NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Local Development Framework ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

2010

November 2010



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Executive Summary

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local planning authorities to submit an Annual Monitoring Report to the Secretary of State by 31 December each year. The report should:

- set out progress on Local Development Document preparation against the timetable outlined in the Authority's Local Development Scheme;
- assess the extent to which current planning policies are being implemented;
- identify the significant effects of implementing policies in Local Development Documents and whether they are as intended;
- set out whether policies are to be amended or replaced.

This is the fifth Annual Monitoring Report by the New Forest National Park Authority. It covers the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010.

The report highlights that the key milestones of submitting and adopting the Authority's Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document have been achieved.

In general an analysis of the performance of the current planning policies in the local plans covering the National Park indicates that they are performing well and the Authority is largely achieving the objectives set out in the constituent local plans. However, there are a number of concerns particularly relating to issues such as local distinctiveness and the need for a consistent set of policies across the whole of the Park. These are addressed by relevant policies in the Authority's Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document.

Summary of Core Output Indicators

BD1	Total amount of additional employment floorspace – by type	1,455m ²	\odot
BD2	Total Amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land – by type	1,140m ² (79%)	\odot
BD3	Employment land available – by type	5,818m ²	\bigcirc
BD4	Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre' uses	Indicator not applicable	<u>(i)</u>
H1	Plan period and housing targets	220 dwellings (2006 – 2026)	<u>:</u>
H2 (a)	Net additional dwellings – in previous years	151 dwellings over past 6 years	
H2 (b)	Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year	23 dwellings	\odot
H2 (c)	Net additional dwellings – in future years	Estimate of 11 dwellings per annum	\odot
H2 (d)	Managed delivery target	Estimate of 11 dwellings per annum	
Н3	New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land	96%	\odot
H4	Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)	Zero	
H5	Gross affordable housing completions	Zero	
H6	Housing quality –Building for Life Assessments	No data available	<u></u>
E1	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds	Zero	\odot
E2	Change in areas of biodiversity importance	Increase of 228ha	\odot
E3	Renewable energy generation	8 permissions granted for solar panels / biomass boilers	\odot
M1	Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority	No data available – See HCC AMR	\odot
M2	Production of secondary and recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority	No data available – See HCC AMR	\odot
W1	Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority	No data available – See HCC AMR	\odot
W2	Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority	No data available – See HCC AMR	<u> </u>



1 Introduction

- 1.1 The designation of the New Forest National Park was confirmed in March 2005 and the National Park Authority assumed its full planning responsibilities in April 2006. The Authority is responsible for spatial planning, minerals and waste planning, development control and enforcement, and other related regulatory functions within the National Park.
- 1.2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires every local planning authority to produce an Annual Monitoring Report for submission to the Secretary of State by 31 December each year. This should contain information on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the Policies set out in Local Development Documents are being achieved.
- 1.3 This is the fifth Annual Monitoring Report produced by the New Forest National Park Authority. The monitoring data set out in this report relate to the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010.
- 1.4 The New Forest National Park covers parts of New Forest District and Test Valley Borough in Hampshire and part of Wiltshire Council area (formerly Salisbury District).

Development Plan

- 1.5 During the period of the monitoring report the Development Plan for the National Park comprised the following:
 - New Forest District Local Plan First Alteration (2005)
 - Test Valley Borough Local Plan (2006)
 - Salisbury District Local Plan (2003)
 - Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East (2009)
- 1.6 Although the Government issued a statement in May 2010 revoking all Regional Spatial Strategies, a subsequent legal challenge means that they remain part of the Development Plan until such time as the Localism Bill is enacted, which will revoke the Regional Spatial Strategies. Upon adoption of the Authority's Core Strategy in December 2010 those policies will supersede the majority of policies in the aforementioned three local plans.

Saved policies

1.7 The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act introduced a new system of Local Development Frameworks to replace local plans. As these are gradually introduced policies from the old style local plans will expire unless the Government agrees to save those policies considered necessary. However, the vast majority of these policies have now been superseded by the policies in the Authority's Core Strategy. A summary is set out overleaf with a detailed schedule of saved policies in Appendix 2 of this report.

- New Forest District Local Plan (Adopted 2005) All but one policy now superseded by the Core Strategy.
- **Test Valley Borough Local Plan** (Adopted 2006) All policies now superseded by the Core Strategy.
- Salisbury District Local Plan (Adopted 2003) All policies now superseded by the Core Strategy.
- Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Plan (Adopted 2005) All but one policy superseded by the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Format of this report

- 1.8 This report covers the entirety of the National Park and takes as its starting point the objectives in the three local plans of New Forest District, Test Valley Borough and Salisbury District in place during the monitoring period. A number of statutory core output indicators and local indicators are used to assess the performance of the policies in the three plans.
- 1.9 In establishing a set of indicators, particular regard has been given to the mandatory set of local development framework core output indicators established by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in the Good Practice Guide 'Local Development Framework Monitoring' (2005) and as amended by an Update publication No. 1/2005, and subsequently Update No. 2/2008. Whilst it is recognised by the Government that local authorities may not be able to provide an immediate return on all of these indicators, the intention is that work towards meeting this goal should be progressed.
- 1.10 Any comments and queries on this Monitoring Report should be addressed to the policy and plans team at the National Park Authority:

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Tel: 01590 646673

email: policyandplans@newforestnpa.gov.uk

2 National Park profile

- 2.1 The New Forest covers a geographical area of 56,658 hectares. It includes the Open Forest, which most people identify as the heart of the Forest, together with a wider area of enclosed farmlands. The handful of large villages house the majority of the population of around 34,000 people. Much of the area is sparsely populated, with villages and hamlets set in countryside of exceptional quality and natural beauty. Traditional land management, such as the ancient system of commoning, is still practised in much of the Forest, and the cultural landscape and natural habitats are recognised to be of international importance.
- 2.2 However, the National Park is fringed by the expanding residential and industrial areas of the Bournemouth / Poole / Christchurch and Southampton / Portsmouth conurbations, creating continual pressure for new development. It is easily reached by road from centres of population locally, and throughout southern England and attracts large numbers of visitors each year, with associated traffic problems and damage to the more fragile habitats.
- 2.3 Appendix 1 sets out more detailed statistics on the National Park.

