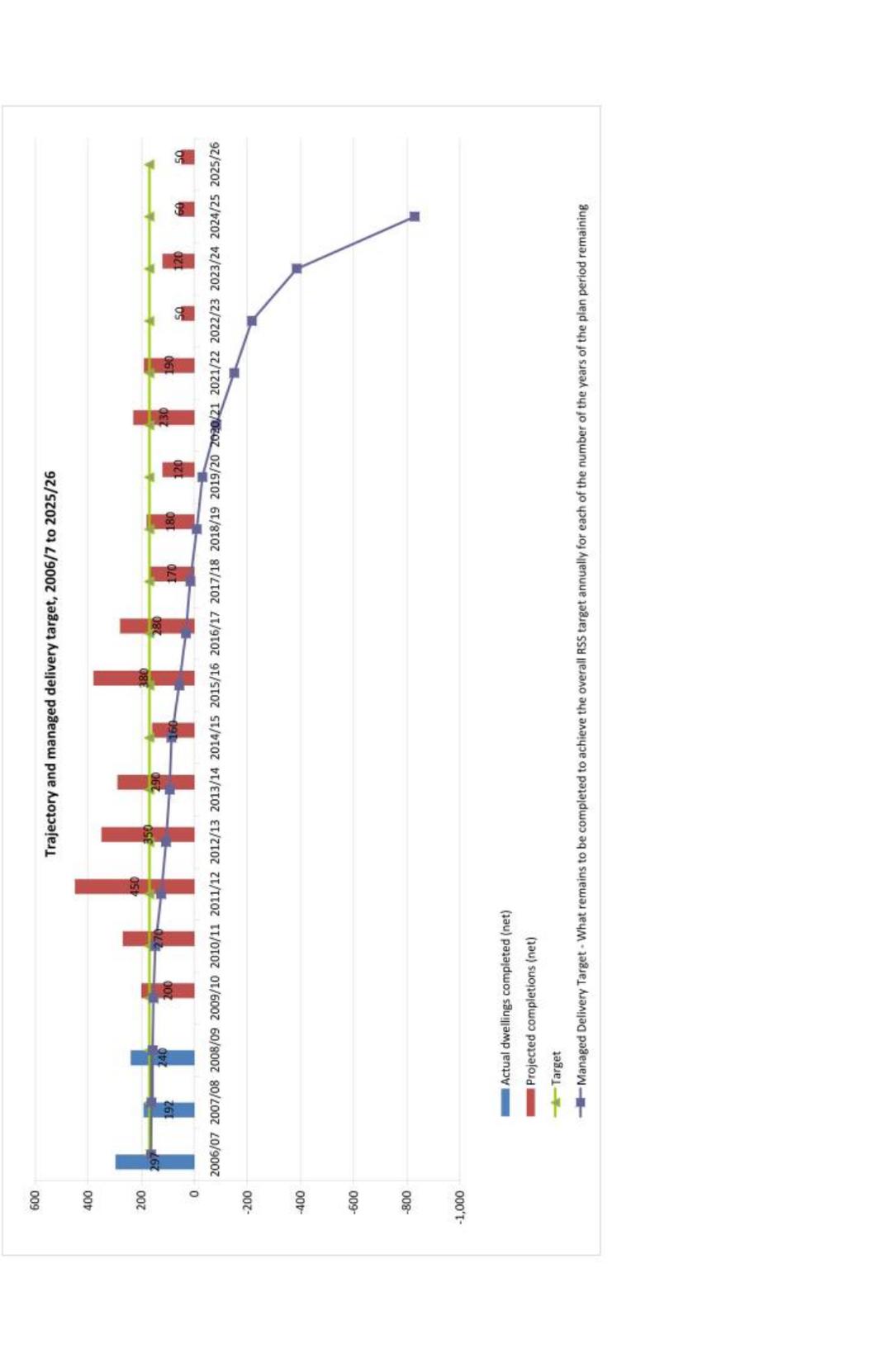
A Glossary

Area Action Plans (AAPs)	A Development Plan Document that focuses on specific parts of the District. Can provide the planning framework for areas in need of significant change or where conservation is required.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	Assesses whether targets within the Local Development Scheme are being met and the extent to which policies within Local Development Documents are being achieved.
Brownfield Land	A term used to describe land that has been built on or used before.
Core Output Indicators (COIs)	A list of 13 key indicators set out by DCLG to monitor each year. They aim to measure what impact the implementation of planning policies is having on a wide range of quantifiable spatial activities.
Core Strategy	Sets out the long-term spatial vision for the District along with spatial objectives and strategic policies to deliver that vision.
Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM)	Official Government Office which brings the regional operations of 10 Central Government Departments together.
Green Belt Land	Refers to an area of land that is subject to restrictions on development in order to preserve open spaces between different towns.
Development Plan Documents (DPDs)	The collective term given to all statutory documents that form the Development Plan for the Local Authority. Comprises the Core Strategy, Site Specific Land Allocations, Area Action Plans and a Proposals Map.
Local Development Documents (LDDs)	The collective term for Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents and the Statement of Community Involvement.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	A portfolio of Local Development Documents and related documents that provides the framework for delivering the spatial vision for the district.
Local Development Scheme (LDS)	Sets out the programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents.
Local Indicators	Key indicators set out by the Local Authority to monitor specific local issues.

Local Plan	A document that was part of the old planning system in which proposals for land use within the district were set out. It also gave more detail to the broad policies set out in the Structure Plan.
Planning Policy Statement (PPS)	A key document prepared by Government to set out statutory provisions and provide guidance on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.
Proposals Map	A map that illustrates all the proposed policies contained within the Development Plan Documents.
Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)	A document prepared by Regional Planning Bodies that sets out a broad development strategy for the region for a 15-20 year period.
Significant Effect Indicators (SEIs)	Key indicators that monitor the impact of the implementation of plans and programmes on environmental, social and economic factors in order to identify any unforeseen adverse effects.
Site Specific Allocations	Allocations of sites for specific or mixed uses of land.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Sets out the standard which the authority intends to achieve when involving the community in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all documents.
Structure Plan	A document that was part of the old planning system that was set out by the County Council and contained key strategic policies.
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)	Provides additional information to guide and support Development Plan Documents.
Use Class Orders	Separates different land uses into 4 main categories. These are then broken down further to help define what purpose land is being used for.

