

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Local Development Framework ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

2012

December 2012



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Executive Summary

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, requires local planning authorities to produce a monitoring report each year which should contain details of:

- the implementation of the Local Development Scheme; and
- the extent to which the policies set out in the local development documents are being achieved.

This is the seventh Annual Monitoring Report produced by the New Forest National Park Authority. It covers the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, and focuses on assessing the effectiveness of the planning policies in the adopted Core Strategy.

In particular the report highlights that all the proposed supplementary planning documents supporting the Core Strategy have now been adopted.

This is the first monitoring report that has focused solely on the assessment of the policies of the Authority's adopted Core Strategy. However, that means there will often be a lack of baseline data against which to compare some of the data in this report, or that identified trends cannot yet be attributed to the performance of the Core Strategy's policies.

Initial assessment of the Core Strategy's policies in this report indicates that many of the policies are performing well, and continue general trends of protection and enhancement of the area, whilst strengthening policies in several areas. The communities in the National Park continue to be supported through the provision of appropriate levels of housing and employment as well as community facilities.

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 management and enforcement, and other related regulatory functions within the National Park.
- 1.2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, requires every local planning authority to produce a monitoring report each year. This should contain information on the implementation of the Authority's Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the policies set out in Local Development Documents (i.e. the Authority's adopted Core Strategy) are being achieved.
- 1.3 This is the seventh 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 2011 to 31 March 2012.
- 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.

Development Plan

- 1.5 During the period of the monitoring report the Development Plan for the National Park comprised the following:
 - New Forest National Park Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (2010)
 - Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East (2009)
 - Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (2007)
- 1.6 The Government, through the Localism Act 2011, has signalled its intention to revoke the Regional Spatial Strategies, although it is unclear when this will come into force. Until that time the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East remains in place as part of the Authority's Development Plan.

Review of saved policies

- 1.7 The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act introduced the system of Local Development Frameworks to replace old-style local plans. As part of this process local planning authorities could request the Government to 'save' those policies considered necessary. Within the National Park, the vast majority of the old-style local plan policies were superseded by the Authority's Core Strategy upon its adoption in December 2010. However, a couple of policies remained:

- **New Forest District Local Plan** (Adopted 2005) – All but one policy 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.

- 1.8 The saved policy in New Forest District Local Plan relates to parking provision. In 2012 the Authority prepared a Development Standards Supplementary Planning Document which includes parking standards for the National Park, and which was formally adopted in September 2012. Therefore it is considered that the New Forest District Local Plan saved policy has been superseded and is no longer relevant. As a consequence it is intended to delete this saved policy.
- 1.9 In addition, the Authority considers that it is no longer necessary to retain the single remaining policy from the Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Plan and thus proposes to delete this saved policy. This is especially the case given that the Authority and partners have an adopted Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, and now a revised version entitled the Minerals and Waste Plan which is currently subject to the Examination process.

Format of this report

- 1.10 This report covers the entirety of the National Park and assesses the effectiveness of the Authority's planning policies by analysing the monitoring indicators set out in Chapter 10 of the adopted Core Strategy. This will also enable analysis of trends in future monitoring reports.
- 1.11 Any comments and queries on this Monitoring Report should be addressed to the Policy Team at the National Park Authority:

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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 35,000 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 December 2010 the Authority adopted the first set of National Park-wide planning policies, which became operational immediately. The Core Strategy identified the main challenges for the New Forest National Park over the next 20 years to be:
- **Climate change**, which is likely to affect the character of large parts of the National Park, modifying landscapes, habitats and biodiversity;
 - **Local distinctiveness**, which 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**, which 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 which 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 document setting out a schedule of what local development documents will be produced, and when. The third revision of the LDS for the New Forest National Park Authority was formally brought into effect on 26 April 2011.

Implementation of the Local Development Scheme

- 3.2 Local planning authorities are required to prepare a monitoring report that sets out information on the implementation of their Local Development Scheme (LDS). An update on the progress of the various documents set out in the Authority's LDS is set out below.

Sites and Designations Development Plan Document

- 3.3 The initial scoping of the content of this document has been started. However, the Authority has not yet reached the stage where it is ready to be subject to public consultation, contrary to the timeline set out in the LDS. It is currently under consideration as to whether this document could be wrapped up in an early review of the Core Strategy.

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

- 3.4 Public consultation for this document was carried out between 9 September and 21 October 2011 and several representations were received. These were reported to Members at an Authority meeting in mid-December 2011 together with a revised Design Guide, which was formally adopted at that meeting.

Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

- 3.5 A six week period of public consultation was undertaken between June and July 2012. This is a few months later than set out in the LDS due to the need for additional evidence base gathering and liaison with partner organisations. A significant number of representations were received and these were reported to Members at an Authority meeting in September 2012 where a revised version of the document was adopted.

Hampshire and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste LDF

- 3.6 The National Park Authority together with Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils and latterly the South Downs National Park Authority, have undertaken a review of the adopted Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy. This document is known as the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan and will incorporate strategic minerals and waste sites. A revised Hampshire Minerals and Waste LDS

was brought into effect on 7 September 2011, and sets out the updated timetable for the preparation of the Minerals and Waste Plan. The Examination commenced with the submission of the Plan on 29 February 2012 with Hearing sessions held between 6 and 15 June 2012. The Examination has now been adjourned pending public consultation on a schedule of proposed modifications to the Plan largely arising as a result of discussion at the Hearings. The consultation was carried out between 22 October and 17 December 2012. Following this, if the Inspector determines that a resumed hearing is required this will be held in the week commencing 11 March 2013.