Issues and Challenges

- 2.4 In October 2010 an independent planning inspector found the Authority's draft new planning policies, as set out in the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document, to be 'sound'. These will be adopted by the Authority in December 2010 and will become operational immediately.
- 2.5 The Core Strategy sets out the main challenges for the New Forest National Park over the next 20 years as:
 - **Climate change** is likely to affect the character of large parts of the National Park, modifying landscapes, habitats and biodiversity;
 - Local distinctiveness is the sum of all the individual features of local landscapes and the built environment, but there has been a gradual and continuing loss of character;
 - **Traditional land management** has created the landscape of the New Forest over the last 1000 years but is now under threat from uncertainties facing agriculture and commoning;
 - **Economic growth** within the Park and surrounding areas brings both pressures and opportunities. There is a continued demand for new development within and immediately adjacent to the Park.

3 Local Development Scheme

3.1 The Authority's Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a publicly available programme identifying which local development documents will be produced, and when. A revised LDS for the New Forest National Park Authority was formally brought into effect on 10 December 2009.

Progress against Local Development Scheme milestones

3.2 Through the Annual Monitoring Report Local Planning Authorities are required to assess whether significant milestones in the preparation of various documents in the Local Development Scheme have been reached. Assessment of the key milestones for each of the documents identified in the Authority's LDS is set out below.

Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD

3.3 An Examination in Public into the soundness of the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document was held by an independent Planning Inspector between 7 and 9 September 2010, two months later than the LDS anticipated. As the Inspector's Report was received by the National Park Authority on 8 October 2010, only a month after the close of the hearing sessions, it will be adopted by the Authority in December 2010 which is a couple of months earlier than stated in the Authority's LDS.

Sites and Designations Development Plan Document

3.4 The initial scoping of the content and evidence base requirements for this document is underway, in line with the relevant milestone set out in the Authority's LDS. Following the adoption of the Core Strategy the Authority will focus resources on the production of this document. The next milestone will be publication of the Submission document in July 2011 with a period for public representations.

New Forest National Park Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

3.5 This document is in the production stages, as set out in the Authority's LDS. However the publication of the draft SPD for public consultation is currently scheduled for September to October 2010 but has been awaiting receipt of the Inspector's Report on the Core Strategy as the SPD sets out more detail to the planning policies in the Core Strategy. Consultation will take place early in 2011 on this document.

Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

3.6 Work has started scoping out the content of this document. The next milestone is a period of public consultation in April and May 2011, although it is likely that the timetable will need to be reviewed before then.

Hampshire and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste LDF

3.7 The National Park Authority together with Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils is undertaking an early review of the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy. This document will be known as the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan and will incorporate Areas of Search for minerals and strategic waste sites. The Hampshire Minerals and Waste LDS sets out the updated timetable for this. The milestone on early public participation held in November and December 2009 was successfully reached. Further details are set out in the Hampshire and New Forest Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme, which can be seen on Hampshire County Council's website.

4 Policy Performance

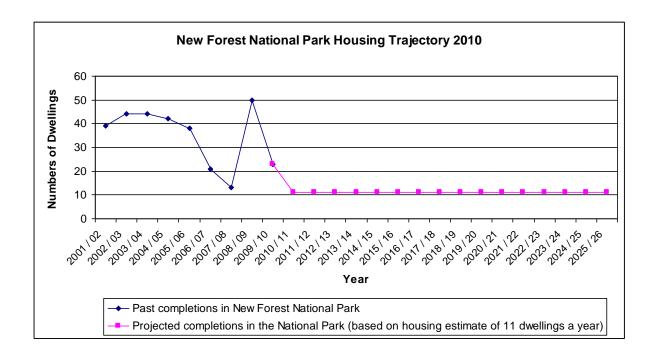
4.1 Housing

Local Plan Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan	•		
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 14 Housing provision To meet the Structure Plan requirement to provide for 5480 dwellings between April 1996 and March 2011, and to identify additional 'reserve' provision for 500 dwellings, while minimising the need to release greenfield sites for development. Salisbury District Local Plan – Housing To provide sufficient land for new housing development in the District to meet housing needs in the District and Structure Plan requirements in a manner which seeks to ensure a sustainable pattern of development by concentrating development in Salisbury, Amesbury and a limited number of the larger settlements, whilst providing scope for limited development in other villages within an overall context of protecting the natural environment and historic fabric of the area. Test Valley Borough Local Plan -	H1 Plan period and housing targets H2(a) Net additional dwellings – in previous years H2(b) Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year H2(c) Net additional dwellings – in future years H2(d) Managed delivery target H3 New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land	% of new dwellings	NFDC NF-H1 to NF-H8 SDC H1 HA2 HA3 HA4 TVBC SET03 SET11 to13
Respecting the environment (Chapter 3) To shape the settlement pattern by concentrating new development in and around existing built-up areas and protecting the countryside from inappropriate development.		completed at (i) <30 dwlgs per ha (ii) 30-50 dwlgs per ha (iii) >50 dwlgs per ha	
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 15 Housing needs To address the current imbalance in the housing stock in the District by increasing the supply of smaller one and two bedroom dwellings, and to make best use of available resources to maximise the provision of "affordable" housing to meet local needs.	H4 Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) H5 Gross affordable housing completions		NFDC AH1 AH2 SDC H25 H26 H34, HA3

Housing trajectory (Core Output Indicator H2)

4.1.1 None of the local plans covering the National Park set out a specific housing target for the National Park. During the monitoring period the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East was in place and set out a housing requirement of

220 dwellings for the National Park over the period 2006 and 2026, equating to 11 dwellings per annum. This requirement is carried through into the Authority's Core Strategy which will be adopted in December 2010. The housing trajectory below sets out the past completions and projected completions. The level of projected completions highlights the reliance on windfall sites as the Authority's Core Strategy does not allocate any housing sites. Therefore it is difficult to indicate a clear projection of future completions.