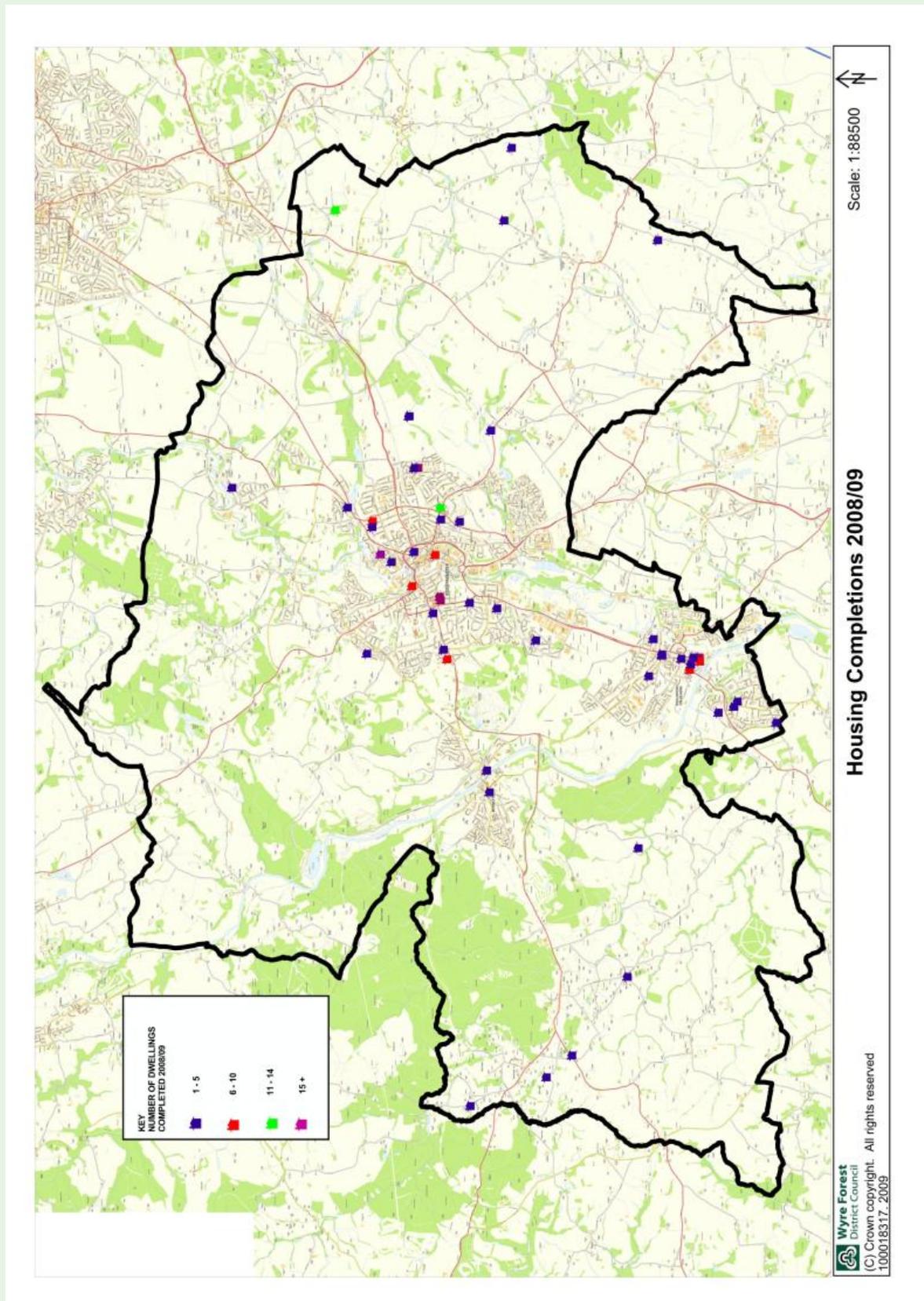
B Housing Trajectory

Housing Trajectory



C Map of Housing Completions 2008/09

Picture C.1 Dwellings Completed 2008/2009



D Core Output Indicators

Core Output Indicators

		B1a	B1b	B1c	B2	B8	Total	
BD1	Gross	17,431 sq.m						17,431 sq.m
	Net	17,431 sq.m						17,431 sq.m
BD2	Gross	1,136 sq.m						1,136 sq.m
	% gross on pdl	7 %						7%
BD3	Hectares	For details of breakdown between use classes see chapter 5						45.23 Ha

		A1	A2	B1a	D2	Total
BD4	Gross	9,000	283	40		9,323 sq.m
	Net	4,700	244	40		4,984 sq.m

	Start of plan period	End of plan period	Total housing required	Source of plan target
H1	2006	2026	3,400	RSS Preferred Option

	H2a	H2b	H2c			H2d
			A) net additions	B) hectares	C) target	
03/04	317					
04/05	506					
05/06	376					
06/07	297					163
07/08	192					162
08/09 Reporting		240				157
09/10 Current			200			154
10/11 1			270	4.7	157	147
11/12 2			450	7.9	157	125
12/13 3			350	6.1	157	108
13/14 4			290	5.0	157	93
14/15 5			160	2.8	157	86
15/16			380			57
16/17			280			32

	H2a	H2b	H2c			H2d
			A) net additions	B) hectares	C) target	
17/18			170			15
18/19			180			-8
19/20			120			-30
20/21			230			-82
21/22			190			-150
22/23			50			-216
23/24			120			-385
24/25			60			-829
25/26			50			

5 year housing supply worked as net additions years 1-5 / target; supply years 1-5 = 1,520/785 x 100 =193.6%

		Total
H3	Gross	252
	% gross on pdl	96%

	Permanent	Transit	Total
H4	0	0	0

	Social rent homes provided	Intermediate homes provided	Affordable homes total
H5	51	48	99

D.1 H6 - no data

	Flooding	Quality	Total
E1	1	0	1

	Loss	Addition	Total
E2	0	0	0

D.2 E3 - no relevant applications received.

E Significant Effect Indicators

Table E.1 The Sustainability Appraisal Framework

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
Improved Health and Well-Being		
1. To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce inequalities in health.	1. Will it improve access to health facilities across the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMD health profiles • Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
	2. Will it help to improve quality of life for local residents?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy • Adult participation in sport (NI8)
2. To improve the quality of and accessibility to, cultural services and local services and facilities.	1. Will proposals enhance the provision of local services and facilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre. • Loss of community facilities as a result of new development.
	2. Will it contribute to rural service provision across the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of villages with key facilities, i.e. primary school, post offices, GP, Pub, village hall, convenience store
	3. Will it enhance accessibility to services by public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP or hospital.
	4. Will it enhance accessibility to the District's countryside by sustainable modes of transport?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
3. To provide decent, affordable housing for all, of the right type, tenure and affordability for local needs in a clean, safe and pleasant local environment	1. Will it provide opportunities to increase affordable housing levels within urban and rural areas of the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of affordable housing completions • % of housing completions which are affordable.
	2. Will it provide affordable access to a range of housing tenures and sizes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of housing completions by size. • % of housing completions by tenure. • Number of additional gypsy/traveller pitches granted permission. • Number of extra care units completed.