- 3.7 Further details are set out in the Hampshire and New Forest Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme, which can be viewed on Hampshire County Council's website.

4. Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Core Strategy Objective 1: Policies: **CP1, CP2, DP1, DP2, CP3, DP3**

Protect and enhance the natural environment of the National Park, including the natural beauty of the landscape and the range of habitats and species.

Core Strategy Objective 3: Policies **CP7, CP8, DP6**

Plan for the likely impacts of climate change on the special qualities of the New Forest and reduce the overall environmental footprint of the National Park.

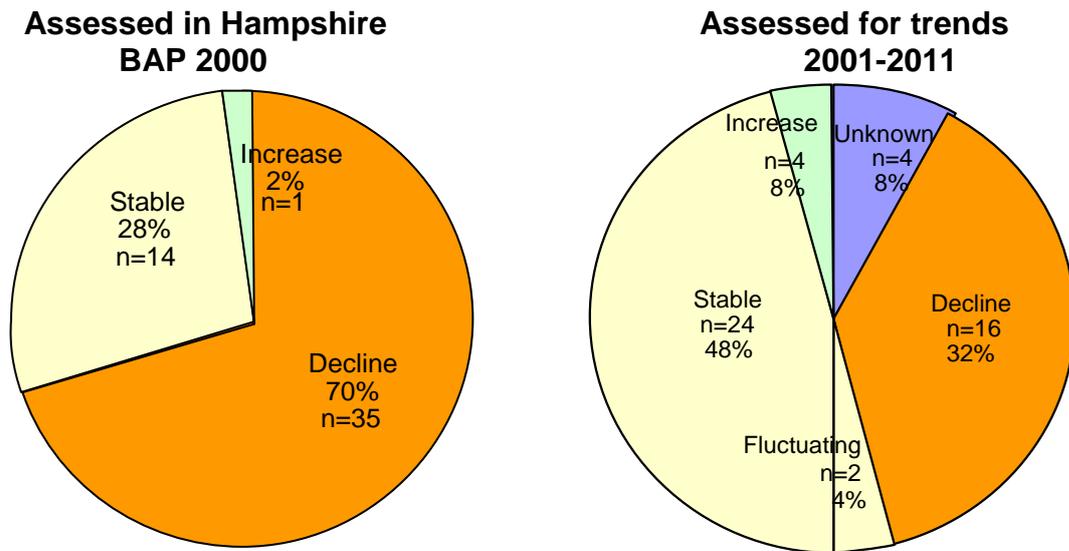
- 4.1 The planning policies for the National Park in the adopted Core Strategy place a strong emphasis on protection of the natural environment. Additionally, in line with Government guidance, the Core Strategy seeks to plan for the impacts of climate change over the next 20 years. These challenges are enshrined in the objectives of the Core Strategy, and are reiterated above.

Natural environment

Priority habitats and species

- 4.2 The amount of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat in the National Park totals approximately 30,483 hectares (as at 31 March 2012). This is not directly comparable with last year's total as there have been changes in the baseline data which are still subject to verification. Roughly 90% of these priority habitats fall within statutorily designated nature conservation sites. This represents a slight increase again from last year.
- 4.3 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 50 BAP species which have been chosen as there is good data available, and they are representative of various habitats in Hampshire. Forty of these species are present in the New Forest National Park.
- 4.4 During the monitoring period there has been minimal change across Hampshire as a whole. Figure 1 overleaf illustrates that over the last decade the rates of decline of the 50 representative priority species have slowed. Compared to the data in last year's monitoring report the number of species in Hampshire showing a decline has remained at 32%.

Figure 1: Changes in Hampshire's representative 50 BAP priority species



Source: Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2012

Designated Nature Conservation Sites

4.5 During this monitoring period there has been a net gain of 5 hectares in the extent of statutory designated nature conservation sites within the National Park, including new and amended Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), and one new Local Nature Reserve.

Renewable Energy

4.6 A significant number of planning applications for renewable energy schemes were permitted during the monitoring year. These have comprised all solar panels, largely on a domestic scale. However, there have been a few more commercial scale schemes including one at Hamptworth, one at Langley and one for 208 panels at Woodgreen water treatment works.

Water Quality

4.7 The Environment Agency is consulted by the Authority on planning applications that may impact upon water quality or flood risk in the area. During the monitoring period the Authority did not permit any applications against the advice of the Environment Agency on the grounds of either impact on water quality or flood risk issues.

Air Quality

4.8 An Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for Lyndhurst High Street was designated in 2005 based on high levels of Nitrogen Dioxide. The air quality is regularly monitored by New Forest District Council Environmental Health officers and the results for this monitoring period are set out in the table below and show slight improvement from last year:

Figure 2: Results of Air Quality in Lyndhurst AQMA

Pollutant	Objective	Result	Objective Achieved
Nitrogen Dioxide	Annual mean not exceeding 40ug/m ³	42 (46 last yr)	No
Nitrogen Dioxide	No more than 18 occurrences of hourly mean >200ug/m ³	1 (2 last yr)	Yes

Open Space

4.9 There has been no net loss of open space during the monitoring period, in line with policy DP3. However, there has been a net gain in the form of the creation of a new playground. In addition several applications that have been refused have cited the lack of provision of on-site open space or a developer contribution to off-site provision as one of the reasons for refusal, as required by policy DP15.