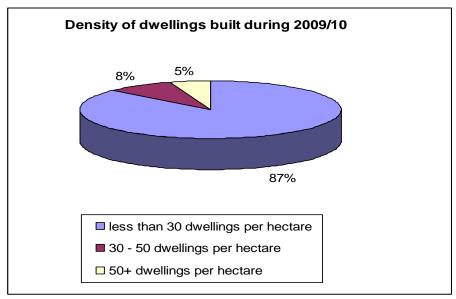


New and converted dwellings on previously developed land (Core Output Indicator H3)

4.1.2 During this monitoring period a net total of 23 dwellings were completed, of which 96% were built on previously developed land. This is significantly higher than the target of 60% set by Government in Planning Policy Statement 3 on Housing. This compares to 76% in last year's monitoring report.

Housing densities

- 4.1.3 This monitoring report covers the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010. Within this period Planning Policy Statement 3 on Housing (PPS3) advised that Local Authorities should aim for an indicative 30 dwellings per hectare where the respective local plan does not contain a density policy. PPS3 has since been revised (in June 2010) and no longer refers to minimum densities for housing. However, the diagram overleaf illustrates the level of densities of houses built during the monitoring period.
- 4.1.4 This diagram reflects the high proportion of single houses built, particularly replacement dwellings, which are often set in large grounds.



Source: Hampshire County Council

Gross affordable housing completions (Core Output Indicator H5)

4.1.5 There were no affordable dwellings built in the New Forest National Park during 2009/2010, in comparison to the 15 dwellings built during 2008/09. This is an issue that the Authority's Core Strategy seeks to address, particularly by raising the proportion of affordable housing sought from residential development.

Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) (Core Output Indicator H4)

4.1.6 No pitches for gypsies and travellers were permitted during the monitoring period.

Housing quality – Building for Life Assessment (Core Output Indicator H6)

4.1.7 No data is currently available on this issue.

Performance of housing policies

- 4.1.8 The housing policies in the local plans during the monitoring period have generally been implemented effectively, especially with regard to development on brownfield land.
- 4.1.9 However, there is a degree of inconsistency between some policies in the three local plans. These have been addressed through the preparation of the Authority's Core Strategy, which also puts more emphasis on local distinctiveness, which will be supported by the emerging Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.

4.2 Employment and the economy

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 3: Town Centres To enhance the attraction of town centres in the District.	BD4 Total	■ retail floorspace	NFDC n/a
Salisbury District Local Plan - Shopping To enhance the quality of retail facilities within the District by sustaining the position of Salisbury as a sub-regional centre and encouraging the provision of needed facilities in other settlements.	amount of floorspace for 'town centre' uses Not applicable to the National Park as there are no defined town centres	permitted in defined New Forest villages	SDC S3 S9, S11
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 20 Shopping To support and initiate measures to improve the quality and, where appropriate, quantity of shopping and service facilities available in both town centres and local shops; and to resist proposals which would adversely affect the vitality and viability of existing centres.			TVBC ESN18
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 16 Employment To provide for the employment needs of the District's resident population by encouraging economic activity and job opportunities, principally in the main towns.	BD1 Total amount of additional employment floorspace - by type		NFDC NF-B2 to NF-B6
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 17 Local businesses To cater for the development needs of businesses already in the District and to encourage new small firms, where this does not result in unacceptable environmental consequences or add unacceptably to pressures on the New Forest.	BD2 Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land – by type		
Test Valley Borough Local Plan Meeting the needs of the community (Chapter 6) To meet the needs for housing, employment, community facilities, tourism and infrastructure in ways that support viable communities, maintain a robust local economy and maintain the high quality environment of the Borough.			TVBC ESN 15 ESN 18 ESN 20

Salisbury District Local Plan - Employment To encourage a diverse and healthy economy by providing opportunities for a range of employment activities through concentrating major development in Salisbury and Amesbury, promoting sites in other larger settlements where new housing is proposed and providing scope for local employment in the more rural parts of the District.			SDC E16, E17, (E19, E21) HA5, HA6
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 18 Employment sites To provide for a reasonable range of types and sizes of sites, in accordance with Structure Plan policies. New Forest District Local Plan Objective 19 Rural economy To assist in the maintenance of the economy in rural areas by providing for diversification of rural economic activities and alternative employment opportunities in the countryside, where not in conflict with environmental constraints.	BD3 Employment land available - by type	 Forest / agriculture related business start-ups numbers of practising commoners 	NF-B6 SDC E16, E17 NFDC NF-B2 NF-B3 NF-RB1
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 21 Tourism To support a viable and prosperous tourist industry, to the continued benefit of the local economy, while ensuring that the interests of the environment, in particular the New Forest and the undeveloped coast, are safeguarded and protected.		 Value to local economy tourism related jobs visitor bedspaces visitor numbers visitor transport facilities 	NFDC NF-TM1 to NF-TM11

Town centre uses (Core Output Indicator BD4)

4.2.1 There are no defined town centres within the local plans currently covering the National Park, and consequently there has been no development in defined town centres. However, the New Forest District Local Plan identifies four of the larger settlements (the 'Defined Villages' of Ashurst, Brockenhurst, Lyndhurst and Sway) to be the focus for development, including retail development. There is a stock of 410m² amount of retail development in the National Park, from a couple of existing sites with planning permissions for additional A1 retail uses. However, these are located outside the defined villages.