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
	3. Does it seek to provide high quality, well-designed residential environments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of residential applications refused as a result of poor quality design.
	4. Does it provide opportunities for the construction of sustainable homes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of homes constructed to Code level 4 and above
4. To enhance the quality of life for all residents within the District?	1. Does it seek to enhance the prospects and quality of life of disadvantaged communities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life expectancy.
	2. Does it provide fair access to all members of the community, regardless of social class?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre.
	3. Does it promote opportunities for easy access to the District's greenspaces?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
Community Safety		
5. Encourage pride and social responsibility in the local community and reduce crime.	1. Does it offer the opportunity to enhance civic pride?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NI3: Those who have participated in a local area.
	2. Do proposals offer the opportunity for community involvement?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average number of neighbour and statutory consultation letters sent per planning application.
	3. Does it promote the principles of 'Secured by Design'?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of new developments incorporating 'Secured by Design' principles.
Better Environment		
6. To minimise the production of waste generated.	1. Are opportunities to increase recycling incorporated into proposals?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of residential apartment and all commercial developments providing storage for recycling (permissions granted).
	2. Will it reduce household waste?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volume of household waste collected. Volume of household waste recycled.
7. Reduce contributions to climate change and	1. Will it reduce emissions of greenhouse gases?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District per capita CO₂ emissions

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
promote energy efficiency and renewable energy.	2. Will it use sustainable construction methods?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of homes built to Code level 4 or above.
	3. Will it encourage opportunities for the production of renewable energy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of major new developments incorporating on-site renewable energy generation.
	4. Will it promote greater energy efficiency?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average energy rating of new housing.
8. To reduce the need to travel and move towards more sustainable travel modes.	1. Will it reduce the need to travel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of residential development within Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley.
	2. Will it provide opportunities to increase sustainable modes of travel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport travel time of a GP, Hospital, Employment, Primary School, Secondary School, Retail Centre. • Number of developments granted permission providing cycle parking. • Number of developments granted permission which incorporate travel plans.
	3. Does it focus development in existing centres and make use of existing infrastructure to reduce the need to travel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of residential development within Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley.
9. Protect the use of water, soil and air, whilst maintaining or improving their quality.	1. Will it provide opportunities to reduce the District's Air Quality Monitoring Areas and other areas of concern?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of AQMAs and areas of air quality concern within the District.
	2. Will it improve air quality across the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of AQMAs and areas of air quality concern within the District.
	3. Will it provide opportunities to improve water quality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new developments incorporating SuDS
	4. Will it encourage measures to improve water efficiency in new development, refurbishment and redevelopment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new developments incorporating rain-water harvesting/water efficiency measures.

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
<p>10. Ensure development does not occur in high-risk flood prone areas and does not adversely contribute to fluvial flood risks or contribute to surface water flooding in all other areas.</p>	<p>1. Does it protect the floodplain from development?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new residential developments (permissions granted) located in flood plain (zones 2 and 3).
	<p>2. Does it take account of all types of flooding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice.
	<p>3. Does it reduce the risk of flooding in existing developed areas?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new developments incorporating SUDS.
	<p>4. Does it promote Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of new developments incorporating SUDS.
<p>11. Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.</p>	<p>1. Will it achieve high quality, sustainable design for building, spaces and the public realm which is sensitive to the locality?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of applications refused as a result of poor quality design.
	<p>2. Will it enhance the District's Conservation Areas?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of applications refused in Conservation Areas. • Number of planning permissions granted in Conservation Areas.
	<p>3. Does this preserve and enhance the historic character of the landscape and townscape?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new records added to the HER. • Number of Listed Building consents granted.
<p>12. To conserve and enhance the District's biodiversity and geodiversity.</p>	<p>1. Will it help to safeguard the District's biodiversity and geodiversity?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of applications approved contrary to Natural England recommendation. • Number of applications refused because of their potential impact on biodiversity/geodiversity.
	<p>2. Will it provide opportunities to enhance local biodiversity/geodiversity in both urban and rural areas?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of SSSIs. • Number of developments (applications approved) which benefit the green infrastructure network.
	<p>3. Will it protect sites designated for nature conservation?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in areas of biodiversity importance. • Proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented(NI197)

