

# Stafford Borough Authority Monitoring Report 2021

(Covering the period 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021)

Published December 2021



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## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This Authority Monitoring Report covers the period of 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, referred to within the report as the monitoring year. The report summarises the progress that the Stafford Borough Council has made in delivering the adopted Local Plan, known as the Plan for Stafford Borough 2011-2031. The analysis includes a commentary on the New Local Plan, the development of Neighbourhood Plans, cross boundary co-ordination on strategic matters and related work, as well as the Self Build and the Brownfield Land registers. Most importantly, the document provides an analysis of whether Local Plan targets are being achieved, such as the delivery of housing numbers and employment land sites.

### **Progress on the Local Plan and Supporting Documents**

- 1.2 The council has a fully adopted Local Plan, with the production of a new Local Plan that commenced in July 2017. An updated Local Development Scheme (LDS), which sets out the timeline to produce the New Local Plan and its supporting documents, was published on 17 November 2021. A 'Call for Sites' exercise has been undertaken, and a public consultation on the key issues and options for consideration in the new Plan took place between Monday 3 February and Tuesday 21 April 2020. Responses to the consultation have been analysed and will be considered alongside updates to the New Local Plan evidence base prior to publishing the Preferred Option document, in accordance with the Local Development Scheme.
- 1.3 Six Neighbourhood Plans have been 'made' (adopted) for the parishes of Gnosall, Eccleshall, Hixon, Colwich (the Haywoods), Barlaston and Stone. Four Neighbourhood Plans are being progressed: Swynnerton, Hopton and Coton, Doxey, and Yarnfield and Cold Meece.
- 1.4 Stafford Borough continues to have cross-boundary strategic discussions, known as the Duty to Co-operate, on housing, employment land, infrastructure and environmental issues with neighbouring authorities and key stakeholders.
- 1.5 The council has an up-to-date Brownfield Land Register and Self-Build Register, and is working towards providing self-build and custom housing plots to meet the demand on the register.
- 1.6 The authority was successful in its bid to secure funding to undertake initial feasibility studies on the provision of a new garden community in the borough.
- 1.7 The authority exceeded the requirements of the Government's Housing Delivery Test for the 2020/21 monitoring year.

### **Progress on Local Plan Policies**

- 1.8 Housing completions are above target this year; 614 compared to a target of 500 dwellings per annum. The borough has exceeded the target for five consecutive years which stands us in good stead for the 'Housing Delivery Test' which was introduced by Government in 2019.

- 1.9 Housing supply remains strong. Stafford has a 5 year supply of deliverable sites and has sufficient commitments to meet the target of 10,000 homes over the Plan period 2011 - 2031.
- 1.10 4.7 hectares of employment land has been completed this year. This is lower than the Local Plan target of 8 hectares per annum. Supply is strong (111.5 hectares in the pipeline), and sites are being developed; the first phase of Redhill Business Park is complete, Beacon Business Park has seen consistent development over the past two years and Meaford Business Park is moving forward.
- 1.11 In the borough 70% of new housing development is proposed to be built in Stafford, 10% in Stone, 12% in the Key Service Villages and 8% across the rest of the borough area. When housing completions and committed sites are considered the percentages are generally in line with the Plan's development strategy.
- 1.12 Good progress has been made on the Strategic Development Locations in the borough. The East of Stafford allocation is building out well, there have been 623 completions to date. On the North of Stafford site there have been 477 completions to date. On the West of Stafford site 373 houses have been completed so far. Construction on the strategic site at Stone has seen the delivery of 264 out of 500 permissioned units in the 2020/21 monitoring year.
- 1.13 The Stafford Riverside development is complete, and the majority of units are now occupied.
- 1.14 The Stafford Station Gateway project, a multi-million pound residential and commercial development to the west of Stafford railway station linking the Western Strategic Development Location with the town centre is progressing well.
- 1.15 The number of affordable dwelling completions increased during 2020/21 to 196 units from 189 units the previous year. Since the adoption of the Local Plan in 2014 an average of 207 units per year have been delivered against the Plan target of 210 units per year.
- 1.16 There has been one planning application approved for a renewable energy scheme within the monitoring year. There have been no losses in areas of biodiversity importance during 2020/21 and no listed buildings lost as a result of development.

## **2. Introduction and Spatial Portrait**

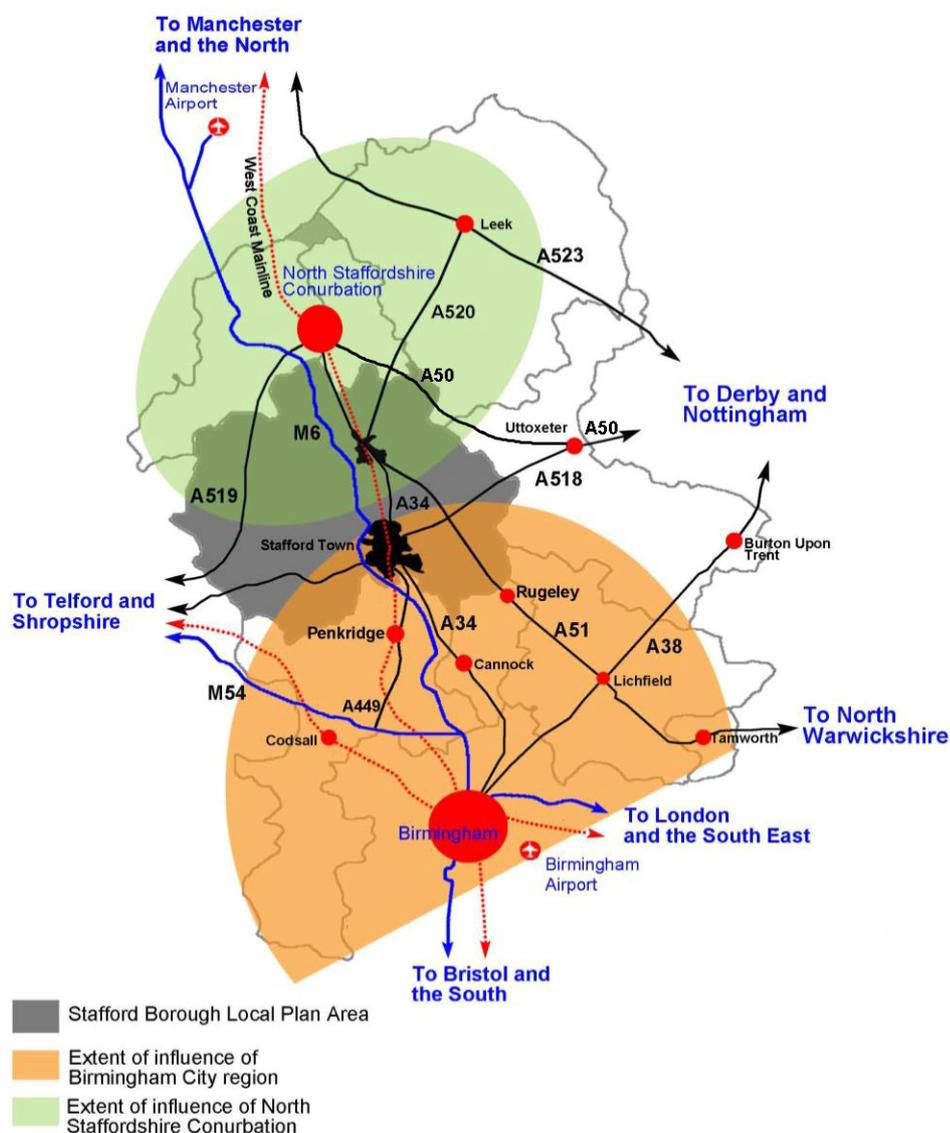
- 2.1 Local Planning Authorities have a statutory requirement to produce an Authority Monitoring Report. The purpose of the report is to show progress with Local Plan preparation, assess the delivery of adopted Local Plan policies and targets, and to report on other planning policy activities such as Supplementary Planning Documents, Neighbourhood Plans, how authorities are working together on cross border strategic planning issues (Duty to Co-operate) and contributions made towards infrastructure provision.
- 2.2 This is the eighth Authority Monitoring Report to be produced since the adoption of the Local Plan (known as the Plan for Stafford Borough). The Report covers the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021, referred to throughout the report as the monitoring year. Where appropriate, data has been provided for the last ten years so that an assessment can be made from the start of the Plan period in 2011.
- 2.3 Stafford Borough Council adopted Part 1 of the Plan for Stafford Borough in June 2014. Part 2 was subsequently adopted in January 2017. This report therefore sets out progress on both elements of the current Plan where data is available.