Performance of the Natural Environment policies

4.10 There continues to be a strong emphasis on the core objectives of protecting and enhancing the natural environment as set out in the Authority's Core Strategy. In particular there has been a net gain in statutory designated areas of nature conservation and also open space, as well as maintenance of generally good air and water quality. These trends will continue to be assessed in future monitoring reports.

5. Protecting and Enhancing the Built Environment

Core Strategy Objective 2: Policies: CP7, CP8 and DP6

Conserve and enhance the wealth of individual characteristics that contribute to the local distinctiveness of the built environment of the New Forest.

- 5.1 The Core Strategy emphasises the importance of recognising and protecting the distinctive character of the built environment of the National Park.

Design Issues

Refusals of planning applications

- 5.2 The Authority's Core Strategy promotes the principles of good design in new development. The proportion of planning applications refused on the grounds of poor or inappropriate design was similar to previous years. This is the first full monitoring year since the Core Strategy was adopted and trends over the coming years will continue to be monitored.
- 5.3 Where design issues led to a refusal of permission these consisted primarily of concerns regarding potential suburbanisation effects of the proposals, or erosion of the rural character and local distinctiveness of the area. The two Core Strategy policies commonly cited in relation to design issues were CP8 Local Distinctiveness and DP6 Design Principles.
- 5.4 However, other reasons for refusal of planning applications are associated with overarching design issues such as the over-enlargement of dwellings, and impacts on the historic environment, especially as several applications were located within a Conservation Area.

Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

- 5.5 To supplement the Core Strategy policies and accompanying text the Authority has prepared and consulted on a Design Guide for the National Park which was adopted by the Authority in December 2011 as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This provides advice and guidance on achieving high standards of design of new development while retaining and enhancing the distinctive character of the area.
- 5.6 The Design Guide has already begun to be cited by planning officers when assessing planning applications. Monitoring will be continued in future years to establish any trends in reasons for refusal of applications and any subsequent appeals.

Village Design Statements

- 5.7 The Authority continues to support the preparation of Village Design Statements (VDS) by parish councils in order to provide a more locally specific document that will sit alongside the Authority's adopted Design Guide SPD. These will be formally adopted by the Authority as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and will thus be a material consideration in the assessment of planning applications. Village Design Statements for Wellow, and also for Landford were both adopted by the Authority as SPDs in March 2011, following a period of public consultation, with the Hyde Village Design Statement adopted in June 2012.
- 5.8 The Landford village design statement in particular has been cited a number of times as a reason for refusal of planning permission where relevant, and in one case has been a factor in the subsequent dismissal of an appeal where the Inspector confirmed that "*it is a material planning consideration to which I attach considerable weight in coming to my decision*".
- 5.9 Progress is continuing on a number of other Village Design Statements in the National Park.

Impacts on the Historic Environment

- 5.10 Since the adoption of the Core Strategy two of the main reasons cited most often in refusals of planning applications comprise impacts on the historic environment (citing policies CP7 – The Built Environment, and CP8 – Local Distinctiveness), together with the over-enlargement of dwellings (citing policy DP11 – Extensions to Dwellings).

Performance of the Built Environment policies

- 5.11 Design issues continue to be an area of importance for the assessment of planning applications and the Authority has recognised this in preparing the Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document to aid applicants and developers to achieve a level of design that is more locally specific to the National Park. In particular the Design Guide and relevant village design statements have started to be cited by planning officers in assessing planning applications. This will facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the Core Strategy in enhancing the locally distinctive communities of the National Park.

6. Vibrant Communities

Core Strategy Objective 4: Policies CP9, DP7, DP8, CP10, CP12, DP9, DP10, DP11, DP12 and DP15

Strengthen the well-being, identity and sustainability of rural communities and the pride of local people in their area.

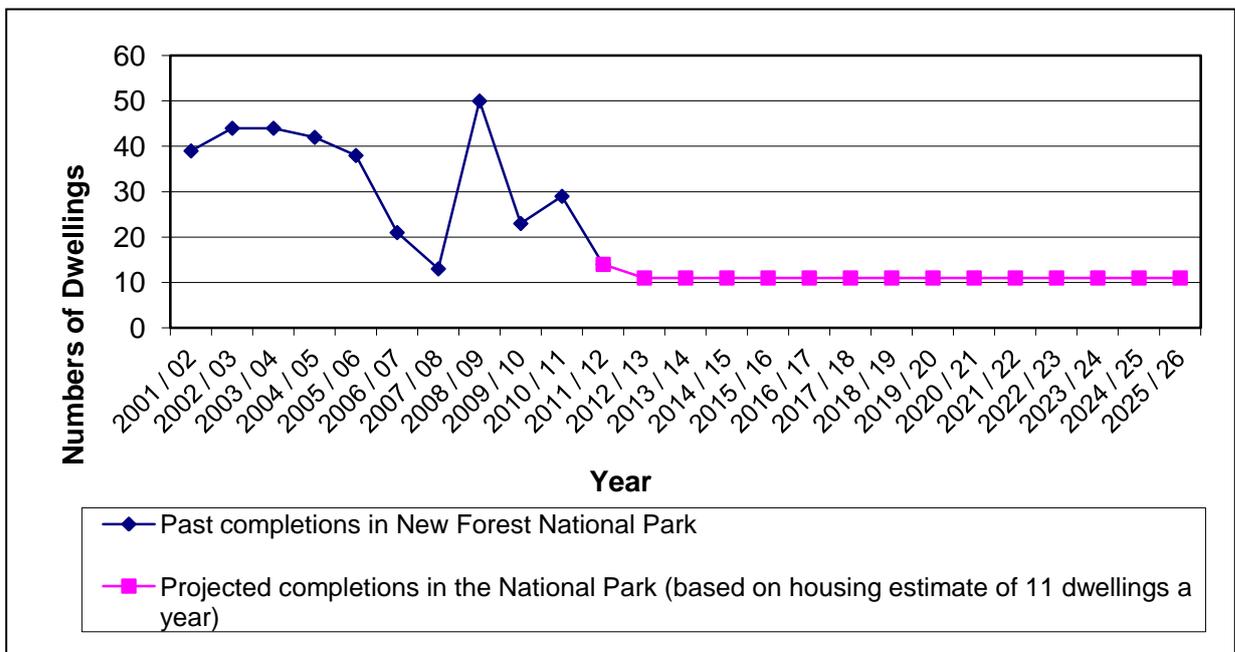
Core Strategy Objective 5: Policies CP11, DP13, DP14, and CP13