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
	4. Will it help to achieve targets set out in the Biodiversity Action Plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achievement of BAP targets.
13. Conserve and enhance the historic and built environment through considerate siting and design and through respecting architectural, cultural and archaeological heritage.	1. Will it preserve, protect and enhance conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeological remains, historic parks and gardens and their settings and other features and areas of historic and cultural value?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of demolition consents (Listed Buildings) Number of demolition consents (Conservation Areas).
	2. Will it help safeguard the District's Listed, Locally Listed and other historic buildings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of buildings on the national and local BARs.
	4. Will it improve and broaden access to and understanding of, local heritage, historic sites, areas and buildings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of Conservation Areas with Conservation Area Appraisals completed/updated within the last 5 years. % of Conservation Areas with Management Plans completed/updated within the last 5 years.
	5. Will it help to realise the physical, social, economic and environmental value of the historic environment in the regeneration of the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of derelict buildings brought back into use.
14. Ensure efficient use of land through the safeguarding of mineral reserves, the best and most versatile agricultural land and greenfield land; and maximise the use of previously developed land.	1. Will it safeguard the District's mineral resources?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be developed
	2. Will it help to protect the District's agricultural land from adverse developments?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of best and most versatile agricultural land lost to built development.
	3. Will it preserve the openness of the Green Belt?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of planning permissions granted in the Green Belt.
	4. Will it protect and enhance the District's open spaces of recreational and amenity value?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of hectares of open space and recreational/amenity space lost to development.
15. To promote the regeneration of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.	1. Does it focus development in the town centres of Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new residential completions located in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.
	2. Does it encourage the re-use of existing buildings and brownfield sites in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new residential developments located on brownfield land in Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn.

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
16. Mitigate against the unavoidable negative impacts of climate change.	1. Does it promote development that is adaptable to and suitable for predicted changes in climate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new developments incorporating SuDS
	2. Does it promote land uses that are suitable for the predicted changes in the District's climate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of new developments incorporating SuDS
17. Reduce noise and light pollution.	1. Does it mitigate against noise pollution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of noise pollution complaints.
	2. Does it mitigate against light pollution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of light pollution complaints received.
Greater Learning and Prosperity		
18. To raise the skills levels and qualifications of the workforce.	1. Will it provide opportunities to further develop adult and community learning facilities within the District?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of school leavers with 5 A*-C grades. % of the District's working age population qualified to NVQ level 4 or higher.
19. To consult communities in accordance with the SCI, providing opportunities to participate in and contribute to the decisions that affect their neighbourhood and quality of life.	1. Do proposals incorporate consultation with local communities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of LDF consultations carried out in accordance with the SCI
	2. Are proposals transparent and open to the public?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
	3. Will it offer people the chance to directly affect decisions in their locality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
	4. Does it promote community engagement?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of consultation responses received on LDF documents.
Shared Prosperity		
20. Create and maintain a diverse, knowledge-driven economy, ensuring all have the benefits, urban and rural.	1. Will it help enhance the District's economy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of VAT registered businesses within the area.
	2. Will it contribute towards rural regeneration?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of VAT registered businesses in rural areas.
	3. Will it provide opportunities for businesses to develop and enhance their competitiveness?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> De-registrations of VAT registered businesses in the area.
	4. Will it support sustainable tourism?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of bed spaces developed Number of tourism related jobs

SA Objective	Decision-Making Criteria	Indicators
	5. Will it support the shopping hierarchy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New retail development within or on the edge of primary shopping area (Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn) • Net new retail floorspace completed (sq m)
21. Promote and support the development of new technologies, especially those with high value and low impact.	1. Does it encourage innovative and environmentally friendly technologies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of employment land developed on brownfield land • Number of B1 completions.

E.1 Of the 21 SA Objectives, the majority cover environmental concerns, with the remaining covering social and economic concerns. This is reflective of the fact that the majority of the sustainability issues are environmental in their nature.