### **Spatial Portrait**

- 2.4 Stafford Borough is centrally located between the conurbations of Manchester and Birmingham. It is a predominantly rural borough of around 137,900 people covering 59,817 hectares. A third of the population live in smaller rural settlements. The borough lies in the centre of the county and is home to the county town of Stafford, the canal town of Stone, and many rural villages and hamlets.
- 2.5 The Key Service Villages (KSVs) are spread across the rural areas of the borough, being traditional service, commercial and social centres, which also serve a number of smaller villages and hamlets in their locality. Each KSV is located within easy access to key rural employment centres that complement the recreational and retail opportunities within the villages.
- 2.6 According to the Office of National Statistics the population in the borough is expected to grow by around 15.8% between 2018 and 2043. Figures also show that the population aged over 65 is expected to grow by 43% within the same time frame. Whilst the population of Stafford Borough is predominantly White British, the number of minority groups living in the borough is growing. Stafford is home to a significant number of military personnel, including an influx in 2015 from those serving abroad returning to the Stafford base at Beacon Barracks. Staffordshire University closed their Stafford campus in 2014, although parts of the campus have since re-opened for educational purposes by the Beacon Group.
- 2.7 There are over 66,500 dwellings in the borough. Home ownership is higher than the national average although there has been a significant increase in private renting over recent years.
- 2.8 Stafford Borough has excellent transport links both north and south, with good connections east and west. Stafford station has been identified to connect with the new

High Speed 2 rail link, which will improve journey times between Stafford and London once the line is operational. The proximity of Stafford to surrounding districts, along with transport links to the region and the rest of the UK, are illustrated below in Figure 1.

Figure 1-Map of transport links to the region



2.9 Stafford town is the borough’s major employment centre, having the largest shopping centre in the area and containing the largest concentration of commercial premises and multiple retailers. It also has many key visitor attractions. Furthermore, the town contains a large range of ‘stand-alone’ employers and industrial estates / business parks. Stone is the second largest centre and Eccleshall is the third.

2.10 The economy is relatively strong, with an unemployment rate of 4%. This is lower than the West Midlands (5.4%) and national (5%) unemployment rates. The number of

people who are economically active is just below the national average, 77.3% compared to 78.4%. The population has a high level of educational attainment compared to Great Britain as a whole; 53.4% of the working age residents have higher level skills (degree level or higher) compared to 43.1% for Great Britain. The area is very attractive to inward investors due to its central location and transport links, availability of labour and well-located employment sites. New strategic employment sites are being taken up at Stafford and Stone, including Redhill Business Park, the extension of Beacon Business Park and Meaford.

- 2.11 The natural landscape is characterised by flat low-lying land positioned between the natural corridors of the Rivers Penk and Sow. Outside of these corridors much of the area is intensively farmed agricultural land, interspersed with ancient and semi-natural woodland, and grasslands. Part of the rural landscape is nationally recognised through the designation of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in the south east of the borough. Stafford Borough is also important for its biodiversity and areas of nature conservation, many of which are internationally and nationally designated sites. The borough contains 3 Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance) at Aqualate Mere, Chartley Moss and Cop Mere, 15 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and 4 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) sites (Cannock Chase, Motte Meadows, Chartley Moss and Pasturefields).
- 2.12 The borough has a rich historic environment, for example the town centres of Stafford, Stone and many of the rural villages have historic cores which are designated as Conservation Areas. Outside of these settlements Trentham Gardens, Sandon Park, Shugborough Park and the German Military Cemetery on Cannock Chase are designated as Historic Parks and Gardens. There are two areas of Green Belt within the borough, around the North Staffordshire conurbation and in the south-eastern area of the borough, including the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

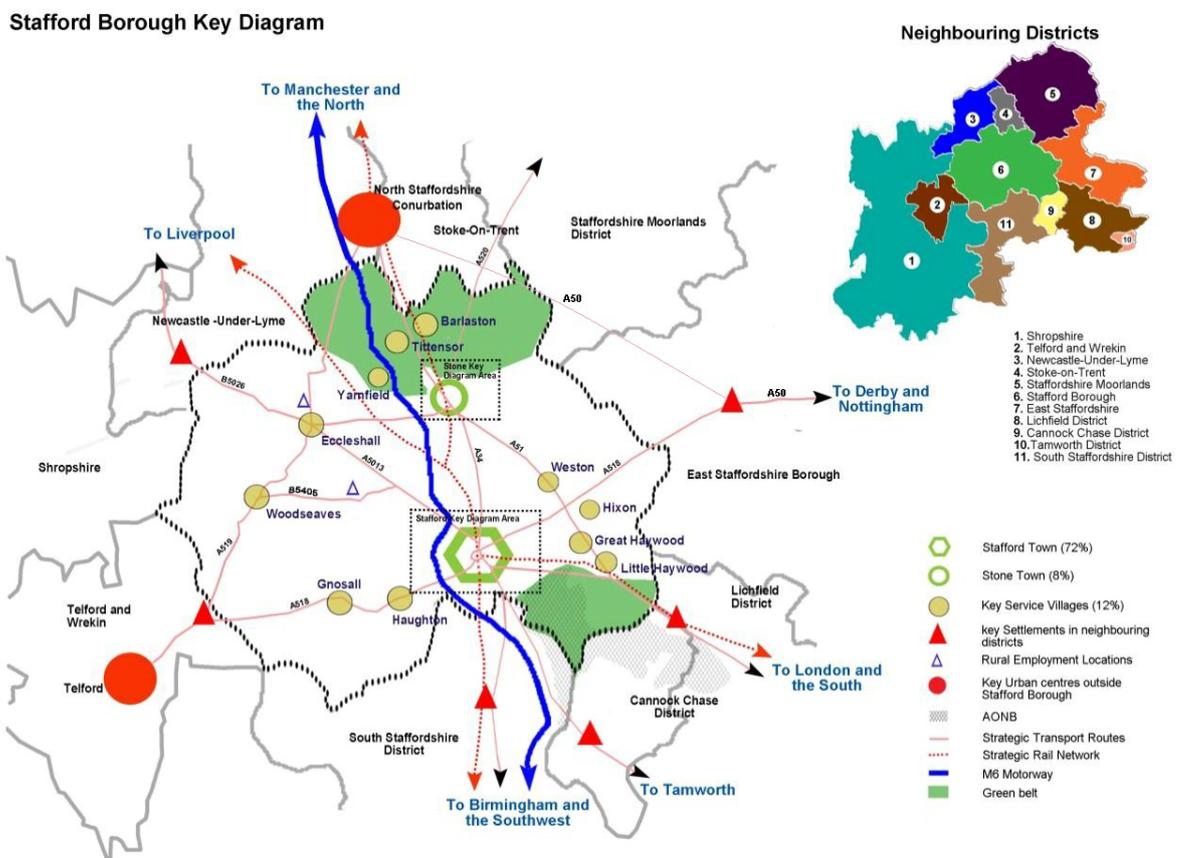
### **Planning Context**

- 2.13 The Plan for Stafford Borough 2011-2031 provides for growth through a sustainable pattern of development. The Plan makes provision for both local needs and immigration delivering a level of housing and employment that will satisfy both. The focus of development is the county town of Stafford which will take 70% of the overall housing allocation for the borough. This will be balanced by employment sites (56% of new employment development will be at Stafford town) and the provision of supporting infrastructure. Three strategic sites have been allocated on the edge of Stafford to support the majority of this housing growth: North of Stafford, West of Stafford and East of Stafford.
- 2.14 The smaller market town of Stone will accommodate 10% of the housing growth and will be supported with employment sites and appropriate infrastructure. The Plan for Stafford Borough allocates 12% of the borough's employment growth to Stone. A strategic housing site has been allocated to the west of Stone which will accommodate 500 new dwellings and an employment site has been completed to the south of Stone to provide 20 hectares of employment land. Additional housing and employment will be provided elsewhere in Stone through sites with planning consent.

