

Warrington Local Plan Examination

Matters Statements

MATTER 14 - MONITORING AND REVIEW

August 2022



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Issue

Whether the approach to monitoring and review is justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

(NB. Examination Library reference numbers are provided in brackets after each document referred to in the Matters Statement)

Relevant policy M1

Questions

- 1. How will the implementation and effectiveness of the Local Plan be monitored? Will the monitoring framework in Appendix 2 provide an effective basis to do this?**
 - 1.1 The implementation and effectiveness of the Local Plan will be monitored on an ongoing basis through the Council's annual monitoring process.
 - 1.2 As stated in Part 1 of Policy M1 the Council will prepare an Annual Monitoring Report assessing performance against Local Plan policies based on the indicators set out in the Monitoring Framework, contained in Appendix 2 of the Plan.
 - 1.3 The Monitoring Framework provides a comprehensive set of indicators across every Policy in the Plan. The indicators are considered to be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound. As such the Council is confident that the framework provides an effective basis to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the Local Plan
 - 1.4 Part 5 of the Policy confirms that the Council will undertake additional monitoring in respect of the delivery of the Main Development Areas. The Council will also ensure that the Infrastructure Delivery Plan is kept under review and has a statutory duty to produce an Infrastructure Funding Statement annually.
- 2. How will any issues of delivery of housing be identified and addressed? Will this be effective?**
 - 2.1 Through annual monitoring the Council will have a detailed understanding of actual and forecast completions for market and affordable housing. If completions fall below 100% of the annual Plan requirement or if the Council is unable to demonstrate a 5 year land supply, then the Council will consider implementing all or some of the measures set out in Part 2 of the Policy:
 - a. Working with developers and infrastructure providers to remove obstacles to the delivery of sites;

- b. Seeking alternative sources of funding if problems with infrastructure provision is delaying development of key strategic sites;
- c. Consideration of the potential to increase density on allocated sites;
- d. Consideration of the ability to deliver strategic sites earlier in the Plan period; and
- e. Working with other authorities under the Duty to Co-operate to address any unmet needs.

2.2 It should also be noted that the Council is also currently updating its Housing Strategy and Housing Delivery Test Action Plan which contain further measures to increase the supply of new homes.

3. How will any issues of delivery of the Main Development Areas be identified and addressed? Will this be effective?

3.1 Development Frameworks will be required to be prepared for the Main Development Areas. They will ensure a comprehensive and properly planned approach to the development of each of the Main Development Areas. They will include a more detailed masterplan for the allocation, based on the key requirements of the respective allocation policies. They will also include a phasing strategy and trajectory to identify when key infrastructure is required, how it will be funded and the mechanisms for delivery.

3.2 In accordance with Part 5 of Policy M1, in order to ensure timely delivery of the Main Development Areas, the Council will draw up an action plan setting out key milestones for the delivery of these areas, based on the phasing strategy and trajectory included in the Development Framework. The Council will then monitor progress on an annual basis.

4. What is the overall approach to reviewing the Local Plan?

4.1 In accordance with Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the Council is committed to reviewing the policies in the Local Plan to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years, and will update the Plan as necessary.

4.2 There are triggers within Parts 4 and 5 of Policy M1 which will allow for the consideration of an earlier review or partial review of the Local Plan in respect of issues of housing and infrastructure delivery respectively.

5. Are any main modifications to Policy M1 necessary for soundness?

5.1 The Council does not consider any main modifications are required to Policy M1 to ensure the soundness of the Policy.