

NFNPA/PC 291/19

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING – 21 MAY 2019

NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2018

Report by: Sarah Applegate, Senior Policy Officer

Recommendation:

To note the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report 2018 as attached at Annex 1.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As a local planning authority, the Authority is required to produce a Monitoring Report each year which should contain details of:
- the timetable and progress of the documents set out in the Authority's Local Development Scheme;
 - the number of completed dwellings and affordable dwellings; and
 - the Authority's co-operation with other local planning authorities or relevant bodies during the monitoring period (known as the 'duty to co-operate')
- 1.2 The 2018 Annual Monitoring Report is attached at Annex 1 and covers the period from **1 April 2017** to **31 March 2018**. There has been a slight delay this year in bringing the report to the Planning Committee as a result of work on the final stages of the new emerging Local Plan.

2. Monitoring results overview

Local Development Scheme

- 2.1 During the Monitoring Period a revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) was brought into effect on 12 October 2017. This set out the timetable for the preparation of the Authority's emerging Local Plan. The Authority undertook a six-week period of public consultation on the Submission Draft Local Plan, in line with the Authority's LDS.

Policy performance

- 2.2 Initial analysis of the performance of the planning policies covering the National Park indicates that they are generally performing well and the Authority continues to achieve the objectives set out in the Core Strategy.

- 2.3 Although the Authority's adopted Core Strategy does not allocate any sites for development, the Monitoring Report highlights that there remains a healthy stock of sites with planning permission for a range of business and industrial uses, amounting to 3,520m² of floorspace. However, there was no net gain of new employment floorspace in this period, with approximately 532m² of office floorspace being lost due to the implementation of permitted development rights creating three dwellings from former offices.
- 2.4 With regard to housing, there were 25 dwellings completed in this monitoring period (compared to nine completions the previous year). This annual fluctuation reflects the windfall nature of housing completions in the National Park, as there are no housing site allocations in the adopted Core Strategy. Analysis of housing completions since 2006 to the present has resulted in an average figure of 23 net new houses completed each year, which represents a healthy supply against the requirements of the Core Strategy.
- 2.5 In addition, given the stock of sites with planning permission for 123 dwellings, the Authority maintains a five-year supply of housing sites.
- 2.6 No affordable dwellings were built in this monitoring period, although a rural exceptions scheme at Brockenhurst for 10 affordable dwellings has just been completed and will be set out in the results for next year's Monitoring Report. Affordable housing delivery within the National Park under the adopted Core Strategy policies has been affected by changes in national planning policy and this is an issue that the Authority is seeking to address through the Local Plan review.

3. Duty to Co-operate

- 3.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a 'duty to co-operate' on strategic planning matters (defined as those affecting more than one planning area) applying to local planning authorities and a range of other organisations and agencies. During the monitoring period the Authority's officers liaised with a range of organisations including New Forest District Council on the emerging review of their planning policies. Comments were also made on the draft plans and strategies of other authorities. Officers continue to liaise with officers from other National Parks, and other local planning authorities in Hampshire, to share examples of good practice and facilitate joint commissioning of evidence where possible.
- 3.2 The Authority also engaged with a number of organisations with regard to our emerging Local Plan and undertook joint commissioning of evidence base studies with other authorities in Hampshire, in particular New Forest District Council. The Authority submitted a detailed 'Duty to Cooperate Statement' as part of the Local Plan review supporting information and signed statements of common ground with constituent local planning authorities on strategic cross-boundary matters.

4. Emerging Local Plan

- 4.1 Although the Monitoring Report is currently focused on monitoring the performance of the Core Strategy policies, many of these remain largely unaltered in the draft Local Plan. Therefore, as and when the Local Plan is found sound and adopted by the Authority, many of the indicators will continue to be monitored in the future and will enable any trends and patterns to continue to be assessed.

RECOMMENDATION

To note the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report 2018, as attached at Annex 1.

Contact: Sarah Applegate, Senior Policy Officer
Sarah.applegate@newforestnpa.gov.uk
01590 646673

Papers: cover paper
Annex 1: Annual Monitoring Report 2018

Equality Impact Assessment: No impacts have been identified.