BEDFORD BOROUGH PLANNING MONITORING REPORT

2013-14

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1.1 The purpose of the Bedford Borough Planning Monitoring Report (BBPMR) is to set out how the borough council's planning policies are performing.

1.2 This tenth Monitoring Report sets out how adopted local development documents have performed in the period <u>1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014 (the monitoring period)</u>. The documents that have been adopted to date are:

- Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan Development Plan Document (DPD) 2008
- Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan DPD 2008
- Allocations and Designations Local Plan 2013
- Statement of Community Involvement 2013
- Land North of Bromham Road Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 2005
- Community Safety Design Guide SPD 2005
- Shopfronts and Advertisements in Conservation Areas SPD 2005
- Climate Change and Pollution SPD 2008
- West of Kempston Design Guide SPD 2009
- Great Denham (formerly Biddenham Loop) Design Guide SPD 2009
- A Strategy for Bedford High Street SPD 2010
- Planning Obligations SPD 2013
- Open Spaces SPD 2013
- Community Infrastructure Levy 2014

1.3 The monitoring report also monitors those policies in the Bedford Borough Local Plan (2002) that have not been superseded by more recently adopted Local Development Documents.

Highlights

- The mid-year population estimates states that the population of Bedford Borough is 161,382, a 2,175 increase on the previous monitoring period
- 83,600 people were in employment in the monitoring period.
- 997 dwellings were completed in the borough during the monitoring period, the highest number since recording began in 2001.
- There is a supply of 10,133 dwellings with planning permission or resolutions to grant planning permission in the borough
- There has been a loss of 7,548 sq.m employment floorspace in the borough during the monitoring period. 16 dwellings have been constructed on former employment land with a further 76 to be constructed on land where employment floorspace has already been lost.
- Major development sites continue to be built out with the West of Kempston particularly showing high completion rates during the monitoring period.

- The Allocations and Designations Local Plan was adopted in July 2013
- The revised Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in July 2013
- The Open Space SPD was adopted in September 2013
- The Planning Obligations SPD was adopted in July 2013
- No. 1 Air Shed at Shortstown – the only listed building in the borough currently on the national At Risk Register – is currently undergoing restoration
- Nearly £5 million was received from S106 obligations for infrastructure during the monitoring period. £5,157,327 was spent
- 56.8% of Local Sites (site designated locally for significant nature conservation value) are in positive management
- 47.2% of urban households live within 400m public transport of local services in the monitoring period. A change to the way in which this is calculated means comparison with previous years cannot be made.
- A Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule was approved on 5th February 2014 and brought into effect on 1st April 2014

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2.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the monitoring framework for local development documents. It covers the period 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014 (the monitoring period).

2.2 The guidance regarding the content of Annual Monitoring Reports has been withdrawn, removing many of the requirements governing what should be included in each report (most notably the Core Output Indicators). The indicators contained in this monitoring report are those considered to provide relevant information on the production and monitoring of Bedford Borough Council's Local Development Documents. The regulations setting out the time period monitoring reports will cover in the future, and the requirement of Local Authorities to submit their monitoring reports to the Secretary of State have also been withdrawn. The requirement of the Localism Act 2011 is merely that authorities must make their monitoring reports publicly available and for them to cover an appropriate period of time.

2.3 The Allocations and Designations Local Plan was adopted in the monitoring period. The Plan went through independent examination in the previous monitoring period, which included public hearing sessions held in November and December 2012 and January 2013. It was adopted in July 2013 following a number of modifications recommended by the Inspector (which were consulted on) to make the plan 'sound'.

2.4 Saved policies in the adopted Local Plan 2002 are still used to determine planning applications whilst newer planning policy documents are drafted. As new documents are adopted they replace the corresponding older polices in the 2002 Local Plan. Therefore, this monitoring report monitors both the adopted Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002 as well as more recently adopted Local Development Documents such as the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan, the Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan and the Allocations and Designations Local Plan.