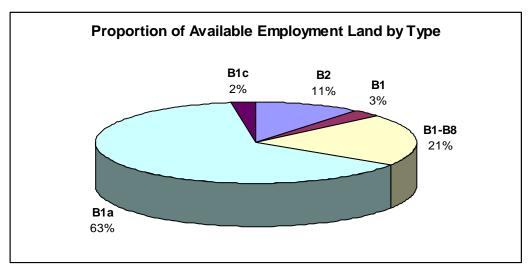
Employment development by type (Core Output Indicator BD1)
Employment development on previously developed land (Core Output Indicator BD2)

4.2.2 During the monitoring period a total of 1,455m² of employment floorspace was completed within the National Park. This is broken down by type as follows:

Use Class Type	B2	B8	B1 - B8
Amount	270m ²	315m ²	870m ²
% on previously developed land	19%	-	60%
% on greenfield land	-	21%	-

Employment land available by type (Core Output Indicator BD3)

4.2.3 The amount of employment land available within the National Park is based solely on unimplemented planning permissions, as there are no site specific allocations within any of the three constituent local plans. An analysis of available employment land (as at April 2010) reveals that there is a stock of sites with planning permission for business and industrial uses amounting to 5,818m², as illustrated below.



Source: Hampshire County Council

4.2.4 This is a significantly higher proportion of employment land available than last year's report, but reflects two particularly large unimplemented planning permissions, both in Lyndhurst.

Rural economy

4.2.5 Over 38,000 hectares of the National Park is covered by the 'perambulation' within which commoners' rights apply and animals can roam freely where the land is unenclosed. There are approximately 628 practising commoners, as recorded in 2008 by the Verderers of the New Forest, with a total of 7922 animals (comprising ponies, cattle, pigs, sheep and donkeys) depastured on the open forest in 2009.

4.2.6 The Defra June Agricultural and Horticultural Survey of 2009 identifies that within the National Park there is a total of 986 farm holdings, of which the vast majority are less 5 hectares in size. There are 239 full time farmers and 720 part time farmers with total labour employed in agriculture standing at 1,615 persons.

Tourism

- 4.2.7 Tourism is one of the principal drivers of the rural economy in the National Park. There are approximately 2,450 jobs sustained directly and indirectly by visitor activity in the New Forest (Tourism South East Survey, 2005). Around 13.5 million visits take place in the National Park each year. This results in an estimated total of £72 million per annum being spent locally from leisure visits to the National Park (Tourism South East Survey, 2005).
- 4.2.8 There are around 20,500 bed spaces in self catering accommodation, with a further 4,500 bed spaces in hotels and guest houses across the National Park (Tourism South East Survey 2005).
- 4.2.9 During the monitoring period a further 13 hotel bedrooms were completed at an existing hotel. There is also unimplemented planning permission for a further 40 bedrooms from two sites.

Performance of employment policies

- 4.2.10 Local plan policies on employment and the economy have worked successfully during the monitoring period, as there continues to be a stock of available sites with planning permission for a range of business and industrial uses.
- 4.2.11 The policies set out in the Authority's Core Strategy continue to encourage some provision of small scale employment uses within the Park, whilst not needing to allocate any employment sites.

4.3 Transport and access

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 22 Transport schemes To provide for transport schemes in accordance with Structure Plan policies.		 Schemes implemented Areas safeguarded for transport schemes 	NFDC DW-T1 DW-T2
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 23 Reduce dependence on the car To reduce dependence on the car by maintaining and, where practicable, enhancing and encouraging the use of alternative transport modes, including public transport, walking and cycling; and through land use policies. Test Valley Borough Local Plan Enhancing the quality of life (Chapter 7) To achieve a pattern of land use and a network of transport links that reduce the overall need to travel through the location and design of development and by encouraging the use of alternatives to the car. Salisbury District Local Plan - Transportation		 use of different modes new public transport routes / facilities length of journeys to work volumes of traffic on road network 	NFDC DW-T5 DW-T7 TVBC TRA01- TRA04 TRA09
To implement a sustainable transportation and land use strategy for the District in partnership with the County Council, which minimises the need to travel, reduces reliance on the private vehicle and encourages the use of environmentally friendly modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling whilst providing good accessibility and promoting economic vitality within the District.			SDC TR11 – TR18
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 24 Transport impact To minimise the environmental impact of transport, particularly in relation to major road schemes, traffic-generating land uses and car parks.			NFDC DW-T6 DW-T9 SDC TR11
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 25 Road safety To improve road safety, especially for vulnerable groups including pedestrians and cyclists.		 Accidents involving personal injury / deaths Accidents involving New Forest stock 	NFDC DW-T8 SDC TR12,TR13

Transport Schemes

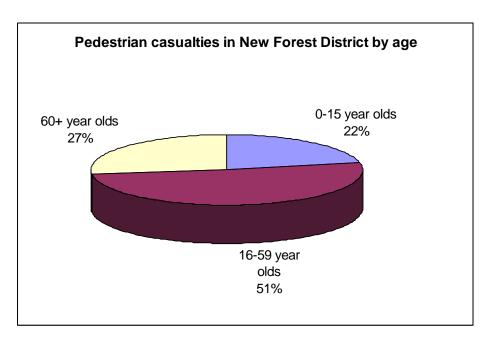
4.3.1 The New Forest District Local Plan identifies one transport scheme that is partially within the National Park. This is for improvements to the A326 between Dibden and the Totton Western Bypass. This has not yet been implemented by Hampshire County Council. In addition the relevant saved policy for this scheme will be deleted upon adoption of the Authority's Core Strategy.

Reducing dependence on the car

4.3.2 An initiative that continues to be promoted during the monitoring period, by the New Forest National Park Authority and other partner organisations, is the New Forest Tour Bus which promotes car-free tourism throughout the National Park by providing an alternative more sustainable transport option for visitors and local people wishing to travel around the Forest. It operates an hourly service and serves Hythe, Lyndhurst, Brockenhurst, Beaulieu and Exbury. It also provides integration with South West Trains from London and Weymouth at Brockenhurst and Beaulieu Road Stations and at Lymington Pier. Some 15,623 passenger journeys were recorded in 2009, which represents a rise of 1,520 journeys from the previous year, despite a shorter operating season.

Road Safety

4.3.3 New Forest District has the second highest rate of pedestrian casualties at 37, compared to last year when it had the highest rate of 42 casualties. The diagram below, using data from Hampshire County Council, highlights that the level of younger and older pedestrian casualties has slightly reduced when compared to last years figures of 31% for 60+ year olds and 24% for 0-15 year olds. However, the New Forest District continues to record higher levels of pedestrian casualties aged 60 and over than any of the other districts.



