

Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Alice Collinson, Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder and Marianne Hesketh, Corporate Director Communities	Cabinet	11 January 2023

Authorities Monitoring Report 2021-2022
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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider and recommend the content of the Authorities Monitoring Report 2021-2022.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 Compliance with Section 113 of the Localism Act 2011 which requires the publication of an Authorities Monitoring Report.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That subject to the inclusion of any minor editorial alterations, the Authorities Monitoring Report 2021-2022, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved by Cabinet and made available for public inspection.

4. Background

- 4.1 The preparation of Annual Monitoring Reports ceased on 15 January 2012 when section 113 of the Localism Act came into force. This removed the requirement for Annual Monitoring Reports to be made to the Secretary of State. However, councils are still required to prepare reports, now known as Authorities Monitoring Reports. The Act requires councils to publish this information direct to the public at least annually in the interests of transparency.
- 4.2 The Authorities Monitoring Report is the main mechanism for assessing the performance and effects of the adopted Local Plan. It forms a critical evidence document for the Local Plan for Wyre Council.

4.3 This is the 18th Authorities Monitoring Report for Wyre Council and the purpose therefore follows:

- To monitor key characteristics of Wyre as a wider contextual setting for Local Plan monitoring;
- To assess the planning policies of the Adopted Local Plan 2011-2031 (adopted February 2019), including their effectiveness, and the impacts they have on the borough; and
- To consider progress in terms of preparation of any planning policy documents set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and any 'real time' subsequent updates on the council's website.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The demographic structure of Wyre poses issues for the future. In particular, the ageing population, in-migration and projected population growth have implications for housing and provision of services. 2021 Census data highlights a 3.8% increase in population since 2011. The total population of Wyre is 111,929.
- 5.2** The Wyre Local Plan covers a 20 year period – 2011 to 2031 and was adopted on 28 February 2019. Policy SP1 requires the delivery of a minimum of 9,200 dwellings within the plan period, which translates to an annual requirement of 460 dwellings.
- 5.3** There have been 749 housing completions, with 268 accounting for affordable housing and the remaining 481 as market housing.
- 5.4** 52% of new dwellings approved are within 1km of a GP surgery.
- 5.5** 73% of new dwellings approved are within 1km of a primary school.
- 5.6** 28% of new dwellings approved are within 1km of a secondary school.
- 5.7** 57% of new dwellings approved are within 1km of an existing employment area (EP2).
- 5.8** 63% of new dwellings approved are within 1km of a town, district, local and/or neighbourhood centre (EP4).
- 5.9** The average ground floor vacancy rate across town centres has decreased slightly (by 1.4%) to 7.34%. The highest vacancies remain in Fleetwood (11.76%), but this is still a decrease from 14.51% in 2020/21.
- 5.10** There has been minimal loss (0.24ha) of green infrastructure as a result of development. Policy HP9 required 11.205ha to be provided across 13 sites. 12.49ha has been proposed on new developments.
- 5.11** There remains just one Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Wyre.

5.12 The Wyre Local Plan to 2031 includes Policy LPR1 – Wyre Local Plan Review that required the early partial review of the Wyre Local Plan with the objective of meeting the full objectively assessed housing needs over the plan period. The partial review has recently (September 2022) been through examination and the inspector is to conclude findings in due course.

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.
Legal	This document is required to comply with Government guidance and legislation.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		

List of appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Authorities Monitoring Report 2021-2022