2.15 11 Key Service Villages (KSVs) have been identified in the Plan which will take a lower level of growth; Eccleshall, Gnosall, Hixon, Great Haywood, Little Haywood / Colwich, Haughton, Weston, Woodseaves, Barlaston, Tittensor and Yarnfield. Overall, 12% of housing will be built in these sustainable villages which already provide many local facilities and services.

2.16 The remaining rural areas of the borough will accommodate a small amount of growth (8%). This is to provide for local needs and will primarily focus on the conversion of barns and rural buildings, and the provision of rural exception sites (sites for affordable housing outside the Key Service Villages).

Figure 2-Stafford Borough diagram



### 3. Progress on the Local Plan and Supporting Documents

#### New Local Plan

- 3.1 The Development Plan for Stafford Borough (PFSB) currently consists of the Plan for Stafford Borough, adopted on 19 June 2014, and the Plan for Stafford Borough: Part 2 adopted on 31 January 2017. The Plan for Stafford Borough sets out the vision, key objectives and spatial strategy for the borough. It is the over-arching policy document to which any other planning policy documents must comply, including Neighbourhood Plans. The Plan for Stafford Borough Part 2 sets out the approach to development in the sustainable settlement hierarchy by establishing settlement boundaries for Stafford, Stone and the Key Service Villages, and boundaries for the Recognised Industrial Estates. It also includes a policy on protecting social and community facilities.
- 3.2 In addition Stafford Borough is covered by the Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire (2015-2030), adopted on 16 February 2017, and the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Waste Local Plan (2010 to 2026), adopted on 22 March 2013, both produced by Staffordshire County Council.
- 3.3 The New Local Plan 2020-2040 will fully replace the Plan for Stafford Borough 2011-2031 (PFSB) and the PFSB Part 2 with a new development strategy, site allocations and Development Management policies. A 'Call for Sites' exercise has been undertaken and a public consultation on the key issues and options for consideration in the new Local Plan took place between Monday 3 February and Tuesday 21 April 2020. Responses to the consultation have been analysed and will be considered alongside updates to the New Local Plan evidence base prior to publishing the Preferred Option document in accordance with the Local Development Scheme.
- 3.4 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the timeline to produce each stage of the New Local Plan and its supporting documents. The timeline can be seen in Table 1 and can also be found on the council's web site at <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/local-development-scheme>. The most recent version of the Local Development Scheme was published on 17 November 2021.

Table 1 - Local Development Scheme timeline

Process stage	Proposed stage date
Commencement	July 2017 - Completed
Issues and Options	July 2018 to March 2020 - Completed
Preferred Options	June and July 2022
Publication	July to September 2023
Submission	November 2023
Examination	February 2024
Adoption	October 2024

### **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)**

- 3.5 Two Supplementary Planning Documents have been adopted on 24 April 2018 covering “Design” and “Shopfronts and Advertisements”. A further Supplementary Planning Document is currently being progressed on Biodiversity.

### **Neighbourhood Plans**

- 3.6 The Localism Act 2011 introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to prepare Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) for their area. There are two types of bodies that can undertake neighbourhood planning – town and parish councils or neighbourhood forums. Neighbourhood Plans are prepared and led by local communities and set out a vision and aims for their local area, including general planning policies for the use and development of land covering topics such as housing, employment, environment, open space, and infrastructure.
- 3.7 Neighbourhood Plans must be in accordance with national and local planning policy and are subject to independent examination and public referendum. Once a Neighbourhood Plan has been through the statutory process and is ‘made’ (adopted) it forms part of the development plan for the area and is used to guide decisions on planning applications.
- 3.8 There are currently six parishes with made Neighbourhood Plans within the borough: Gnosall, Eccleshall, Hixon, Colwich, Barlaston and Stone. Four Neighbourhood Plans are also being progressed: Swynnerton, Hopton and Coton, Doxey, and Yarnfield and Cold Meece. Further information can be seen in Appendix 1 and can also be found on the council’s website - <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning1> .

### **Duty to Co-operate**

- 3.9 The Localism Act (2011) sets out a requirement for local authorities to fulfil a Duty to Co-operate on strategic planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, and to engage constructively and actively through an ongoing basis on the preparation of Local Plan documents, including the preparation of evidence to underpin these documents. This is re-enforced in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which states that local planning authorities should work collaboratively with other bodies to ensure that strategic priorities across local boundaries are properly co-ordinated and clearly reflected through individual Local Plans.
- 3.10 The council continues to have on-going discussions on cross boundary planning issues with neighbouring councils. There are a number of cross boundary key issues where a complementary approach is required, including flood risk, provision of infrastructure (including transport links), the distribution of housing associated with local housing markets, Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, employment needs (through the Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership) as well as protection of the environment and landscape. Stafford Borough Council worked on a number of joint evidence-based studies to support the Plan for Stafford Borough and continues to carry out active co-operation with its neighbours and partners.
- 3.11 During 2020/21, Stafford Borough Council continued to work pro-actively through the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation Partnership to mitigate the impact of new development on this European designation. Furthermore, the council continues to work with neighbouring authorities on strategic issues, not least as part of the Constellation Partnership (formerly known as the Northern Gateway Development Zone Partnership). This enables the investigation of further development opportunities associated with High Speed 2 (HS2). The council also works alongside two Local

Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas, as well as neighbouring authorities within the Partnership including Cheshire East, Cheshire West & Chester, Staffordshire County Council, Newcastle-under-Lyme, the City of Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Moorlands Councils.

### Community Infrastructure Levy and developer contributions

3.12 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge that can be levied on planning developments to support the infrastructure needs of an area as defined by the Plan for Stafford Borough. It can be used to fund new strategic transport, education, open-space, and recreation provision that cannot be funded by other means. CIL is charged per square metre on the net additional floorspace of a development. There are exemptions to the charge, including self-build housing and social housing.

3.13 A significant amount of work was undertaken to progress a Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule in 2015. However, before the project had concluded the Government announced that the CIL process would be reviewed and therefore the work was put on hold. The council will be considering the reintroduction of CIL through the New Local Plan process. Currently developer contributions continue to be collected through Section 106 agreements to help deliver key infrastructure in the borough.

### Brownfield Land Register

3.14 The Brownfield Land Register is a list of previously developed sites that are suitable for housing development in the borough. The purpose of the Register is to highlight availability of brownfield sites to potential developers, and to consider whether any of the sites would benefit from a new type of planning permission called 'permission in principle'. Details on the council's Brownfield Land Register can be found at <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/brownfield-land-register>.

### Self-Build Register

3.15 As part of the Government's drive to increase housebuilding, self-build and custom build housing is being promoted. New legislation has been enacted through the Housing and Planning Act 2016 requiring local authorities to keep a register of those interested in acquiring a self-build plot. The council is required to keep a register of individuals and groups who want to acquire land within the borough for self-build homes and are working towards providing self-build and custom-build plots to meet the demand. Table 2 shows how many individuals are registered, and at the end of the monitoring year the register contained 56 entries. Further information on the register can be found on the council's website - <https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/cme/DocMan1/Planning%20Policy/Self%20Build/Stafford-Borough-Self-build-and-Custom-Housebuilding-Register.pdf>.

Table 2 - Self-build Register

Monitoring year	Number of individuals registered
2016/17	23
2017/18	8
2018/19	5
2019/20	10
2020/21	10
Total	56

#### 4. Progress on Local Plan Policies

##### Housing and Communities

4.1 The housing target in the Plan for Stafford Borough is 10,000 dwellings over the period 2011-2031, which equates to the delivery of 500 dwellings per annum. Housing completions since the start of the Plan period are set out in Table 3. The borough under-provided for the first four years of the PFSB (2011/2-2014/15), however since 2015/16 the borough has delivered above the required target. The average completion rate is 620 dwellings, which is above target for the Plan period to date and reflects an increased delivery from the Strategic Development Locations in Stafford and Stone as well as other larger housing sites across the borough.

Table 3 - Housing delivery per monitoring year

Monitoring year	Number of dwellings delivered
2011/12	425
2012/13	306
2013/14	411
2014/15	428
2015/16	688
2016/17	1010
2017/18	863
2018/19	699
2019/20	752
2020/21	614

4.2 The policy framework states that predominately future development will be delivered in Stafford, Stone and 11 Key Service Villages (KSVs) across the borough. Annual targets have been set for the distribution of housing and employment growth within the settlement hierarchy. For housing growth, 70% of these new developments will be delivered in Stafford, 10% in Stone, 12% in the Key Service Villages and 8% across the rest of the borough.