4.3.4 In addition to human casualties there is the important issue of animal casualties within the National Park. The Verderers of the New Forest record this data to monitor the impact on the livestock of the commoners within the National Park. The table below indicates that the number of animals killed during the calendar year of 2009 was roughly the same as the previous year, although the level of animal injuries was significantly higher than in 2008.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Animals killed	79	87	90	73	75
Animals injured	35	44	38	21	37

Source: Verderers of the New Forest

4.3.5 The National Park Authority, and partner organisations, continues to promote the 'animal accident card' which sets out to raise awareness of animal casualties and fatalities and setting out what to do in the event of an accident involving commoners' stock. In addition the Higher Level Stewardship scheme, which will provide £16m of European money over 10 years, includes a grant of around £9,000 for reflective pony collars to help prevent animal accidents on the roads. Furthermore the National Park Authority continues to work with the Hampshire County Council and Wiltshire Council, as the Highways Authorities for the Park, to introduce appropriate safety measures on the Park's roads, such as verge markers and reflective bollards.

Public access and special needs

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan - Objective 8 Public access To increase public access to, and enjoyment of, the countryside and coast, within environmental constraints.		 Numbers of public transport routes to New Forest, countryside and coast length / location of footpaths / cycleways / bridleways 	NFDC DW-T10 to DW-T14
New Forest District Local Plan - Objective 10 Special needs To ensure that the special needs of people with impaired or restricted mobility are met.		 Applications refused due to inadequate access provision for disabled people Provision for access to the open forest and visitor attraction within the National Park 	NFDC DW-E15

4.3.6 There are 325km of public rights of way within the National Park, which are concentrated around the perimeter of the Park and in the villages. Over 30,000 hectares of the National Park is open access land. There are some 200km of way-marked cycling routes located largely within the Crown Land Inclosures.

Special Needs

4.3.7 Within the New Forest there are a number of way-marked trails and over 100 miles of cycle tracks which are suitable for those using wheelchairs or buggies. Several of the car parks within the National Park have facilities for disabled people. The Authority has published a Recreation Management Strategy (2010) which sets out a long term vision for how recreation will be managed and promoted in the National Park over the next 20 years. One of the actions of the Recreation Management Strategy is to "Work with disability groups to identify and implement ways in which people with disabilities, the elderly and less mobile can better enjoy the Park".

Performance of transport and access policies

- 4.3.8 Current local plan policies continue to perform effectively, and are supplemented by a number of other initiatives such as the 'animal accident card' and the actions identified in the Recreation Management Strategy.
- 4.3.9 The Authority's Core Strategy seeks to reduce the impacts of traffic on the Park's special qualities, and supports a range of sustainable transport alternatives within the Park. The Authority will continue to work with the highways authorities of Hampshire County Council and Wiltshire Council on the respective Local Transport Plans.

4.4 Natural and Built Environment

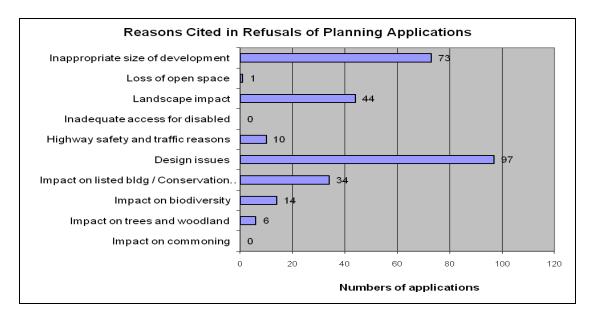
Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 1 The New Forest To give protection of the New Forest highest priority, and to avoid development within or in proximity to the New Forest which will lead to harmful human or animal		 Applications refused due to landscape / impact 	NFDC Part D
pressures on the New Forest, or have any adverse effect on its landscape, ecology or the supply of back-up grazing land. Salisbury District Local Plan - The New Forest To maintain and enhance the traditional character of the New Forest through planning policy whilst ensuring the social and economic well-being of all those who live and work in the area.		 Applications refused due to impact on commoning / loss of back up grazing land 	SDC HA1 to HA16 TVBC ENV06
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 2: The Coast To maintain and improve the environmental quality and character of the District's coast, recognising the need to undertake coast protection and flood defence works.		 Applications refused due to landscape / seascape impact 	NFDC Section 13
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 5 Landscape To achieve and maintain a high quality landscape in rural and urban areas; and to protect and maintain trees and woodland of high amenity and landscape value. Salisbury District Local Plan - The Rural and Natural Environment To strike a balance between preserving and enhancing the quality and character of the countryside in terms of the landscape and nature conservation, promoting a healthy, modern and sustainable rural economy, and ensuring a high quality of life for rural communities.		 Applications refused due to landscape / impact applications refused due to impact on trees / woodland / hedgerows 	NFDC DW-E1 DW-E6 E7 E8 DW-E12 SDC CN1 to CN24 C2 to C9
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 6 Natural environment To promote biodiversity and protect and enhance wildlife, sites of nature conservation importance, and special geographical and geological features; and	E2 Change in areas of biodiversity importance	 Achievement of Biodiversity Action Plan targets Areas in active management 	NFDC DW-E12 DW-E35 to E41 NF-E3 to NF-E5