F Policies used for Decisions Determined 2008/09

Wyre Forest District Adopted Local Plan - January 2004

F.1 The following tabled information is taken from WFDC Innogistic database

Housing

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
H1	Housing Provision	3	2	1
H2	Residential Locations	89	61	28
H4	Housing Developments: Dwelling Mix	6	4	2
H5	Housing Density	11	7	4
H6	Backland Development	12	5	7
H7	Sub-division of Existing Dwellings	12	7	5
H9	Other Provision for Housing	13	9	4
H10	Affordable Housing	9	5	4
H11	Affordable Housing Exception Schemes in Rural Areas	0	0	0
H13	Residential Homes	3	3	0
H14	Gypsy Sites - Existing Provision	0	0	0
H15	Gypsy Sites - Future Provision	0	0	0
H16	Residential Caravans and Mobile Homes	1	1	0
H18	Accommodation for Dependants	6	6	0
	Totals	165	110	55

F.2

Employment

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
E1	Employment Land Provision	3	3	0
E2	Employment Development Proposals	23	23	0
E3	British Sugar Factory	1	1	0
E4	Lea Castle Hospital	0	0	0
E5	Rushock Trading Estate	2	2	0
E6	Areas Allocated for Mixed Uses	2	2	0
E7	Development involving Hazardous or Dangerous Substances	3	3	0
E8	Employment Development in the Rural Area outside the Green Belt	0	0	0
E9	Employment Development in the Green Belt	8	7	1

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
E10	Business Development Outside Allocated Areas	4	3	1
	Totals	46	44	2

Design

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
D1	Design Quality	678	596	82
D3	Local Distinctiveness	586	508	78
D4	Design (existing trees)	54	40	14
D5	Design of Development in the Countryside	109	86	23
D6	Safeguarding of Resources by Design	10	10	0
D7	Sustainable Drainage	27	21	6
D8	Designing for Materials Recycling	2	2	0
D9	Design for Movement	35	28	7
D10	Boundary Treatment	75	64	11
D11	Design of Landscaping Schemes	65	52	13
D12	Public Art	4	2	2
D13	Design of Private and Communal Amenity Spaces	42	30	12
D14	Street Furniture	5	3	2
D15	Car Park Design	21	18	3
D16	Design for Community Safety	11	10	1
D17	Design of Residential Extensions	354	329	25
D18	Design of Non Residential Extensions	63	58	5
D19	Designing for Adaptability	15	11	4
	Totals	2156	1868	288

F.3

Advertisements

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AD1	Local Character, Amenity & Safety	32	28	4
AD2	Built Heritage	17	14	3
AD3	Advertisement Hoardings	1	0	1
AD5	Advance Warning Signs	0	0	0
AD6	Free Standing Signs	14	12	2
	Totals	64	54	10

Natural Resources

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
NR1	Development of Greenfield Land	4	4	0
NR2	Contaminated Land	7	7	0
NR3	Development Adjacent to Landfill Sites	5	5	0
NR4	Land Stability	3	2	1
NR5	Floodplains	30	23	7
NR6	Development adjacent to Watercourses	14	11	3
NR7	Groundwater Resources	12	11	1
NR8	Water Supply	9	7	2
NR9	Sewage Disposal	24	20	4
NR10	Air Quality	6	4	2
NR11	Noise Pollution	27	24	3
NR12	Light Pollution	7	6	1
NR13	Development adjacent to High Voltage Overhead Power Lines	0	0	0
NR14	Development adjacent to Hazardous Establishments	2	2	0
NR15	Recycling Facilities	0	0	0
	Totals	150	126	24

Countryside

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LA1	Landscape Character	104	90	14
LA2	Landscape Protection Area	100	82	18
LA3	The Severn Way	10	7	3
LA4	The Stour Valley	3	1	2
LA5	Streams and Pools Systems East of Kidderminster	1	0	1
LA6	Landscape Features	6	4	2
	Totals	224	184	40

Greenbelt

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
GB1	Control of Development in the Green Belt	164	137	27
GB2	Development in the Green Belt	127	108	19
GB3	Outdoor Sport and Recreation	17	14	3

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
GB4	Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	1	1	0
GB6	Re-Use of Existing Industrial Premises in the Green Belt	3	2	1
GB6	Protection of Visual Amenity	135	111	24
	Totals	447	373	74

Areas of Development Restraint

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
DR1	Areas of Development Restraint	0	0	0
	Totals	0	0	0