4.3 Since the start of the Plan period in 2011, 54% of housing completions have been delivered in Stafford, 14% in Stone, 20% in the Key Service Village, and 12% in rural areas. There has therefore been an under-delivery in Stafford and an over-delivery in Stone, the Key Service Villages, and other rural areas. However, when both housing completions and commitments are considered together i.e., those that have been built and those with either planning permission or sites allocated in the Plan, the percentages are generally in line with the Plan's target. Table 4 below sets out the targets and the percentages achieved.

Table 4 - Settlement hierarchy housing targets and delivery

Location	Target (%)	Completions 2011-2021 (%)	Completions and Commitments (%)
Stafford	70	54	72
Stone	10	14	9
Key Service Villages	12	20	11
Rural Areas	8	12	8

4.4 Over the Plan period 7,000 new dwellings have been allocated for delivery at Stafford town. Since 2011, 3,333 dwellings have been built, and there are a further 5,407 dwellings either under-construction, with planning permission or part of a Local Plan allocation.

4.5 Updates on the Local Plan allocations, or Strategic Development Locations (SDLs), in Stafford town are as follows:

- The North of Stafford site is moving forward. Of the 3,100 dwellings allocated at this strategic site 477 dwellings have been completed up to the end of the monitoring year, and planning permission has been granted for 2,798 dwellings. A total of 10 affordable housing units have been delivered.
- The West of Stafford strategic site is allocated 2,200 dwellings. At the end of the monitoring year, a total of 373 dwellings have been completed, and planning permission has been granted for 1,475 dwellings, with the remaining 352 dwellings as Plan allocation commitment. On the areas of site that have planning permission, 30% of the houses delivered will be for affordable housing as agreed in the S106 Agreement. As of the end of the monitoring year, 98 affordable units have been delivered.
- The East of Stafford strategic site is allocated 600 dwellings. At the end of the monitoring year, a total of 623 dwellings have been completed, with the remaining 30 dwellings as Plan allocation commitment. Of the 653 dwellings, a total of 192 affordable housing units have been delivered.

4.6 Over the Plan period 1,000 new dwellings have been allocated for delivery in Stone town. Since the start of the Plan period, 864 dwellings have been built and a further 294 dwellings have planning permission.

4.7 Updates on the Local plan allocations, or Strategic Development Locations (SDLs), in Stone are as follows:

- The strategic site in Stone is allocated 500 dwellings. At the end of the monitoring year, a total of 264 dwellings have been completed on site. It has been agreed that 32% of the dwellings provided will be for affordable housing. As of the end of the monitoring year, 83 affordable housing units have been delivered. Development on the Stone Business Park Extension providing 21.07 hectares of employment land has now been completed.

- 4.8 The council can demonstrate more than a 5-year supply of housing land. There are 6.4 years of deliverable housing sites with the inclusion of a 5% buffer. The calculation of the 5-year supply includes sites with planning permission and those allocated in the Local Plan. A full analysis of the 5-year housing land supply situation, and the council's annual report on housing delivery, known as 'Land for New Homes', can be found at <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/monitoring>.
- 4.9 The Plan for Stafford Borough supports sustainable development on brownfield land. During the monitoring year 2020/21, 43% of housing completions were on brownfield land, in comparison to 30% during 2019/20. The figure is significantly lower than at the start of the Plan period, for example in 2012/13 the figure was 80%. This is because of greenfield sites coming forward through the adopted Plan for Stafford Borough's development strategy.
- 4.10 The council has exceeded the Housing Delivery Test for the 2020/21 monitoring year.
- 4.11 It is important that an appropriate mix of dwelling types, tenures and sizes is delivered within the borough to meet identified needs. Of the houses built in the current monitoring year 49% were 1 and 2 bed roomed, 31% were 3 bed roomed and 20% were 4 bed roomed or over.
- 4.12 In total, 196 units of affordable housing were delivered in the monitoring year which is an increase from last year's figure of 189 units, and below the target rate of 210 units per year. Generally affordable housing delivery has increased over the Plan period to date, however since the start of the Plan period the average remains under-target. Affordable housing has been delivered through a mix of grant funding and Section 106 agreements. Table 5 below shows the level of affordable housing delivery in the borough since 2011. On average, 167 units of affordable housing is delivered each year.

Table 5 - Affordable housing delivery

Monitoring year	Number of affordable housing units delivered
2011/12	83
2012/13	48
2013/14	91
2014/15	199
2015/16	159
2016/17	343
2017/18	219

Monitoring year	Number of affordable housing units delivered
2018/19	147
2019/20	189
2020/21	196

4.28 The adopted Plan includes Policy C6 which seeks to ensure that an adequate supply of gypsy and travellers' sites at appropriate locations are delivered over the lifetime of the Plan. Technical work undertaken for Part 2 of the Plan identified that 43 gypsy and traveller pitches are needed over the Plan period. Planning permission for 3 gypsy and traveller pitches have been granted in the current monitoring year.

### Economy

4.13 A strong economy is supported by an adequate supply of employment land, provision of high-quality transport and communications infrastructure, and a good skills base. Stafford Borough historically has had a good portfolio of employment land, but sites are now being built out and new allocations will need to be identified as part of the New Local Plan. The borough has a low unemployment rate of 4%, compared to the regional rate of 5.4% and the national rate of 5%, which is an indicator of a healthy economy.

4.14 There are six Recognised Industrial Estates in the borough at Hixon, Hixon Airfield, Ladfordfields, Moorfields, Pasturefields and Raleigh Hall. In this monitoring year, planning permission for 4.26 hectares of employment land was granted at Raleigh Hall Industrial Estate, 11.43 hectares at Hixon Airfield and 0.19 hectares at Ladfordfields. Raleigh Hall has no more employment land allocations from the Local Plan and Ladfordfields has 5.8 hectares remaining.

4.15 The target provision of employment land in the borough is 8 hectares per year. Table 6 shows the build rates of employment land since the start of the Plan period. Completions were under target this monitoring year at 4.7 hectares, with 40% of completions (floorspace) on brownfield land, which a slight increase since last year at 33%. During the monitoring year 2.1 hectares of employment land has been lost to housing. The average completion rate is 7.18 hectares, which is slightly below target for the Plan period to date.

Table 6 - Employment land delivery

Monitoring year	Number of hectares delivered
2011/12	1.6
2012/13	3.4
2013/14	1.2
2014/15	4.7

Monitoring year	Number of hectares delivered
2015/16	2.8
2016/17	9.4
2017/18	12
2018/19	26.9
2019/20	5.1
2020/21	4.7

- 4.16 There are 111.5 hectares of employment land supply committed to by sites with planning permission or allocated in the Local Plan, as can be seen in Table 7.

Table 7 - Employment land commitments

Commitment type	Number of hectares of employment land
With planning permission	90.7
Local plan allocation without planning permission	20.8
Total commitments	111.5

- 4.17 Two strategic employment sites have been allocated at Stafford town, one to North of Stafford (Redhill) and one to the East of Stafford (Beacon Business Park). The Redhill employment site is 45 hectares in total; all 45 hectares has planning consent or has been built. At Beacon Business Park, to the east of Stafford, a public house, 9 plots, a drive through coffee shop, a convenience store and four retail units have been completed. This leaves a remaining 0.49 hectares with planning permission and a remaining 12.8 hectares allocated in the Local Plan.
- 4.18 Out of a total of 4.7 hectares of employment land developed across the borough in 2020-2021, 1.78 hectares were developed in rural areas helping to provide rural employment and contribute towards a sustainable rural economy. In addition, conversions have been completed to traditional rural buildings to create a total of four new dwellings in rural areas, helping to provide for local housing need whilst preserving their character.
- 4.19 5.57 hectares of employment land was granted planning permission during the monitoring year in rural areas.
- 4.20 Three Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt have been identified in the adopted Plan as potential sites for employment infill or part / complete redevelopment. These include Hadleigh Park (former Creda Works Limited) at Blythe Bridge, Moorfields

Industrial Estate near Swynnerton and the former Meaford Power Station at Meaford, north of Stone. Hadleigh Park is in existing employment use and there are currently no planning permissions on this site. Moorfields Industrial Estate is an established employment area which is not currently subject to any extant planning permissions. The former Meaford Power Station site has 32.5 hectares of land with planning permission and a new access road has been constructed. Plot 3 (1.57 hectares) was completed for B use class in the 2016/17 monitoring year.