Promote affordable housing to meet local needs and maintain the vibrant communities of the National Park.

Housing

- 6.1 There was a net gain of 14 dwellings completed during the monitoring period, of which the majority was built on previously developed land. This compares to previous years completions as shown on the chart below:

Figure 3: New Forest National Park Housing Trajectory 2012



- 6.2 In terms of the locations of the housing completions the majority of houses have been built outside the defined villages, 36% of completions were located in the four defined villages. This is a higher proportion than last year's figure of 24%. All applications in this monitoring period were assessed against the Core Strategy policies.

Housing densities

- 6.3 The Authority's Core Strategy aims to ensure that the general pressure for development in the National Park does not lead to inappropriate and high density development, especially as the residential areas in the four defined villages are spacious in character with mature trees and larger gardens.

- 6.4 The figures for the monitoring period indicate that 88% of all (gross) dwellings completed during that time were built at a density of less than 30 dwellings per hectare. This compares to a figure of 93% from last year's report, and 87% from the previous year. This largely reflects the large number of applications for small developments of less than 5 houses, and typically for replacement dwellings which are characterised by houses in large plots of land.

Housing size

- 6.5 A total of 105 planning applications were refused on the basis of over-enlargement of dwellings during the monitoring period. This represents approximately 61% of all applications that were refused permission during the monitoring period.

Affordable housing completions

- 6.6 No affordable housing was completed during the monitoring year. However, a number are under construction and will likely come forward as completions in next year's report.

Five year housing supply

- 6.7 The Authority is required by Government to identify a stock of five years worth of housing supply, with an additional 'buffer' of 5% of that requirement as set out in the recently published National Planning Policy Framework. The Authority does not allocate land for housing but relies on 'windfall' sites of which there has been a steady and constant supply. The Authority currently has a stock of outstanding planning permissions totalling 78 dwellings, which is in excess of the requirement of 58 dwellings. The details of the sites making up the five year housing supply are set out in Appendix 3 of this document.

Defined Villages

Retail

- 6.8 During the monitoring period there was no loss of retail use in the four defined villages. In addition there was some small amount of retail floorspace completed with a further outstanding planning permission for retail development but neither is within any of the four defined villages.
- 6.9 The Authority's policy officers carried out the 2012 annual survey of the proportion of A1 retail uses in the defined shopping frontage within the four defined villages, as set out in the Core Strategy. This identified little change from the last monitoring period.

- 6.10 In Ashurst, Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst the proportion of A1 retail use remains at least 10% above the minimum threshold set out in Core Strategy policy DP7. However, in Sway, the proportion of A1 retail use remains at 36% and therefore falls 4% below the minimum threshold of 40% established in policy DP7. These trends will continue to be monitored in future years.

Community facilities

- 6.11 Throughout the last year a number of planning applications for community facilities were permitted, spread throughout local communities across the National Park. Such applications included a village playground, school classrooms and a churchyard. Many were for improvements to existing facilities rather than new development.

Performance of Vibrant Communities policies

- 6.12 The data illustrates that the Authority continues to maintain a stock of planning permissions for residential development and is exceeding the expected level of housing completions of 11 dwellings per year. The Authority continues to maintain a five-year supply of housing through unimplemented planning permissions, as required by Government guidance.
- 6.13 The overall trend of housing completions over the last few years has been decreasing and may be due to a number of reasons including the downturn in the economy and the adoption of the new Core Strategy policies. These trends will continue to be monitored in future years.

7. A Sustainable Local Economy

Core Strategy Objective 6: Policies CP14, CP15, DP16 and DP17

Develop a diverse and sustainable economy that contributes to the well-being of local communities throughout the Park.

Core Strategy Objective 7: Policies CP17, DP19, DP20, DP21, DP22 and DP23

Encourage land management that sustains the special qualities of the National Park.

Core Strategy Objective 8: Policies CP16, DP1 and DP18

Support development which encourages sustainable tourism and recreation, and provides opportunities for enjoying the Park's special qualities.