2.5 This report is structured into the following themed sections:

Local Development Scheme
This section is concerned with progress targets, i.e. progress against the timetable to produce Local Development Documents.

Borough Baseline
Provides a snapshot of how the borough is today.

Housing
Information on housing completions and supply within the borough.

Employment

This section describes employment gains and losses in the monitoring period, along with 'town centre uses' (A1 and A2) for the town centre area (as defined in the Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan) and in the rest of the borough.

Social and Community
This monitors community safety, equality analyses conducted on Planning services and the Statement of Community Involvement.

Environment Quality and Open Spaces
This seeks to identify the state of the borough's open spaces, sites of special scientific interest and local nature reserves along with progress made on various environmental and green initiatives currently being undertaken in the borough.

Heritage and Built Environment
This monitors the historic environment, listed buildings and considers the impact of the policies and documents related to heritage.

Transport and Traffic
Information on completed and proposed transport infrastructure, access to public transport and the development, implementation and enhancement of cycling routes throughout the borough. It also identifies traffic levels in the town centre.

Major Projects
Information on the progress of major development sites in the borough through design guides and codes for the relevant sites.

Infrastructure
Monitors funding secured (through legal agreements, S106 obligations or from the Community Infrastructure Levy) and spent on infrastructure requirements in the borough.

2.6   Many policies and targets that influence the borough cover two distinct areas, namely the Growth Area (Bedford, Kempston and the Northern Marston Vale) and the Rural Policy Area (all other areas). For this reason, some indicators provide information for the borough as a whole, whilst some indicators provide information for the Growth Area and the Rural Policy Area individually.

3.1 The purpose of this section is to set out the progress made on local development documents the council is producing. The LDS is periodically updated to reflect the latest timetables for documents. The first LDS came into effect in April 2005, with updates occurring in September 2007, December 2009, September 2011, October 2012 and October 2013. The LDS is constantly monitored to ensure it reflects the range and programme of work undertaken by the planning service.

Local Development and Other Documents

3.2 The following table shows progress on local development documents.

Document	Progress	Description of Document
Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan DPD	Adopted April 2008	This document sets out the strategic policy for the borough and replaces certain policies in the Local Plan 2002 (see Appendix C).
Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan DPD	Adopted October 2008	This document conforms to the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan and provides detailed policy guidance for the regeneration of the distinctive county town of Bedford. It replaces certain policies in the Local Plan 2002(see appendix C).
Allocations and Designations Local Plan	Adopted July 2013	Identifies development sites to meet the growth targets in the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan and also make specific designations. It replaces many saved policies of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002. (See Appendix C)
Statement of Community Involvement	Adopted October 2013	All documents produced must accord with the consultation arrangements and procedures it sets out.
Local Plan 2032	Commenced Issues and options consultation conducted 13 January 2014 – 24	This document will look at the amount of, and location of, development in the borough to 2032.

Document	Progress	Description of Document
	February 2014. Call for sites also held in February 2014.	
Bedfordshire Community Safety Design Guide SPD	Adopted November 2005	The document conforms to and supplements Policy BE45 of the adopted Local Plan 2002.
Shopfronts and Adverts in Conservation Areas Design Guide SPD	Adopted November 2005	The document conforms to and supplements policies BE16 and TC4 of the adopted Local Plan 2002.
Land North of Bromham Road Biddenham Design guide SPD	Adopted November 2005	The document conforms to and supplements Policy H8 of the adopted Local Plan 2002.
Climate Change SPD	Adopted December 2008	This document supplements adopted policy CP26 of the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan.
Great Denham (formerly Biddenham Loop) Design Guide and Code SPD	Adopted Jan 2010	The document conforms to and supplements policy H6 of the adopted Local Plan 2002.
West of Kempston Design Guide and Code SPD	Adopted Jan 2010	The document conforms to and supplements policy H7 of the adopted Local Plan 2002.
A Strategy for Bedford High Street SPD	July 2010	The document conforms to and supplements policy TC8 of the adopted Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan.
Planning Obligations SPD	Adopted July 2013	This document sets out council's policy on securing obligations from new developments.
Open Spaces SPD	Adopted September 2013	This document expands on policy AD28 in the Allocations and Designations Local Plan, allowing developers to determine requirements for open space in new development.
Parking Standards for Sustainable Communities: Design and Good Practice	Adopted 10 September	Provides detailed guidance on locations for car, cycle, disabled and motorbike parking, layouts