- 4.21 Policy E8 of the adopted Local Plan supports the functions, vitality and viability of town, local and other centres specified in the hierarchy of centres. The aim is that retail, office and leisure developments should be focused in the town centres. Of all retail, leisure and office developments that have been built in the monitoring year, 26% were in the defined town centres of Stafford, Stone and the KSV's. Of the extant retail, office and leisure commitments (sites with permission that have not yet been developed), 10% are in Stafford and Stone town centres, whilst 0% are within other defined local centres.
- 4.22 In the current monitoring year, 86m<sup>2</sup> of retail development was completed in Stafford town centre. 1,849m<sup>2</sup> was either under-construction or had planning permission in Stafford. The Riverside retail development is complete, and the majority of the units are now occupied.
- 4.23 Preliminary work is progressing on the Stafford Gateway Project, a multi-million pound commercial and housing development to the west of Stafford railway station.

### **Tourism and Leisure**

- 4.24 There is generally an under-supply of quality hotels in the borough. No hotel bed spaces were built in 2020-21 and zero hotel bed spaces were granted permission in the monitoring year.

### **Natural and Historic Environment**

- 4.29 The adopted Plan promotes measures to encourage actions to combat climate change and promote renewable energy. In terms of recycling the authority has achieved a household recycling rate of 51% this year (a decrease of 1% since last year); which is below the target which has been set at 60%. An initiative has been put in place to help reduce contamination in recycling by using blue bags, which has successfully reduced the rate of contamination from 15% to 8%. There has been one renewable energy scheme approved this year for the installation of a solar farm.
- 4.30 The natural environment is an important asset ecologically, economically and for health purposes. There have been no changes or recorded losses on areas of biodiversity importance in the monitoring year including RAMSAR / SAC sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. A survey of local wildlife sites is on-going to establish any recent changes to habitat and species.
- 4.31 The Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is protected by European legislation. Any housing development that is approved within 8 km of the Cannock Chase SAC is required to contribute monies towards the mitigation of this important habitat. To date over £959,771 has been collected from housing developments and

over £1,103,049 has been committed across the four competent authorities, to deliver mitigation measures for the SAC to deliver mitigation measures for the SAC. In response to this, multiple mitigation measures have been delivered by a team working in partnership across the relevant authorities. Such measures include:

- Resources and events for community engagement, visitor interpretation panels, leaflets and a new dedicated web-site
- Contribution towards the newly opened Learning Hub at Wolseley Bridge
- On-going monitoring of car parking, footpaths and signage audits
- Publication of the Detailed Implementation Plans to enable delivery of mitigation
- Finalisation of the Cannock Chase Planning Evidence Base review to support a new Memorandum of Understanding and developer contribution scheme from 1 April 2022
- New air quality monitoring of SACs across the Borough on nitrogen dioxide and ammonia levels

4.32 The conservation of listed buildings is an important element of the planning process contributing to distinctive and attractive environments. There are 7 heritage assets on the Historic England Heritage at Risk Register in 2021 across the borough. Two of these are classes as buildings, structures and monuments, three of these are archaeological entries and two are Conservation Area entries. No listed buildings were lost in the monitoring year through development proposals, although one was lost through owner neglect.

### **Infrastructure**

4.33 Infrastructure provision is key to supporting the growth aspirations of the borough, in particular at the strategic development sites in Stafford and Stone. The two major transport schemes identified in the adopted Plan are the Stafford Western Access Route and the Stafford Eastern Access Route. Delivery of the Stafford Western Access Route commenced in May 2019 and phases of the Western Access Route has started to open up, the final sections will open in due course. The first phase of the Stafford Eastern Access Route between Beaconside and Tixall Road has been delivered and opened in early 2019. Stafford station has been confirmed as an integrated High Speed 2 station and work is progressing to capitalise on the opportunities HS2 will bring.

### **Social and Community facilities**

4.34 One application has been permitted in the monitoring year for the use of associated fitness and social facility.

## **5. Conclusion**

5.1 Progress has been made on the development of the new Local Plan 2020-2040. An updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) has been recently published, with the new Local Plan currently on track to meet the proposed stage dates. A new Biodiversity SPD is also currently being developed.

5.2 Six Neighbourhood Plans have now been 'made' (adopted) for the parishes of Gnosall, Eccleshall, Hixon, Colwich (the Haywoods), Barlaston and Stone. Four Neighbourhood Plans are being progressed: Swynnerton, Hopton and Coton, Doxey, and Yarnfield and Cold Meece.

- 5.3 Housing delivery completions remain above the target of 500 new homes completed each year. In the current monitoring year 614 dwellings have been completed this year, creating an average annual completion average rate of 620 dwellings per annum. The council is exceeding the Government's Housing Delivery Test. Housing commitments remain strong, with the borough having more than a 5-year supply of housing sites. Affordable housing delivery did not meet the annual target of 210, with 196 affordable housing completions delivered this monitoring year.
- 5.4 Employment land build rates were below target this year, although there is a good supply of employment land having been committed to by sites with planning permission or allocated in the Local Plan.
- 5.5 There has been good progress on the housing and employment strategic development locations around Stafford with further completions and planning applications coming forward.
- 5.6 Overall, when considering all the indicators that are used to monitor the Plan, the majority show successful delivery of the Plan's policies. Of the 83 indicators, a total of 39 show a positive outcome, 16 show a neutral outcome, and 14 show a negative outcome over the monitoring year. 14 indicators have not been applicable to the monitoring year.

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## Appendix 1 - Neighbourhood Plans

Neighbourhood Plan Area	Designated Neighbourhood Plan date	Pre-submission Consultation (Regulation 14)	Submission to Stafford Borough Council (Regulation 15)	Publication and Consultation of Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 16)	Examination date and Receipt of Examiners Report		Referendum
Sandon & Burston	7 February 2013	1 April – 31 May 2013	11 May 2016	27 May – 11 July 2016	Sept 2016	8 November 2016	Decision not to progress 5 Jan 2017
Colwich	7 February 2013	1 June-27 July 2015	30 September 2015	9 October-20 November 2015	Dec 2015	12 January 2016	15 Sept 2016 Made-22 Nov 2016
Barlaston	4 July 2013	10 November 2017-5 January 2018	22 June 2018	18 July 2018-7 September 2018	Nov 2018- Jan 2019	22 January 2019	2 May 2019 Made-23 July 2019
Hixon	4 July 2013	8 July – 21 August 2015	23 November 2015	30 November 2015 – 15 January 2016	Jan 2016	11 February 2016	15 Sept 2016 Made – 22 Nov 2016
Eccleshall	4 July 2013	19 January – 28 February 2015	13 May 2015	29 May – 13 July 2015	Sept 2015	7 October 2015	5 May 2016 Made – 26 July 2016
Gnosall	4 July 2013	10 December 2014 – 22 January 2015	10 February 2015	24 February – 8 April 2015	May 2015	8 June 2015	22 October 2015 Made – 24 Nov 2015
Swynnerton	3 July 2014						

Neighbourhood Plan Area	Designated Neighbourhood Plan date	Pre-submission Consultation (Regulation 14)	Submission to Stafford Borough Council (Regulation 15)	Publication and Consultation of Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 16)	Examination date and Receipt of Examiners Report		Referendum
Stone	8 December 2015	19 June – 31 July 2018	10 September 2018	6 November – 19 December 2018	Feb to August 2019	16 August 2019	6 May 2021 Made - 20 July 2021
High Offley	3 March 2016	1 Dec 2018 – 19 Jan 2019	18 September 2019	25 September to 29 November 2019	Dec 19 March 2020	9 March 2020	Decision not to progress 20/3/2020
Hopton & Coton	5 March 2020						
Doxey	2 July 2020						
Yarnfield & Cold Meece	5 August 2021						

## Appendix 2- The Plan for Stafford Borough performance indicators and targets

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
SP1 – Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of dwellings completed on Previously Developed Land (PDL)</li> <li>2. Percentage of completions at each level of the sustainable settlement hierarchy as set out in SP3</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximise</li> <li>2. Maximise</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Positive</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Out of the 614 housing completions in the monitoring year, 267 (43%) were on previously developed land. This is an increase on last year's figure (34%).</li> <li>2. Since the start of the plan period, 54% of housing completions were in Stafford, 14% were in Stone, 20% were in the Key Service Villages and 12% were in the rural areas. However, over the Plan period the split for both housing completions and commitments is 72% for Stafford Town, 9% for Stone, 11% for the KSVs and 8% for the rural areas.</li> </ol>