Employment and the economy

Total amount of additional employment floorspace – by type

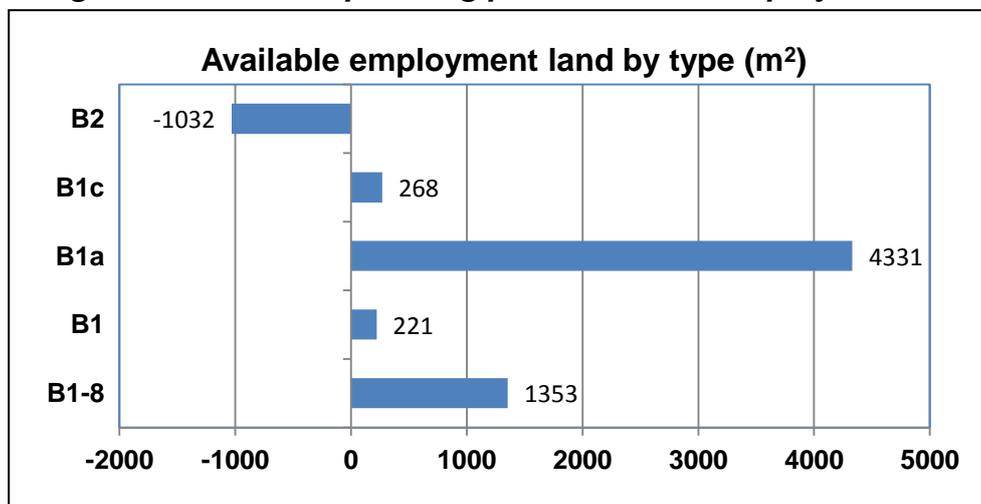
Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land

- 7.1 During the monitoring period there were a number of employment development completed, which resulted in a total amount of -752m². This was due to a site at Mortimers Industrial Estate in Ower, where the existing building has been demolished but the proposed new building has not yet been completed.

Employment land available – by type

- 7.2 The amount of employment land available in the National Park is based solely on unimplemented planning permissions as there are no site specific allocations for employment use in the Authority's Core Strategy. An analysis of available employment land reveals that there is a stock of sites with planning permission for business and industrial uses totalling some 5,141m², as illustrated in figure 4 below.

Figure 4: Land with planning permission for employment



Source: Hampshire County Council

Agriculture, farming and forestry

- 7.3 Ten planning applications were permitted during the monitoring period for agricultural development. These all comprised either new barns or other agricultural buildings.
- 7.4 In addition there was one farm diversification scheme permitted during the monitoring year which was for a farm shop.
- 7.5 There were also one application permitted for a change of use to an agricultural workers dwelling and two lawful development certificates permitted for removal of agricultural occupancy conditions.

Recreational Horsekeeping

- 7.6 A very small number of planning applications were received, and subsequently permitted, for recreational horsekeeping, which the majority comprised improvements to existing horsekeeping facilities.
- 7.7 A Supplementary Planning Document entitled 'Guidelines for Horse-Related Development' was consulted on and subsequently adopted by the Authority in September 2011. It is aimed at horse owners and land managers who keep horses, and seeks to share best practice in land management to ensure that the New Forest landscape is conserved and enhanced.

Visitor facilities and accommodation

- 7.8 During the monitoring period there was a number of visitor accommodation units completed, comprising an additional 21 bedrooms in two existing hotels. In addition there remains an outstanding planning permission for a further 16 extra bedrooms at another existing hotel.

Performance of economic policies

- 7.9 It can be seen that there remains a stock of land with planning permission for employment uses throughout the National Park, which indicates that the strategy of relying on windfall sites coming forward rather than allocating employment sites is proving successful.
- 7.10 The Core Strategy policies continue to support a range of other suitable businesses throughout the National Park such as agricultural enterprises and visitor accommodation.

8. Transport and Access

Core Strategy Objective 9: Policies CP18 and CP19

Reduce the impacts of traffic on the special qualities of the National Park and support a range of sustainable transport alternatives within the Park.

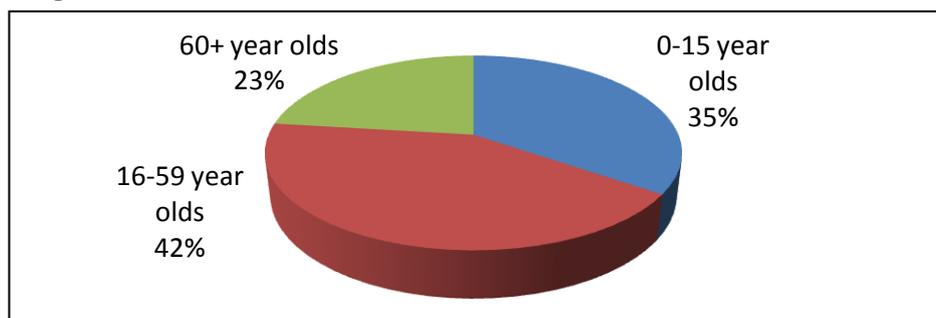
New Forest Tour

- 8.1 The Authority, together with partners, continues to support the New Forest Tour. Passenger journeys during 2012 were up 9% on the equivalent operating period in 2011. The tour also operated for more days in 2012 than in previous years, as it proved so successful that the operating season was extended for a further four weeks than originally scheduled.
- 8.2 A potential third New Forest Tour route for launch in 2013 is currently being investigated. It is likely that this route will serve the south west corner of the New Forest including Milford on Sea, Keyhaven, New Milton several large self catering holiday parks, and link in with existing Tour routes at Burley, Brockenhurst and Lymington.
- 8.3 The Department for Transport has awarded £3.81m to Hampshire County Council, the New Forest National Park and South Downs National Park – together with the neighbouring highways authorities of Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex, Surrey and Wiltshire - for initiatives to reduce the impact of traffic on the two national parks. This will allow the authorities to focus on promoting travel by cycle, bus and rail to and around the National Parks, and managing traffic effectively within the Parks, so that it does not detract from the visitors' experience.