Agriculture

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AG1	Agricultural Land Quality	2	2	0
AG2	Agricultural and Forestry Workers' Dwellings	2	1	1
AG3	Agricultural and Forestry Workers' Dwellings – Removal of Conditions	2	1	1
AG4	New Agricultural Buildings	4	4	0
AG5	Intensive Livestock Units	0	0	0
AG7	Farm Shops	1	1	0
AG8	Farm Diversification	2	2	0
	Totals	13	11	2

Re-Use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
RB1	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Conversion Criteria	31	23	8
RB2	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Appropriate Uses	21	18	3
RB3	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Impact of Existing Uses	15	12	3
RB4	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings – Operational Space	20	16	4
RB5	Re-use and Adaptation of Rural Buildings- Extensions and Curtilage Buildings	17	13	4
RB6	Provision for Protected Species	17	14	3
	Totals	121	96	25

Chalets

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CH1	Extensions and Improvements to Permanently Occupied Chalets	3	3	0
CH2	Extensions to Holiday Chalets	0	0	0
CH3	Change of Nature of Occupation	0	0	0
CH4	Replacement	3	2	1
	Totals	6	5	1

Development involving Horses

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
EQ1	Development for Commercial Equestrian Activities	3	2	1
EQ2	Stables and Field Shelters for Leisure Activities	15	11	4
EQ3	Landscape Impact of Development Involving Horses	12	9	3
	Totals	30	22	8

Listed Buildings

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LB1	Development Affecting a Listed Building	110	100	10
LB2	Repairs, Alterations, Extensions and Conversions	96	90	6
LB3	Fixtures and Fittings	42	40	2
LB4	Parks and Gardens	4	3	1
LB5	New Development Affecting the Setting of Listed Buildings	42	36	6
	Totals	294	269	25

Conservation Areas and Other Areas

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CA1	Development in Conservation Areas	97	89	8
CA2	Demolition in Conservation Areas	9	9	0
CA3	Shopfronts in Conservation Areas and in relation to Listed Buildings	17	14	3
CA4	Trees and Hedgerows in Conservation Areas	3	3	0
CA6	Other Areas of Special Character or Appearance	8	6	2
	Totals	134	121	13

Archaeology

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
AR1	Archaeological Sites of National Importance	1	1	0
AR2	Archaeological Sites of Regional, County or Local Importance	1	1	0
AR3	Archaeological Evaluations and Mitigation Measures	3	3	0
	Totals	5	5	0

Historic Landscapes

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
HL1	Historic Landscapes	1	0	1
	Totals	1	0	1

Enabling Development

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
ED1	Enabling Development	0	0	0
	Totals	0	0	0

Nature Conservation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
NC1	Areas of National Importance	2	1	1
NC2	Areas of Regional, County or Local Importance	13	11	2
NC3	Wildlife Corridors and Stepping Stones	6	5	1
NC5	Biodiversity	19	15	4
NC6	Landscaping Schemes	14	11	3
NC7	Ecological Surveys and Mitigation Plans	17	13	4
NC8	Public Access	1	1	0
	Totals	72	57	15

Transport

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TR1	Bus Infrastructure	3	2	1
TR2	Interchange Improvements at Kidderminster Railway Station	0	0	0
TR3	Sustainable Transport Route	0	0	0
TR4	Access to Rail Freight	0	0	0
TR5	Lorry Route Network	1	1	0

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TR6	Cycling Infrastructure	1	1	0
TR7	Provision for Pedestrians	9	5	4
TR8	Highway Network	3	2	1
TR9	Impacts of Development on the Highway Network	372	318	54
TR10	Environmental Impact of Highway Works	2	2	0
TR11	Developments Fronting Unmade Roads	3	2	1
TR12	Area Wide Traffic Management Schemes	0	0	0
TR13	The Horsefair, Kidderminster	0	0	0
TR15	Proposed Stourport Relief Road	1	1	0
TR17	Car Parking Standards and Provision	329	287	42
TR18	Transport Assessment of New Development	2	2	0
TR19	Implementation of Travel Plans	2	2	0
TR20	The Location of Telecommunications Equipment	4	0	4
	Totals	732	625	107