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
SP2 – Stafford Borough Housing and Employment Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net number of new houses delivered</li> <li>2. Number of net additional Gypsy and Traveller residential and transit pitches permitted and delivered</li> <li>3. Employment land available by type/amount of additional employment floor space by type</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain a 5 year land supply of 500 dwellings per year</li> <li>2. Maintain a 5 year supply of Gypsy and Traveller pitches</li> <li>3. Maintain a supply of 8 hectares of employment land per year</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Negative</li> <li>3. Negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 614 houses were completed in 2020-2021, a decrease from last year's 752 completions. The rate is still above target.</li> <li>2. Planning permission for 3 gypsy and traveller pitches was granted in the monitoring year.</li> <li>3. 4.69 hectares of employment land was built this year which is below target. 71.79 hectares have been developed since 2011, and an average of 7.18 hectares has been built per year since the start of the Plan period.</li> </ol>
SP3 - Stafford Borough Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Percentage of additional dwellings provided in Stafford, Stone and Key Service Villages</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stafford Town 70%, Stone Town 10%, Key Service Villages 12%, Rest of borough area 8%</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Since the start of the plan period, 54% of housing completions were in Stafford, 14% were in Stone, 20% were in KSVs and 12% were in the rural areas. However, over the Plan period the split for both housing completions and commitments is 72% for Stafford Town, 9% for Stone, 11% for the KSVs and 8% for the rural areas.</li> </ol>
SP4 - Stafford Borough Housing Growth Distribution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of new Houses built (net completions)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 500 per year</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 614 dwellings were built in the monitoring year. This is above target.</li> </ol>

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
SP5 - Stafford Borough Employment Growth Distribution	1. Employment land available by type delivered in Stafford Borough and amount of floor space developed in Stafford Borough	1. 8 hectares(ha) per year	1. Negative	2. At the end of the monitoring year there were 90.7 ha of employment land with planning permission, and an additional 20.8 ha allocated in the Local Plan, totalling 111.5 ha. This equates to a supply of 11.15 ha per annum over the remaining 10 years of the Plan period. 4.7 ha of employment land have been developed this monitoring year and 71.8 ha have been developed in total since the start of the plan period. An average of 7.18 hectares of employment land is delivered per year since 2011. This is below target.
SP6 - Achieving Rural Sustainability	1. Amount of land and floor space developed outside key service villages 2. Number of completed conversions of traditional rural buildings 3. Number of Rural Exceptions Housing Completed	1. Increase the level of appropriate employment schemes and other rural diversification schemes 2. Monitor 3. Increase the number of rural affordable houses in rural areas commensurate with local need	1. Positive 2. Neutral 3. Negative	1. 1.78 hectares of employment land was developed in rural areas in the monitoring year. This is an increase on last year. 2. Out of a total of 614 housing completions, 4 were converted from traditional rural buildings. 3. There were no affordable housing completions on rural exception sites in the 2020-2021 monitoring year.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
SP7 - Supporting the Location of New Development	1. Percentage of completions at each level of the sustainable settlement hierarchy as set out in SP3	1. Stafford Town 70%, Stone Town 10%, Key Service Villages 12%, Rest of borough area 8%	1. Positive	1. Since the start of the plan period, 54 % of housing completions were in Stafford, 14% were in Stone, 20% were in the KSV's and 12% were in the rural areas. However, over the Plan period the split for both housing completions and commitments is 72% for Stafford Town, 9% for Stone, 11% for the KSVs and 8% for the rural areas.

<p>Policy Stafford 1 – Stafford Town</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Total number of net additional dwellings delivered in Stafford Town over the Plan period</li> <li>2. Total number of affordable</li> <li>3. Total number of dwellings delivered for Military personnel returning</li> <li>4. Employment land available by type delivered on Strategic sites in Stafford Town</li> <li>5. Amount of additional employment floorspace by type in Stafford Town</li> <li>6. Monitor implementation and delivery of infrastructure projects necessary on strategic sites to bring the project forward</li> <li>7. Loss of employment land to non-employment uses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To deliver 7,000 houses, achieve</li> <li>2. To deliver 30% affordable housing, and to achieve an affordable housing mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing.</li> <li>3. To provide Up to 400 dwellings to be delivered for Military personnel returning.</li> <li>4. Provision of new employment sites to the north and East of Stafford</li> <li>5. 14,000 sqm (net) of non-food retailing and 3,400 sqm (net) of food retail to be delivered in Stafford Town Centre</li> <li>6. Deliver Western and Eastern Access Improvements</li> <li>7. No loss of employment land to non-employment uses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Positive</li> <li>2.Positive</li> <li>3.Positive</li> <li>4. Positive</li> <li>5. Negative</li> <li>6.Positive</li> <li>7.Positive</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3,333 dwellings have been built in Stafford Town since the start of the Plan Period (9 years in total), which is below target. However, there are a further 5,407 dwellings committed (with planning permissions or with a Plan allocation).</li> <li>2. 120 affordable houses were delivered in Stafford town in the monitoring year, which is above the target (105 per annum). Of these, 21 were for affordable rent, 62 were for social rent and 37 were for intermediate housing.</li> <li>3. A site has been completed with 346 dwellings for Military Personnel in Stafford Town (in the 2014-2015 monitoring year).</li> <li>4. The Redhill employment site is 45 hectares in total, all 45 hectares has planning consent or been built. At Beacon Business Park, to the East of Stafford, a public house, 9 plots, a drive through coffee shop, a convenience store and four retail units have been completed. This leaves a remaining 0.49 hectares with planning permission and a remaining 12.8 hectares allocated in the Local Plan.</li> <li>5. In the monitoring year 86m<sup>2</sup> of retail space was completed in Stafford Town Centre. 1,849m<sup>2</sup> was either under-construction or had planning permission.</li> </ol>
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Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
				<p>6. Stafford Western Access Route: Planning consent was achieved in November 2015 and the scheme commenced in August 2019. It is expected to open in 2021. Stafford Eastern Access Route: The first phase of the access route between Hydrant Way and Tixall Road is complete.</p> <p>7. 2.1 hectares of employment land was lost to housing schemes in Stafford Town in the monitoring year.</p>

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
<p>Policy Stafford 2 – North of Stafford</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net Number of Additional Dwellings</li> <li>2. Gross affordable housing completions</li> <li>3. Mixture of tenure and types of new dwellings</li> <li>4. Employment land Available by type delivered on Strategic sites</li> <li>5. Planning permission and completions of local community based infrastructure and educational facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3,100 houses to be delivered in Stafford Town over the plan period</li> <li>2. To achieve 30% affordable housing and to achieve an affordable housing mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing.</li> <li>3. A proportion of new dwellings to be two or three bedroomed properties</li> <li>4. 36 ha of employment to be delivered on the SDL, and the provision of new employment site to the north</li> <li>5. Deliver facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Neutral</li> <li>3. Positive</li> <li>4. Positive</li> <li>5. Neutral</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Of the 3,275 houses allocated at the North of Stafford site, 477 have been built to date. There is planning permission for a further 2,798 houses.</li> <li>2. On the five sites that have full planning permission, it has been agreed that a minimum of 348 affordable units will be delivered on the North SDL.</li> <li>3. Of the 399 completions to date, 5% were 1 bedroomed, 60% were 2 and 3 bedroomed homes and 35% were 4+ bedroomed homes.</li> <li>4. The Redhill employment site is 45 hectares in total, all 45 hectares has planning consent or been built.</li> <li>5. Five Section 106 agreements have been agreed relating to the 2,701 dwellings with full planning permission set out developer contributions towards affordable housing, recreational facilities, Cannock Chase SAC, education, employment and skills planning and transport.</li> </ol>