Road Safety

- 8.4 Pedestrian casualties in 2011 continue to be the highest in New Forest District than any other district in Hampshire. With a total of 52 pedestrian casualties it is higher than last year's figure of 43, and there has been a significant increase in the proportion of '0-15 year olds' pedestrian casualties. This can be seen in the chart below.

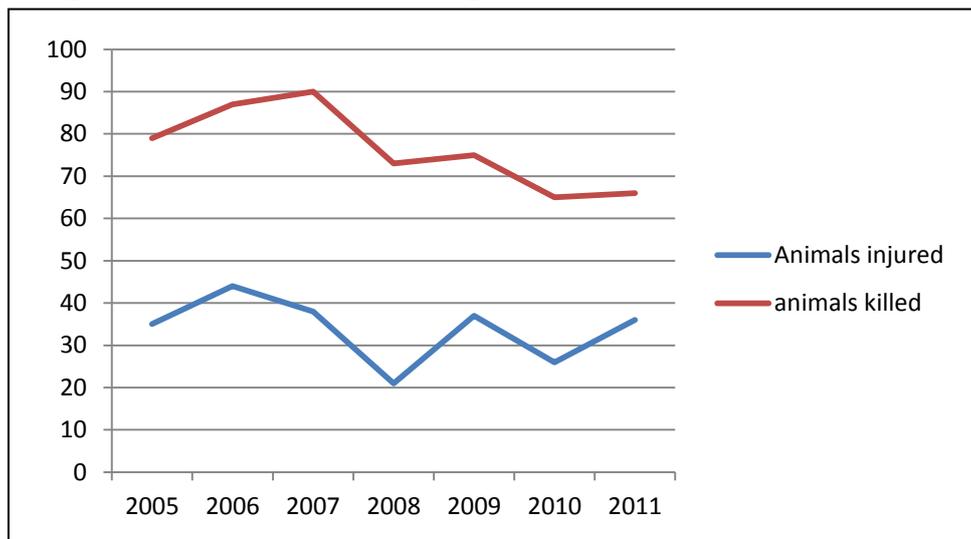
Figure 5: Pedestrian casualties in New Forest District



Source: Hampshire County Council

8.5 In addition to human casualties there remains the on-going issue of animal casualties and fatalities within the National Park. The Verderers of the New Forest record this data to monitor the impact on the free-roaming livestock of the commoners within the Park. The chart below indicates that the data for 2011 is slightly higher than the previous year, but the long term overall trends show that animal deaths and injuries are on the decrease.

Figure 6: Accidents involving commoners' animals



Source: Verderers of the New Forest

Road traffic

8.6 The Department for Transport monitors road traffic levels through the Annual Average Daily Traffic Flows methodology. This sets out the number of vehicles passing through a particular count point on an average day of the year. For the A31 during 2011 a figure of 59,858 vehicles passed through a count point just east of picket post, which represents a 5% increase on the previous year's figure. Approximately 78% of those vehicles were cars, with HGVs comprising 8%, similar proportions to the previous year.

Performance of the Transport and Access policies

8.7 The Core Strategy's Transport and Access policies appear to be performing well, with the New Forest Tour continuing to flourish, together with the recent award of a grant towards projects encouraging more sustainable travel in the National Park. In addition the Authority maintains a watching brief on other aspects of road safety.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 This is the first monitoring report that has focused solely on the assessment of the policies of the Authority's adopted Core Strategy. However, that means there will often be a lack of baseline data against which to compare much of the data in this report, or that identified trends cannot yet be attributed to the performance of the Core Strategy's policies.
- 9.2 The initial assessment of the Core Strategy's policies in this report indicates that many of the policies are performing well, and continue general trends of protection and enhancement of the area, whilst strengthening policies in several areas. The communities in the National Park continue to be supported through the provision of appropriate levels of housing and employment as well as community facilities.
- 9.3 There are a number of issues on which there is currently no data available and suitable sources of information for these will be explored to ensure as much data as possible is available for future reports.
- 9.4 The production of the National Park Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document, and the Standards Supplementary Planning Document, together with the recently adopted Guidelines for Horse-related Development Supplementary Planning Document and Village Design Statements will provide a comprehensive policy framework for the National Park which supports the socio-economic well-being of the Park's communities in the delivery of the statutory Park purposes.

New Forest National Park Profile

Topic	Figure for New Forest National Park	Data Sources
Total area	56,658 ha (571 km ²)	New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA)
National Park Area within New Forest District	53,197 ha (532 km ²) (93.9%)	NFNPA; New Forest District
Wiltshire Council	3,018 ha (30 km ²) (5.3%)	
Test Valley Borough	442 ha (4 km ²) (0.8%)	
Number of parishes and towns wholly or partly within the Park	37	NFNPA
Crown lands	26,800 ha	NFNPA, 2012
Perambulation ¹	37,500 ha	Countryside Agency, 2000
Population	Number / percentage	
Total population	35,237	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2010 (ONS)
Population within New Forest District	32,277	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2010 (ONS)
Population within Wiltshire Council	2,598	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2010 (ONS)
Population within Test Valley	362	Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2010 (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, 2012
National Nature Reserves	1,199 ha	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2012
Local Nature Reserves	412 ha	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2012
Sites of Importance for Nature Conversation (SINCs) and County Wildlife Sites	3,314 ha (379 SINCs)	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre, 2012
Total area of woodland (sites of 2 hectares or more)	19,325 ha	Forestry Commission, 2011
Area of Open Forest habitats (woodland, heathland, mire and grassland open to common grazing)	19,692 ha	Forest Enterprise, 2003