Test Valley Borough Local Plan - Respecting the environment (Chapter 4) To protect and conserve the Borough's natural and built environment, including wildlife, landscapes, natural resources and cultural heritage.	for nature conservation Applications refused due to impact on nature conservation &	SDC C11 to C18 TVBC ENV01 to NV17
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 7 Built heritage To protect and enhance the archaeological and historic built heritage of the District; ensure that the integrity of buildings and places is respected; and promote public education and understanding of the historic built environment. Salisbury District Local Plan - Conservation To protect those features, sites and settlements of historical, architectural and archaeological interest which contribute to the District's and the nation's character, whilst ensuring that where new development occurs, it respects and, wherever possible, enhances the environment within which it is located.	 Number and location of listed buildings, conservation areas, archaeological sites & historic landscapes Listed buildings & archaeological sites at risk applications refused for listed building, historic landscape, archaeology & conservation area reasons 	NFDC DW-E18 to DW- E29 SDC CN1 to CN24
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 9 Environmental design To encourage the highest possible standards of design in new development and in environmental improvements; and to provide attractive, stimulating and safe places in which to live, work and play. Test Valley Borough Local Plan - Enhancing the quality of life (Chapter 8) To enhance the quality of design of the built environment by ensuring that new development is visually attractive, locally	 applications refused due to design 	NFDC DW-E1 to DW-E17 NF-E5 TVBC DES05- DES07
Salisbury District Local Plan - Design To encourage excellence, innovation and creativity in design, in all development proposals, to ensure that schemes are compatible with the scale and character of the local environment in order to enhance the overall quality of the built environment, the attractiveness of the area for investment, economic regeneration and to reinforce civic pride and sense of place for the overall benefit of residents.		SDC D1 to D3 G1

New Forest District Local Plan Objective 13 Energy conservation To encourage energy conservation, including (in appropriate locations) the development of renewable energy sources, and design, layout and building construction which maximise energy efficiency.	E3 Renewable energy generation	 applications refused due to inadequate construction methods / materials % of new homes meeting Eco homes standards Number of buildings incorporating energy generating devices 	NFDC DW-E4 DW-P3 SDC PS8 TVBC ESN32
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The New Forest National Park - Overview

4.4.1 A total of 1,022 planning applications were determined between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010, of which approximately 13% were refused permission (two thirds of which were later dismissed on appeal).



4.4.2 The graph above summarises the main reasons cited in the decision notice of planning applications refused during the monitoring period. This highlights that the majority of planning applications were refused on the basis of design issues and the inappropriate size of the proposed development, which remain the main reasons for refusal over recent years. The 'design issues' reasons encompass a wide range of factors from inappropriate style of development to overlooking of neighbouring properties. In addition the reason citing 'inappropriate size' is largely due to replacement dwellings and extensions that are over the threshold of a 30% increase allowed by the New Forest District Local Plan policies.

- 4.4.3 Additionally, the impacts of proposed development on the landscape and the historic environment (encompassing impacts on listed buildings, conservation areas and archaeological assets) have been cited a significant number of times when refusing planning applications. This perhaps reflects the increase in the number and extent of conservation areas now covering the National Park.
- 4.4.4 The concerns regarding design issues and potential loss of smaller dwellings have been carried through to the review of planning policies covering the Park and there are a number of relevant policies in the Authority's Core Strategy. In addition the Authority is currently preparing a Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document which will provide more detailed guidance to applicants and developers on how development can reflect and retain the locally distinctive nature of an area or building.

Changes in priority habitats and species by type

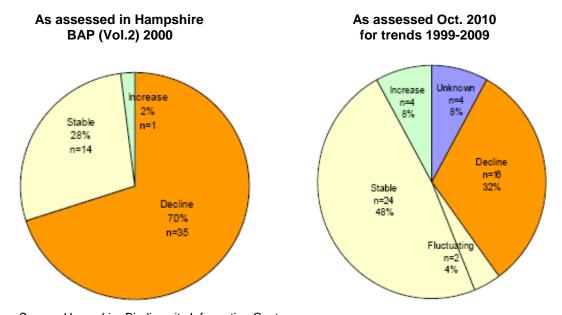
Priority habitats

- 4.4.5 More than half of the National Park is designated of European or international value for nature conservation. This is significantly higher than any other English national park.
- 4.4.6 The amount of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat in the National Park totals 29,099 hectares (as of 31 March 2010). Over 85% of these priority habitats fall within statutorily designated nature conservation sites. This represents a slight increase in the area of priority habitats from last years report.

Priority species

4.4.7 There are 493 priority species listed in the Hampshire Biodiversity Action Plan, although 69 of these are considered extinct or else vagrants. It is unrealistic to attempt to report on all priority species, therefore Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre has identified a suite of 50 Biodiversity Action Plan species which have been chosen because there are good data available, and they are representative of various habitats in Hampshire. Forty of these species are present in the New Forest National Park. During the monitoring period there has been minimal change across Hampshire as a whole, and this is illustrated overleaf. However, when compared to the situation in 2000 the number of species in decline has more than halved.

Summary of trends for Hampshire's representative 50 BAP priority species



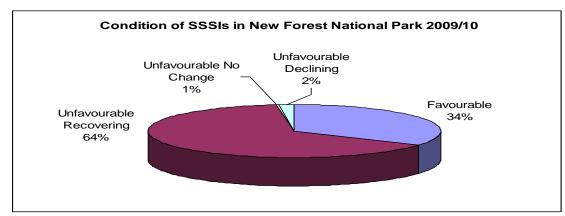
Source: Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

Changes in areas of biodiversity importance (Core Output Indicator E2)

4.4.8 During the monitoring period there have been no changes to the extent of the nationally and internationally designated sites. However, Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre has identified that 10 new Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) were designated in this monitoring period, which comprises an increase of 228 hectares, the largest individual sites of which are Foxbury Plantation at 150 hectares, and the former Holbury Landfill Site at 21 hectares.

Proportion of nationally important wildlife sites which are in favourable condition

4.4.9 Natural England undertakes assessments of the condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). There is a total of 20 SSSIs designated within the national park, covering an area of over 32,000 hectares.



Source: Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

4.4.10 There are now fewer sites described as 'unfavourable declining' than identified in last year's monitoring report. The proportion of sites in 'favourable' condition remains the same as last year at 34%.

Built Environment

Renewable energy generation (Core Output indicator E3)

4.4.11 During the monitoring period there was a total of eight planning applications for renewable energy schemes granted permission, largely comprising solar panels for domestic use. However permission was also granted for two applications from community and educational facilities for biomass boilers. There is no information available on the amount of renewable energy generated by these and other schemes.