<p>Policy Stafford 3 - West of Stafford</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net Number of Additional Dwellings</li> <li>2. Gross affordable housing completions</li> <li>3. Mixture of tenure and types of new dwellings</li> <li>4. Employment land Available by type delivered on Strategic sites</li> <li>5. Planning permission and completions of local community based infrastructure and educational facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2,200 houses to be delivered in Stafford Town over the plan period</li> <li>2. To achieve 30% affordable housing and a mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing</li> <li>3. A proportion of the properties to be two or three bedroomed properties</li> <li>4. 5 ha of employment to be delivered on the Strategic Development Location (SDL)</li> <li>5. Deliver facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Positive</li> <li>3. Negative</li> <li>4. Positive</li> <li>5. Neutral</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Of the 2,200 dwellings allocated at the West of Stafford site, 373 have been built to data. There is planning permission for a further 1,457 dwellings, and a remaining plan allocation of 352.</li> <li>2. On the four sites that have planning permission, it has been agreed that 547 of the dwellings (30%) will be delivered as affordable housing, 80% will be for social rent and 20% for intermediate housing. As of 31 March 2021, 98 of affordable units have been delivered.</li> <li>3. Of the 78 completions last year, 42% were 2 and 3 bedroomed houses and 58% were 4+ bedroomed houses.</li> <li>4. A public house was completed on part of the mixed use / employment element of the West of Stafford strategic site in 2014-2015. There have been no further employment planning permissions or completions.</li> <li>5. Four Section 106 agreements have been agreed relating to the 1,524 dwellings with full planning permission set out developer contributions towards affordable housing, education, open space, sports and leisure, transport schemes, the Cannock Chase</li> </ol>
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Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
				SAC and the Stafford Western Access Route. Construction of the Western Access Route began in August 2019.
Policy Stafford 4 - East of Stafford	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net Number of Additional Dwellings</li> <li>2. Gross affordable housing completions</li> <li>3. Employment land Available by type delivered on Strategic sites</li> <li>4. Planning permission and completions of local community based infrastructure and educational facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 600 houses to be delivered in Stafford Town over the plan period</li> <li>2. To achieve 30% affordable housing and a mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing</li> <li>3. 20 ha of employment land to be delivered at Beacon Business Park</li> <li>4. Deliver facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Positive</li> <li>3. Positive</li> <li>4. Neutral</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Of the 653 dwellings allocated at the East of Stafford site, 623 have been built to date. There is a remaining plan allocation of 30 dwellings.</li> <li>2. It has been agreed that affordable housing will be delivered, with an 80/20 split between social rented and intermediate housing. As of 31 March 2021, 192 affordable units have been delivered.</li> <li>3. At Beacon Business Park a public house has been built and 9 plots have been completed. One permission is extant, with the proposal to build an industrial unit.</li> <li>4. The Section 106 agreements relating to the 71 dwellings with full planning permission provide for the following infrastructure needs; affordable housing (30%), education, on-site open space, sports facilities, the Cannock Chase SAC and highways works. The first phase of the Stafford Eastern Access Route is complete and opened in early 2019.</li> </ol>

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
<p>Policy Stone 1 - Stone Town</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net Number of Additional Dwellings</li> <li>2. Gross affordable housing completions</li> <li>3. Mixture of tenure and types of new dwellings</li> <li>4. Employment land Available by type delivered on Strategic sites</li> <li>5. Loss of employment land to non-employment uses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1,000 houses to be delivered in Stone Town over the Plan period.</li> <li>2. To achieve 40% affordable housing and a mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing.</li> <li>3. A proportion of the properties to be two or three bedroomed properties.</li> <li>4. 1,700 sqm (net) of food retailing and 400 sqm (net) of non-food retailing to be delivered at Stone Town Centre.</li> <li>5. No loss of employment land to non-employment uses.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Positive</li> <li>3. Positive</li> <li>4. Positive</li> <li>5. Negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 864 dwellings have been built in Stone town so far over the Plan Period. There are a further 293 that have planning permission.</li> <li>2. 29 affordable dwellings were delivered in Stone town in the monitoring year; this is over the target of 20 per annum. 11 were for affordable rent and 9 were for shared ownership or intermediate housing.</li> <li>3. Of the houses built in Stone Town this monitoring year, 7% were 1 bedroomed, 63% were 2 and 3 bedroomed and 30% were 4+ bedroomed.</li> <li>4. In the monitoring year, there was one employment completion of 1.7 hectares and there is one extant planning permission on Stone Business Park, providing 1.2 hectares of employment land. In 2020-2021, there was no retail floor space completed in Stone Town Centre.</li> <li>5. 0.1989 hectares of employment land was lost to housing in Stone over the 2020-21 monitoring year.</li> </ol>

<p>Policy Stone 2 - West and South of Stone</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Net Number of Additional Dwellings</li> <li>2. Gross affordable housing completions</li> <li>3. Mixture of tenure and types of new dwellings</li> <li>4. Employment land Available by type delivered on Strategic sites</li> <li>5. Planning permission and completions of local community based infrastructure and educational facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 500 dwellings to be delivered in Stone Town over the plan period</li> <li>2. To achieve 40% affordable housing and a mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing</li> <li>3. A proportion of the properties to be two or three bedroomed properties</li> <li>4. 20 ha of employment land to be delivered south of Stone Business Park</li> <li>5. Deliver facilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Negative</li> <li>3. Positive</li> <li>4. Positive</li> <li>5. Neutral</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The strategic allocation at Stone gained outline planning consent in February 2015 for 500 dwellings. Permission for 309 units were granted on site. Development has now commenced on this site, with 264 units being developed in the last two monitoring years.</li> <li>2. The sites with full planning permission are set to deliver 160 affordable units. This represents 32% of the combined sites, which is below the target of 40%. As of 31 March 2021, 83 affordable units have been delivered. 80% of the affordable housing will be for social rent and 20% will be for intermediate housing.</li> <li>3. The three reserved matters planning permissions extant on the Stone SDL will result in the delivery of 41 2 bedroom homes and 94 3 bedroom homes. This represents 68% of the total units on site.</li> <li>4. A planning permission for a 21.07 hectares vehicle distribution centre was granted in January 2018. This site was completed in the 18/19 monitoring year.</li> <li>5. The Section 106 agreement for the Stone Strategic Development Location secures 32% on-site affordable housing, education monies towards new school facilities, bus and highway improvements including</li> </ol>
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Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
				improvements to the A34/B5026 Walton roundabout and open space and sports provision.
Policy E1 - Local Economy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amount and percentage of employment floor space developed on previously developed land</li> <li>2. Amount and type of land available</li> <li>3. Amount of employment land lost to other uses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain a ready supply of employment land to meet future needs.</li> <li>2. Maintain a ready supply of employment land to meet future needs.</li> <li>3. Minimise the loss of employment land to other uses</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Negative</li> <li>2. Positive</li> <li>3. Negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 46,900m<sup>2</sup> of floor space was built in Stafford Borough 2020-2021 which is a decrease on previous years and is below target. 40% of this development was on previously developed land.</li> <li>2. 111.5 hectares of employment land is available for development (sites with planning permission or allocated in the Local Plan).</li> <li>3. A total of 2.1 hectares of employment land was lost to housing over the monitoring year.</li> </ol>
Policy E2 - Sustainable Rural Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amount of employment based planning permissions granted within rural areas</li> <li>2. Completions of Rural Exception Housing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximise the provision of employment land within rural areas.</li> <li>2. Increase the number of rural affordable houses in rural areas commensurate with local need</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Positive</li> <li>2. Neutral</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 5.57 hectares of employment land was granted planning permission in rural areas in the monitoring year.</li> <li>2. There were no affordable housing completions on rural exception site in the 2020-2021 monitoring year.</li> </ol>