¹ Land within cattle grids – common rights exercised on unenclosed land

Length of coastline	42 km	NFNPA
Length of water courses	482 km	Environment Agency, 2011
Area of farmland	15,149 ha (holdings of more than 5 ha)	Defra, June 2010
Number of practising commoners	669	Verderers of the New Forest, 2011
Numbers of stock depastured on the Open Forest	7,252	Verderers of the New Forest, 2011
Cultural Heritage	Number	
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	214	NFNPA, 2012
Conservation areas	20, covering 7,500 ha	NFNPA, 2012
Listed buildings	620	NFNPA, 2012
Historic Parks and Gardens on English Heritage Register	7 (all in New Forest District)	English Heritage
Recreation and Access	Number / percentage	
Public rights of way	326 km	NFNPA
Cycle routes	187 km	NFNPA
Land with open public access	29,652 ha	Natural England / Forestry Commission
Visitor days	13.5 million	Tourism South East, 2005

Core Strategy Indicators

Key:

 Aim achieved	 Aim partially achieved	 Aim not achieved	 Neutral / Unknown
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Protecting and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Indicator	Target	Core Strategy policies	Outcome	
Housing permitted within 400m of the New Forest SPA	Not to allow adverse impacts on the sensitive European nature conservation site	CP1	<i>No data available</i>	
Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance, including: i) Change in BAP priority habitats & species ii) Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional or sub-regional significance	Net increase in areas of biodiversity importance	CP2	i) No net change in priority habitats (for the National Park) or species (in Hampshire overall)	
			ii) Net gain of 5 hectares in designated areas	
% of new development meeting BREEAM and Code for Sustainable Homes standards	Achieve Level 3 by 2012; Level 4 from 2012 to 2016; Level 6 from 2016 (zero-carbon rating) and BREEAM level 'very good' for commercial and industrial buildings	DP1	<i>No data available</i>	
Public open space standard of 3.5 hectares per 1000 population	New provision in line with the Authority's Open Space Standards; and no net loss of existing open space	DP3	No net loss of open space and new provision of a playground.	
Condition of watercourses	% of river length achieving water quality rating of 'good' or above (chemical and biological grading)	DP2	<i>No data available for 2012</i>	

Planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds	Zero applications	DP2, DP4	Zero	
The environmental footprint of the National Park	A year on year reduction in the Park's footprint	CP4	<i>No data available</i>	
Applications refused on the basis of incompatibility with the Shoreline Management Plans and Coastal Defence Strategies	Not to allow development in areas at risk of coastal erosion or flooding	DP4	Zero applications	
Level and type of renewable energy permitted	Increase in numbers of applications permitted	CP5	Increase in number and scale of applications permitted achieved.	
Areas subject to Air Quality Management Action Plans (Lyndhurst)	Improvement in air quality levels in Lyndhurst – in line with Government's Air Quality Strategy Objectives	CP6	Annual and hourly average objectives achieved	

Protecting and Enhancing the Built Environment

Indicator	Target	Core Strategy policies	Outcome	
Numbers of pre-application discussions which led to satisfactory schemes	Not to allow development that would be incompatible with the character of the area	DP6	<i>No data available</i>	
Planning applications refused on design grounds	Not to allow development that would be incompatible with the character of the area	CP8, DP6		
Planning applications refused on the basis of the impact on the historic environment	Not to allow development that would have adverse impacts on the Park's historic environment	CP7 (DP6 / CP8)		
Planning applications refused due to inadequate access provision for disabled and less mobile	Not to allow development that has inadequate access for the disabled and less mobile	DP6	Zero applications	
Housing quality – Building for Life Assessments	To promote housing that supports an ageing population	-	<i>No data available</i>	

Vibrant Communities

Indicator	Target	Core Strategy policies	Outcome	
Proportion of new employment development, dwellings, retail uses and community facilities in the four defined villages	To ensure defined villages remain the focus for development	CP9, DP8	<i>Insufficient data available</i>	☹️
Planning applications permitted for change of use from retail in the four defined villages	Retain retail uses in 50% of the shopping frontages in Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst, and 40% in Ashurst and Sway shopping frontages	DP7	Only Sway has not maintained level of retail in shopping frontage	☹️
Location and type of new / enhanced community facilities	Net gain in facilities / improved facilities	CP10	Net gain of a range of new and improved facilities	😊
Location and type of new housing permitted and completed	To meet the Core Strategy requirement of 220 dwellings between 2006 & 2026	CP12	14 dwellings completed throughout the Park	😊
Density of completed dwellings	Not to allow development that would be incompatible with the character of the area	DP9		😊
Applications refused on the grounds of over enlargement	Not to allow development that would be incompatible with the character of the area	DP10, DP11		😊
Applications permitted for agricultural or forestry workers dwellings	-	DP13		☹️
Net additional pitches permitted for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople	<i>Target to be identified through a later DPD</i>	CP13	Zero	☹️
Location and type of affordable housing permitted and completed	At least 50% in defined villages; rural exception sites elsewhere	CP11		☹️