Performance of natural and built environment policies

Natural environment

4.4.12 In general the policies for the natural environment are performing well. In addition the Authority is continuing to progress a number of projects and initiatives that will supplement the policies. These include the preparation of a New Forest Biodiversity Action Plan and a Landscape Strategy, which will provide more detail for the relevant policies in the Authority's Core Strategy.

Built environment

4.4.13 The built environment policies are largely working effectively in guarding against inappropriate development. However, a significant proportion of reasons for refusal of planning applications during the monitoring period consisted of inappropriate design or overly large replacement dwellings or extensions. The new policies in the Authority's emerging Core Strategy address the issues of a gradual suburbanising effect of such proposals and places more emphasis on the need to reflect the area's local distinctiveness and character. This will be supplemented by a Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.

Energy conservation

4.4.14 Policies permitting renewable energy have been successful in facilitating a number of domestic schemes, particularly for solar panels. The policies in the Core Strategy continue to allow suitable schemes and proposals that are small-scale and do not impact on the National Park's special qualities. In addition the Core Strategy has more stringent policies on sustainable construction, especially with regard to the requirements of the Code for Sustainable Homes including energy efficiency.

4.5 Community facilities

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 26 Open space To protect and enhance existing open space and increase provision in areas of need.		 Areas of formal / informal open space per head of population by parish community use of school sites open space lost to development 	NFDC DW-R1 to DW-R4 SDC R2-R3 TVBC ESN22
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 27 Community facilities To enable and encourage the provision of local community and recreation facilities to meet the needs of communities within the District. Test Valley Borough Local Plan Meeting the needs of the community (Chapter 6) To meet the needs for housing, employment, community facilities, tourism and infrastructure in ways that support viable communities, maintain a robust local economy and maintain the high quality environment of the Borough.		 Numbers & location of formal recreation facilities numbers and locations of community halls Community facilities lost to development 	SDC PS1-PS6 TVBC ESN19 to ESN23
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 28 Utilities To accommodate essential public utilities to serve the needs of the District's population, within environmental constraints. Salisbury District Local Plan - Public Services To provide the necessary physical, social and technological infrastructure and services to ensure a high quality of life for the people of Salisbury District.		 Applications for additional utilities infrastructure Areas with access to mobile telecoms and Broadband 	NFDC Sections C11, D11, E9 & F6 SDC G5, PS2, PS3, PS7 TVBC ESN31

Open space and recreation facilities

4.5.1 During the monitoring period one application was permitted that involved the loss of an area of open space, on the basis that the loss of part of the land was considered acceptable in order to mitigate a long term car parking issue within the immediate vicinity. There was also one planning application that was refused on the grounds of the potential loss of open space which was

considered to be a very important facility in that particular area for local recreational use.

Community facilities

4.5.2 There was a significant level of planning applications granted for a range of community facilities. These largely comprised extensions or improvements to existing facilities such as new school buildings, new church buildings, a new dental surgery and, in Woodgreen, a new community shop.

Utilities

4.5.3 A number of planning applications for telecommunications infrastructure were approved during the monitoring period, comprising new or replacement antennae and other associated equipment. The only other utility infrastructure approved during the monitoring period was an extension to an existing electricity sub-station to allow for increased requirement for supply to the Netley Marsh area.

Performance of community facilities

4.5.4 The level of planning applications granted for new or improved community facilities indicates that the policies continue to work effectively. Similar policies are set out in the emerging Core Strategy to ensure that existing facilities are not lost to other uses and that new or improved community facilities are supported.

4.6 Pollution and public safety

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 11 Pollution To protect air and water quality and to reduce the burden of pollution of air, land and water (including noise) by controlling potentially polluting development.	E1 Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality	 Areas subject to Air Quality Management Transport modes condition of watercourses & coastal waters – from EA data Numbers and areas of contaminated sites 	NFDC DW-E43 DW-E44 SDC G2-G8 TVBC ENV10 HAZ3 to 4
New Forest District Local Plan Objective 12 Safety To minimise development which would put people or property at risk and encourage forms of development which would enhance community safety.	E1 Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding or water	 Applications refused on community safety Reported crime figures per 1000 population Fear of crime data 	NFDC DW-E14 DW-E45 DW-E47
Test Valley Borough Local Plan Respecting the environment (Chapter 5) To ensure that proposed development is not at risk from natural or man-made hazards and will not cause or increase the risk of hazards to existing development, human health or the wider environment.	quality	 Applications refused on basis of hazard zones Areas / number of dwellings at risk from fluvial and coastal flooding Areas / numbers of dwellings at risk from coastal erosion 	SDC G2-G8 TVBC ENV10 HAZ2 to 6

Pollution

- 4.6.1 The local plans covering the National Park contain policies relating to the control of air, noise, water and light pollution.
- 4.6.2 A finalised Air Quality Action Plan for the Lyndhurst Air Quality Management Area was published in 2008. The levels of relevant pollutants continue to be monitored and New Forest District Council and partner organisations will implement the Action Plan in due course.
 - Environment Agency advice on water quality and flood defences (Core Output Indicator E1)
- 4.6.3 The Environment Agency did not lodge any objections to planning applications on water quality grounds or on the basis of flood risk. Therefore no applications were granted permission contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency.

Public Safety

4.6.4 No planning applications were refused on the basis of public safety issues during the monitoring period.

Performance of pollution and public safety policies

4.6.5 Monitoring has shown that the policies on pollution and public safety have been effective in addressing relevant issues. The emerging Core Strategy contains a policy on pollution and the potential impacts on the National Park and its special qualities.