Leisure and Recreation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
LR1	Parks, Public Open Spaces and Other Open Space Areas	8	6	2
LR2	Amenity Space	4	4	0
LR3	Children's Play Space	3	2	1
LR4	Allotments	0	0	0
LR5	Informal Countryside Facilities	1	1	0
LR6	Stour Valley Country Park	1	0	1
LR7	Hurcott Pool and Woods	0	0	0
LR8	Public Rights of Way	9	8	1
LR9	Outdoor Sports Pitches and Playing Fields	9	9	0
LR10	Minster Road Outdoor Sports Area	3	3	0
LR11	Noisy or Intrusive Sports	3	3	0
LR12	Airborne Sports	8	7	1
LR13	Water Sports	0	0	0
LR14	Golf Courses and Related Developments	1	1	0
LR15	Staff Accommodation for Golf Facilities	0	0	0
LR16	Arts, Entertainment and Museum Facilities	1	1	0
LR17	Commercial Leisure Developments	2	2	0
	Totals	53	47	6

Tourism

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TM1	Tourism Development	8	6	2
TM2	Development of Hotels and Guest Houses	2	1	1
TM3	Extensions to Hotels and Guest Houses in the Green Belt	2	2	0
TM4	Conversions to Tourism Uses in the Green Belt	3	3	0
TM5	New Holiday Caravan and Chalet Sites	1	1	0
TM6	Improvement of Existing Holiday Caravan and Chalet Sites	3	3	0
TM7	Farm Tourism	1	1	0
TM9	Stourport-on-Severn Tourist Information and Heritage Centre	0	0	0
	Totals	20	17	3

Community

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
CY2	Community Facilities	15	15	0
CY3	Kidderminster Hospital	3	3	0
CY4	Education Facilities – Developer Contributions	5	3	2
CY5	Existing Education Sites	6	6	0
CY6	Cemeteries	1	1	0
	Totals	30	28	2

Retailing

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
RT1	Sequential Approach	8	7	1
RT2	Primary Shopping Areas: Groundfloor Uses	8	6	2
RT3	Bewdley District Centre	7	7	0
RT4	Edge-of-Centre Retail Proposals	15	11	4
RT5	Retail Parks and Major Stores	2	1	1
RT6	Local Centres and Other Groups of Shops	12	11	1
RT7	Small Shop Change of Use	3	3	0
RT8	Outside the Identified Centres	5	5	0
RT9	Petrol Filling Stations	2	2	0
RT12	Horticultural Retailing	1	1	0
RT13	Food and Drink	7	6	1

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
	Totals	70	60	10

Town Centres

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
TC1	Town Centre Strategies	5	4	1
TC2	Town Centre Uses	24	20	4
TC3	Commercial Leisure Facilities	1	1	0
TC4	Key Movement Corridors	0	0	0
TC5	Town Centre Car Parking Areas	3	2	1
KTC1	Town Centre Redevelopment Area	3	3	0
KTC2	Bromsgrove Street	0	0	0
KTC3	Worcester Street Enhancement Area	0	0	0
KTC4	Green Street Mixed Use Area	1	1	0
STC1	Lichfield Basin (Severn Road Phase One)	1	1	0
STC2	Carpets of Worth (Severn Road Phase Two)	1	1	0
STC3	Cheapside (Severn Road Phase Three)	0	0	0
STC4	Bridge Street / Basins Link	2	2	0
STC5	Canal Basins Area	1	1	0
STC6	Vale Road (West)	0	0	0
	Totals	42	36	6

Implementation

Policy Number	Policy	Total Usage	No. Used for Approval	No. Used for Refusal
IMP1	Planning Obligations (Section 106)	13	12	1
	Totals	13	12	1

There were 56 appeal decisions during the reporting year, of which 40 were dismissed. This is much higher than the number of appeal decisions in 2007/08.

Departures

Departure Applications

Application Number	Policy	Location
08/0051/FULL	Renewal of planning permission WF/1058/02 erection of one 2 bed dwelling with car parking/garaging arrangements	Rear of 32 Park Lane, Bewdley
08/0152/FULL	Change of use from light industrial use (B1c) to educational & training use (D1)	Rivco Ltd, Fredrick Road, Hoo Farm Industrial Estate, Kidderminster

Application Number		
08/0700/OUTL	Erection of new building for use as a Judo Club with associated access & parking (access & layout to be determined)	Gilt Edge Sports & Social Club, Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster
08/0879/OUTL	Residential development for 6 no 5 bedroomed dwellings	Areley Common First School, Abberley Avenue, Kidderminster
09/0075/FULL	Change of use from motor vehicle repair workshop to premises for the sale and repair of furniture and household appliances with associated storage and office space	Unit 56, Kidderminster Industrial Park, Stourport Road, Kidderminster