Document	Progress	Description of Document
SPD	2014 (outside monitoring period)	and dimensions and standards in developments
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	Charging Schedule approved 5 February 2014 Brought into effect 1 April 2014	A levy on qualifying new built development in the borough to raise funding for infrastructure projects.

Progress on Local Development Documents

3.3   The Gantt chart at Appendix A shows the key milestones for the Local Plan 2032, as set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). An issues and options consultation was undertaken in early 2014, along with a call for sites. Approximately 160 responses were received to the issues and options consultation and nearly 350 sites were received as part of the call for sites. The assumed target in the Local Development Scheme of consulting on a submission version of the plan in October/November 2014 has not been met. This has had a knock on effect meaning that the timetable set out will not be met. This is due to a number of unanticipated external factors which include:

- Key information derived from the 2011 Census being released by the Office of National Statistics being released later than expected
- Luton indicating that it is unable to meet its housing supply within its own boundaries and consideration of the implications for Bedford borough
- The Greater London Authority indicating its uncertainty over London's ability to accommodate its own growth within its boundaries

Further information is available on the Council's website at www.bedford.gov.uk/localplan2032. The LDS timetable will be updated in 2015.

Planning Documents adopted in the Monitoring Period

3.4   The Allocations and Designations Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for formal examination on 25 May 2012. Public hearing sessions were held in November and December 2012 and

January 2013. Modifications to the plan were suggested as a result of those sessions and consulted on in January 2013. The Inspector's Report was received by the council in June 2013 and the plan adopted by the council in July 2013.

3.5 The Statement of Community Involvement was adopted on 10 July 2013. The revised Statement of Community Involvement sets out how the council will consult with the community on both the drafting of planning documents and on planning applications. It reflects the requirements of new regulations established by the Government.

3.6 Consultation on a preliminary draft charging schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy took place from December 2012 to February 2013. This was followed by a consultation on the draft charging schedule on 17 April. The Draft Charging Schedule was then submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 22 July 2013 for public examination, which was held on 6th November 2013. A report was received from the Examiner on 7 January 2014. Full Council on 5 February approved the Charging Schedule and supporting documents to bring CIL into force in the borough from 1st April 2014.

3.7 A Planning Obligations SPD was adopted in July 2013 which sets out the council's policy for securing obligations from new development. It also sets out how this has changed with the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

3.8 An Open Spaces SPD was also adopted in September 2013, which expands on policy AD28 in the Allocations and Designations Local Plan. It assists applicants in determining the requirements for open space in new development.

The 'Saved' Local Plan 2002 Policies

3.9 On 14 September 2007 the council received a Direction from the Secretary of State which stated that the majority of the Local Plan 2002 policies were to be saved. Some policies were not saved as they were not in line with or duplicated current national or regional policy. Others were deleted because they related to specific sites that had been developed. Subsequent Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002 policies were superseded when the council adopted the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan on 16 April 2008 and the Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan on 8 October 2008. A list of the deleted Local Plan Policies can be found at Appendix C. Further policies were superseded with the adoption of the Allocations and Designations Local Plan in July 2013.