4.7 Minerals and Waste

Objective	Core Output Indicator	Local Indicator	Policies
Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste Core Strategy iv. Provide for a supply of minerals to meet national, regional and local requirements including the regional apportionments for	M1 Production of primary land won mineral aggregates No data available		
recycled and secondary aggregates and land-won sand and gravel, with due regard to geological, environmental and market considerations.	M2 Production of secondary and recycled mineral aggregates No data available		
Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste Core Strategy ii. Help eliminate waste growth in the long term and meet or exceed regional targets to limit waste growth to 0.5% a year by 2020.	W1 Capacity of new waste management facilities No data available		
 iii. Support the driving of waste resource infrastructure and management up the waste hierarchy by helping to deliver: Enough facilities to ensure that Hampshire is net self-sufficient in waste handling capacity by 2016. 	W2 Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type No data available		

- 4.7.1 Only a few planning applications have been received during the monitoring period for minerals and waste development, and these relate to an existing landfill site in the National Park.
- 4.7.2 The Hampshire and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste Core Strategy was adopted in June 2007 and sets out relevant policies for the whole of the National Park. However, a subsequent successful legal challenge resulted in three policies and consequential references being quashed. Paragraph 3.7 of this report set out a revised approach to reviewing the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, and more details will be available on the partner organisations websites in due course.

Production of primary land-won mineral aggregates (Core Output Indicator M1) Production of secondary and recycled mineral aggregates (Core Output Indicator M2)

Capacity of new waste management facilities (Core Output Indicator W1)
Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type (Core Output Indicator 6b)

4.7.3 The minerals sites operators and waste management operators provide data to Hampshire County Council on the level of minerals extracted and waste processed. As there are so few mineral extraction sites and waste management facilities in the National Park there are concerns regarding the issue of confidentiality of the data, and this report does not therefore set out any data for these indicators. County-wide data (including the Wiltshire part of the National Park) is set out in a separate report produced by Hampshire County Council and available to view on their website.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 This report highlights that significant progress was made on the Authority's Local Development Framework, with the submission, examination and adoption of its key document the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document.
- 5.2 In general an analysis of the performance of the policies in the three local plans covering the Park indicates they are being implemented effectively. A number of issues have been subsequently addressed through the approach and policies of the Core Strategy.

Future monitoring

- 5.3 This year's monitoring report is based on an assessment of the policies in the three local plans covering the Nation Park. However, the Authority's Core Strategy will be operational from its adoption in December 2010 and thus next year's annual monitoring report will begin to look at the implementation of those policies.
- 5.4 The adoption of the Core Strategy represents a move from over 1000 policies to a set of just 42 policies. This will be supplemented by a number of other documents such as the Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document and the Standards Supplementary Planning Document.
- 5.5 The Authority's monitoring framework will continue to evolve over future, with the production of the State of the Park Report which will provide a detailed picture of current conditions of the Park and set a baseline for monitoring change over time.

APPENDIX 1

National Park Profile

Topic	Figure for New Forest National Park	Data Sources
Total area	56,658 ha (571 km²)	New Forest National Park Authority
National Park Area within New Forest District Wiltshire Council	53,197 ha (532 km²) (93.9%) 3,018 ha (30 km²) (5.3%)	New Forest National Park Authority; New Forest District
Test Valley Borough	442 ha (4 km²) (0.8%)	•
Number of parishes and towns wholly or partly within the Park	37	New Forest National Park Authority
Crown lands (managed by the Forestry Commission)	26,756 ha (268 km²)	Forestry Commission, 2008
Perambulation ¹	38,000 ha (all but a very small area within the Park)	Countryside Agency, 2000
Population	Number / percentage	
Total population	34,935	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2007 (ONS)
Population within New Forest District	32,055	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2007 (ONS)
Population within Wiltshire Council	2,507	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2007 (ONS)
Population within Test Valley	373	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2007 (ONS)
Number of settlements with population of 3,000 or more	3	New Forest District Council, 2004
Natural Habitats / Designations	Area / Percentage	
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	32,190 ha (57% of NP)	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2010
Natura 2000 sites ²	31,887 ha (56% of NP)	English Nature, 2005
National Nature Reserves	1,199 ha	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2010
Local Nature Reserves	412 ha	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2010
Sites of Importance for Nature Conversation (SINCs) and County Wildlife Sites	3,073 ha (on 383 sites)	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2010
Total area of woodland (sites of 2 hectares or more)	22,379 ha	Forestry Commission, 2004
Area of Open Forest habitats (woodland, heathland, mire and grassland open to common grazing)	19,692 ha	Forest Enterprise, 2003
Length of hedgerows (Hampshire only)	2,402 km	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre
Length of coastline	42 km	Hampshire County Council
Coastal cliff and foreshore	891 ha	New Forest District Council

Land within cattle grids – common rights exercised on unenclosed land Sites of European importance – all area also Sites of Special Scientific Interest

(above mean low water)		
Length of water courses	5,866 km	Environment Agency
Area of farmland	14,849 ha	Defra, June 2009
Number of practising	628	Verderers of the New Forest, 2008
Numbers of stock depositured	7.000	
Numbers of stock depastured on the Open Forest	7,690	Verderers of the New Forest, 2008
Cultural Heritage	Number	
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	214	New Forest National Park Authority
Conservation areas	20	New Forest National Park Authority
Listed buildings	610	New Forest National Park Authority
Historic Parks and Gardens on	7 (all in New Forest District)	English Heritage
English Heritage Register		
Recreation and Access	Number / percentage	
Public footpaths	235 km	
		Wiltshire and Hampshire
		County Councils
Public Bridleways	57 km	
Other public rights of way	18 km	
Waymarked cycle routes	226 km	New Forest National Park Authority
Land with open public access	30,769 ha	Natural England / Forestry Commission
Visitor days	13.5 million	Tourism South East, 2005

Schedule of Saved Policies

New Forest District Local Plan First Alteration (Adopted 2005)

Following adoption of the National Park Authority's Core Strategy in December 2010 most policies in this Local Plan are superseded. However, a number of policies are **saved and remain in force**, until superseded by a subsequent supplementary planning document (SPD) to be produced by the National Park Authority.

Policy	Policy Title / Purpose	Replaced by
DW-T9	New car parking provision on development sites and	SPD
	elsewhere	

Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Local Plan (Adopted 2005)

Most policies are now superseded by the Hampshire and New Forest Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (adopted June / July 2007) with only the following single policy saved and remaining in force. All others expired in March 2008.

Policy	Policy Title / Purpose	Replaced by
10	Waste Audits	DPD