A Sustainable Local Economy

Indicator	Target	Core Strategy policies	Outcome	
Total amount of additional employment floorspace completions – by type	No significant net loss	CP14	-752m ²	
Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land – by type		CP14	Zero	
Employment land available – by type		CP15, DP16 DP17, CP16	5,141m ²	
Numbers of practising commoners and stock depastured	-	-	669 commoners; 7593 stock depastured	
Number and size of farms in the National Park	-	-	15,149 ha (holdings of more than 5 ha)	
Applications permitted for agricultural and forestry buildings	-	DP20	10 permitted	
Applications permitted for recreational horse-keeping and associated development	-	DP21, DP22, DP23	Several permitted	
Numbers of planning applications resulting in back-up grazing land lost to other uses	No net loss	CP17	No net loss	
Number of applications permitted for farm diversification schemes which replace the farm business or which encourages intensive production methods	Zero	CP17	Zero	
Numbers and type of visitor facilities and accommodation permitted in the defined villages	-	CP16	None permitted	
Numbers of visitors coming to the National Park (<i>data not collected annually</i>)	-	-	13.5 million visitor days	
Numbers of pitches relocated from holiday parks and camp sites in sensitive areas	-	DP18	Zero	

Transport and Access

Indicator	Target	Core Strategy policies	Outcome	
Level of road traffic in the Forest, especially on A31	Hampshire LTP 2006-2011 sets out targets to 2020: - Reduce traffic growth County-wide by 50%	CP18	Increase on A31	
Implementation of safeguarded transport schemes	<i>n/a</i>	-	No schemes are safeguarded	
Length / location of, and enhancements to, public rights of way	Increase / improve footpaths, cycle ways and bridleways	CP19	No change	
Traffic accidents causing death or personal injury	Hampshire LTP 2006-2011 sets out targets to 2020: - Reduce fatalities or serious injuries by 40% - Reduce child fatalities or serious injuries by 50% - Reduce slight injuries by 10%	CP19	Little change from previous year	
Numbers of people using the New Forest Tour bus	Year on year increase	CP19	Increase in operating season and passenger journeys	

5 Year Housing Land Supply

The 5 year housing land supply is based on the requirement to meet the level of housing set out in the Authority's adopted Core Strategy which is 220 dwellings between the period 2006 and 2026. The Authority currently has a 5 year supply of housing land based on unimplemented planning permissions, which are set out in the tables below and overleaf.

DWELLINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

REF.	NET AREA	ADDRESS	LOCALITY	DWELLINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION
92318	0.26	CARTERS FARM NORLEYWOOD	BOLDRE	1
10/95752	0.23	FOREST HEATH HOTEL STATION RD	SWAY	2
92179	0.11	LITTLE GREENMOOR FARM CHURCH LANE	BOLDRE	1
11/96216	0.01	4 GARDEN ROAD	BURLEY	1
08/92794	0.20	15 PETERSCROFT AVENUE	ASHURST	1
03/79004	0.21	EDGEMOOR FARM TOMS LANE	LINWOOD	1
92300	0.02	68A HIGH STREET	LYNDHURST	3
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OUTSTANDING PERMISSIONS

REF.	NET AREA	ADDRESS	LOCALITY	NET OUTSTANDING DWELLINGS
10/95752	0.23	FOREST HEATH HOTEL STATION RD	SWAY	5
11/96965	1.15	OCKNELL HOUSE STONEY CROSS PLAIN ROAD	STONEY CROSS	1
67705	0.43	TOWER FARM BARROWS LANE	SWAY	0
11/96211	0.21	36-40 LAND R/O FOXHILLS	ASHURST	7
82430	0.15	OAK LODGE DENTAL SURGERY RHINEFIELD ROAD	BROCKENHURST	-1
82430	0.15	OAK LODGE DENTAL SURGERY RHINEFIELD ROAD	BROCKENHURST	1
11/96691	0.03	25 LAND TO REAR OF LYNDHURST RD	BROCKENHURST	1
10/95509	0.17	FAIRWEATHER GARDEN CENTRE HIGH STREET	BEAULIEU	6
92465	0.45	FLYING BOAT INN SITE OF THE FORMER CALSHOT RD	FAWLEY	1
10/95920	0.06	1 PRINCES CRESCENT	LYNDHURST	1
10/96047	0.14	THE SHALLOWS FORMER BREAMORE RAILWAY STATION YARD	BREAMORE	1
09/94299	0.22	2/2A LAND ADJ GOSPORT LANE	LYNDHURST	26
09/94619	6.08	FORMER AL CENTRE NOS. 8, 10, 14, 16 BEECHEN LANE	LYNDHURST	4
10/95256	2.46	APPLETREE COURT BEAULIEU ROAD	LYNDHURST	-1
09/93770	0.08	KNIGHTWOOD LODGE HOTEL SOUTHAMPTON RD	LYNDHURST	8
92300	0.02	68A HIGH STREET	LYNDHURST	-1
11/96907	0.10	SOUTH VIEW HOTEL GOSPORT LANE	LYNDHURST	7
11/96931	0.02	76 HIGH STREET	LYNDHURST	-1
11/96826	0.05	5A THE CUSTARDS	LYNDHURST	1
09/93795	0.22	LONGUEVILLE LAND OF LYNDHURST ROAD	POUND HILL, LANDFORD	1
08/92914	0.15	SAND DUNES SCHOOL LANE	NOMANSLAND	1
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