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy E3 - Development within Recognised Industrial Estates	1. Amount of new employment floor space granted planning permission within Recognised Industrial Estates	1. Maximise the provision of employment land within Recognised Industrial Estates.	1. Positive	1. 15.88 hectares of employment land was granted planning permission at Recognised Industrial Estates in the 2020/2021 monitoring year. These were at Raleigh Hall, Hixon Airfield and Ladfordfields Industrial Estate.
Policy E4 - Raleigh Hall and Ladfordfields Recognised Industrial Estates (RIEs)	1. Amount of new employment land granted planning permission on Ladfordfields and Raleigh Hall RIE's	1. Deliver 4 hectares of new employment land at Raleigh Hall and 6 ha at Ladfordfields	1. Positive	1. 4.26 hectares of employment land was granted planning permission at Raleigh Hall and 0.19 hectares at Ladfordfields in the 2020/2021 monitoring year.
Policy E5 - Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt	1. Amount of new employment land developed on Major Developed Sites 2. Amount and % of employment floor space developed on previously developed land (PDL)	1. Maximise 2. Maximise	1. Neutral 2. N/A	1. There were no developments completed on major developed sites in the Green Belt this year. 2. Not applicable this monitoring year.
Policy E6 – Tourism	1. Number of Hotel spaces granted planning permission	1. Encourage	1. Neutral	1. No hotel bed spaces were built in 2020-21 and zero hotel bed spaces were granted permission in the monitoring year.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy E7 - Canal Facilities and New Marinas	1. Number of new canal facilities or marinas developments granted planning permission	1. No Set Target	1. Neutral	1. Permission for the construction of a canal marina and associated facilities was granted in the 2019/2020 monitoring year.
Policy E8 - Town, Local and Other Centres	1.Amount of Floorspace for retail, leisure, office within Town Centres	1. To focus retail and office and leisure developments on Stafford and Stone Town centres, and to protect existing facilities within existing town and Key Service Village centres	1. Positive	1. There was 1,468 m <sup>2</sup> of office, retail or leisure floor space completed in this monitoring year. 26% were in the defined town centres of Stafford, Stone and the local centres of KSV's.10% of committed floor space (floor space with permission but not yet built) are within the Stafford and Stone Town Centres. 0% are within defined Local Centres.
Policy T1 – Transport	1. Number of planning permissions granted for major developments with secured Travel Plans	1. Secure Travel Plans on all major developments	1. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development.
Policy T2 - Parking and Manoeuvring	1. For developments to meet the parking Standards set out in Appendix B	1. All developments to be in accordance with the Car Parking standards in Appendix B of the Adopted Plan.	1. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy C1 - Dwelling Types and Sizes	1. Monitor the mix of housing type (flats / houses and sizes and bedroom number)	1. Housing types and sizes to meet the identified needs as set out in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment.	1. Neutral	1. Of the houses built this year, 49% were 1 or 2 bedroomed, 31% were 3 bedroomed and 20% were 4 or more bedroomed.
Policy C2 - Affordable Housing	1. Annual number of affordable housing completions (gross) 2. Number of net completions of rural exception houses	1. Affordable housing to be at least 30% and 40% on qualifying sites 2. On rural exception sites 100% dwellings affordable in perpetuity for lifetime of development.	1. Negative 2. Neutral	1. 196 affordable houses were delivered in the monitoring year in the borough. This is below the target of 210 per annum. 2. There were no affordable housing completions on rural exception sites in the 2020-2021 monitoring year.
Policy C3 - Specialist Housing	1. Number of new Extra Care units completed on an annual basis	1. To deliver 954 net additional units over the Plan period and deliver at least one extra facility in each of the borough's localities, and to achieve no net loss of Specialist accommodation.	1. Positive	1. Four extra care and specialist facilities were completed during the 2020/21 monitoring year; these were at 1 Park Lane (19/30513/LDCP), Mulberry House (19/31448/COU), Stone House Farm (19/31325/COU) and Mount Pleasant Farm (20/32289/COU). Planning permission was also granted for a further 2 extra care facilities. These were Oliver Leese Court (20/31837/FUL) and Mount Pleasant Farm (20/32289/COU).

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy C4 - Housing Conversions and Subdivisions	1. N/A	1. No target	1. N/A	1. No indicator proposed.
Policy C5 - Residential Proposals outside the Settlement Hierarchy	1. Number of net completions of rural exception houses 2. Number of inappropriate developments granted in the Green Belt	1. On rural exception sites 100% dwellings affordable in perpetuity for lifetime of development. 2. Number of inappropriate developments to be permitted in the Green Belt	1. Neutral 2. Negative	1. There were no affordable housing completions on rural exception sites in the 2020-2021 monitoring year. 2. Only one site above 10 dwellings permitted in the green belt in the 2020-2021 monitoring year, which was all for affordable housing.
Policy C6 - Provision for Gypsies, Travellers & Travelling Show-people	1. Number of net additional Gypsy and Traveller residential and transit pitches permitted and delivered	1. Maintain a 5 year supply of Gypsy and Traveller Pitches	1. Negative	1. Planning permission for 3 gypsy and traveller pitches have been granted during monitoring year.
Policy C7 - Open Space, Sport and Recreation	1. Number of planning permissions determined where a loss of sole community facilities is proposed. 2. Recreational facilities provided in new developments	1. Number of applications permitted that result in a loss of facilities where a need is proven 2. New development that generates a local need provides commensurate level and quality of facilities	1. Neutral 2. N/A	1. One application was permitted in 2020/2021 which permitted the use of associated fitness and social facility. No losses recorded. 2. This indicator is currently under development.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy N1 - Design	1. Number and percentage of housing sites (10+ dwellings) with the number of greens, ambers and reds	1. All sites of 10+ dwellings to maximise the number of greens in a Building for Life Assessment.	1. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development.
Policy N2 - Climate Change	1. Percentage of new developments with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs) 2. Percentage of new residential developments built to zero carbon standard 3. Percentage of new non-residential developments meeting relevant BREEAM level 4. Percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted	1. All new developments to incorporate SUDS 2. All new residential development to achieve zero carbon standard in line with Government guidance 3. All new non-residential developments up to 1,000 square metres to meet BREEAM 'Very Good' standard and all developments over 1,000 square metres to meet 'Excellent' standard 4. Maximise the percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted	1. N/A 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. Negative	1. This indicator is currently under development. 2. This indicator is currently under development. 3. This indicator is currently under development. 4. The recycling rate for Stafford Borough for the current monitoring year was 51% against an aspirational target of 60%.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy N3 - Low Carbon Sources & Renewable Energy	1. Amount of renewable energy installed by capacity and type	1. Maximise the amount of renewable energy generated in line with national targets	1. Neutral	1. One scheme to increasing the amount of renewable energy was approved in the monitoring year.
Policy N4 - The Natural Environment & Green Infrastructure	1. Amount of new green infrastructure provided 2. Change in areas of biodiversity importance	1. Secure improvements to Green Infrastructure 2. Reduce the loss of areas of biodiversity importance	1. N/A 2. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development. 2. This indicator is currently under development.
Policy N5 - Sites of European, National & Local Nature Conservation Importance	1. Change in areas of biodiversity importance	1. To reduce the loss of areas of biodiversity importance, and for no planning permission to have an adverse impact on designated sites	1. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development.
Policy N6 - Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	1. Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) mitigation	1. No planning applications to be granted that would adversely impact on the SAC and to deliver effective mitigation to overcome impacts of development	1. Positive	1. To date, over £959,771 has been collected from housing developments and over £1,103,049 committed across the competent authorities to deliver mitigation measures for the SAC. A number of mitigation efforts have been implemented in response to this.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
Policy N7 - Cannock Chase AONB	1. Number of new applications granted planning permission contrary to AONB Partnership advice	1. No new applications granted planning permission contrary to AONB Partnership advice	1. Positive	1. No planning permissions were granted contrary to AONB Partnership advice this monitoring year.
Policy N8 - Landscape Character	1. Number of planning applications refused on landscape character grounds.	1. No applications permitted that would have a negative impact on Landscape Character	1. N/A	1. This indicator is currently under development.
Policy N9 - Historic Environment	1. Number of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Conservation Areas and Historic Parks and Gardens on the English Heritage 'At Risk' register 2. Number of Listed Buildings Lost	1. No increase to the English Heritage 'at Risk register' 2. No net Loss of Listed Buildings	1. Positive 2. Positive	1. There are 7 historic assets on the Historic England Heritage Assets at Risk Register in 2020 in Stafford Borough. Two of these are buildings, structures and monuments, three are archaeological entries and two are conservation areas. 2. No listed buildings have been lost due to development. One building has been lost due to owner neglect.
Policy I1 - Infrastructure Delivery Policy	1. New Infrastructure provided	1. Monitor contributions and infrastructure delivery against targets set out in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.	1. N/A	1. The infrastructure needs of the Strategic Development Locations have been reported above.

Spatial Principle/Policy	Indicator	Target	Outcome	Comments
SB2 Social and Community Facilities	1. Amount of community land and floorspace lost to other uses	1. Minimise loss of social and community facilities to other uses	1. Neutral	1. One application was permitted in 2020/2021 which permitted the use of associated fitness and social facility. No losses recorded.