Neighbourhood Plans

3.9   Under new regulations brought into force on 6 April 2012 a relevant body (a parish council or a designated neighbourhood forum) may submit to the local planning authority an area application for the purposes of producing a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhood plans allow the designated body to produce planning policies at the neighbourhood level. Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Development Plan for the area (the planning policies of the Local Planning Authority) and the NPPF. Five applications were received by the council for the designation of neighbourhood areas in the monitoring period, from Great Denham, Oakley, Stevington, Stewartby and Wilden Parish Councils. Each was advertised and subsequently designated as a neighbourhood area. More information including an up to date position on where Neighbourhood Areas have been designated can be found at http://www.bedford.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/planning_town_ and_country/planning_policy__its_purpose/neighbourhood_planning.as px.

Duty to Co-operate

3.10   As part of the Local Plan process, the council has a statutory duty to cooperate with other authorities and agencies where strategic and cross boundary issues are identified. The duty to cooperate is an important part of the plan-making process and is assessed as part of the examination. In the monitoring period the council started work on its Local Plan 2032. As part of this, it identified the strategic issues that will be addressed in the plan. These are:
1) Overall scale of new housing provision
2) Overall scale of new employment provision
3) New development adjacent to the boundaries of other authorities
4) Impact on the highway network
5) East-West Rail
6) Midland Mainline rail electrification
7) Travellers
8) Green infrastructure
9) Town Centres
10) Infrastructure

3.11   In each instance, it also identified the possible strategic partners, what arrangements were already in place, what engagement had occurred to date, the evidence of this engagement and any actions that had been reached.

3.12   The council conducted an Issues and Options consultation in February 2014. As part of that consultation, neighbouring authorities were invited

to comment, along with authorities under the SEMLEP operation area and London.

3.13 The council has also been involved with other authorities' planning processes, commenting on the Huntingdonshire and Central Bedfordshire plan processes. It also commented on the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit's Interim Housing Statement.

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4.1   Contextual indicators provide information that constitutes a profile of the borough as it is in the monitoring period. The purpose of contextual indicators is to enhance the understanding of the borough to inform the development of spatial policies.

Population

4.2   According to the mid-2013 estimate, the borough has a total population of 161,382, 2,175 more than the 2012 mid-year estimate and 3,903 more than the 2011 census figure. Of this population, the largest single group is within the age band 40-49. Approximately 7.9% of the population is aged 75 or over, consistent with the last monitoring period. (Office of National Statistics estimate)
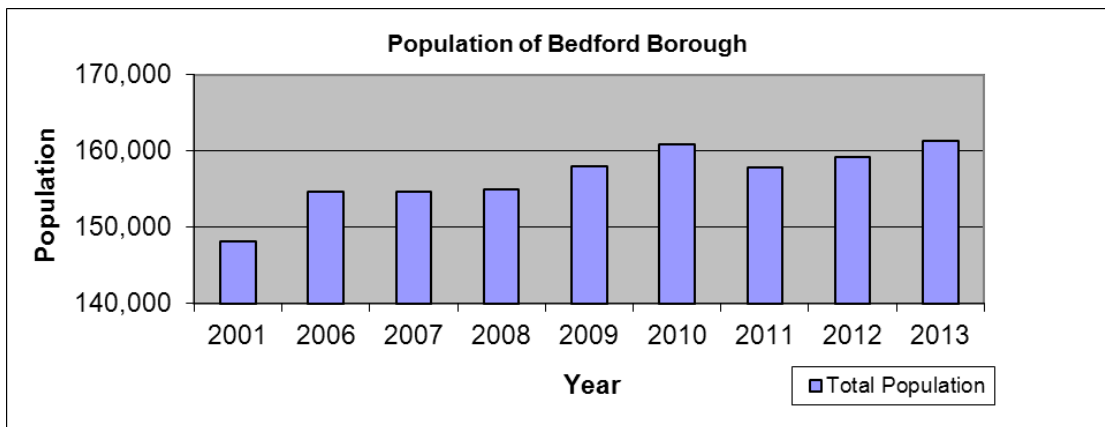
4.3   The borough has a mixed ethnic profile, with the 2011 census indicating that 28.5% of the population was from Black and Minority Ethnic ('non-White' British groups).
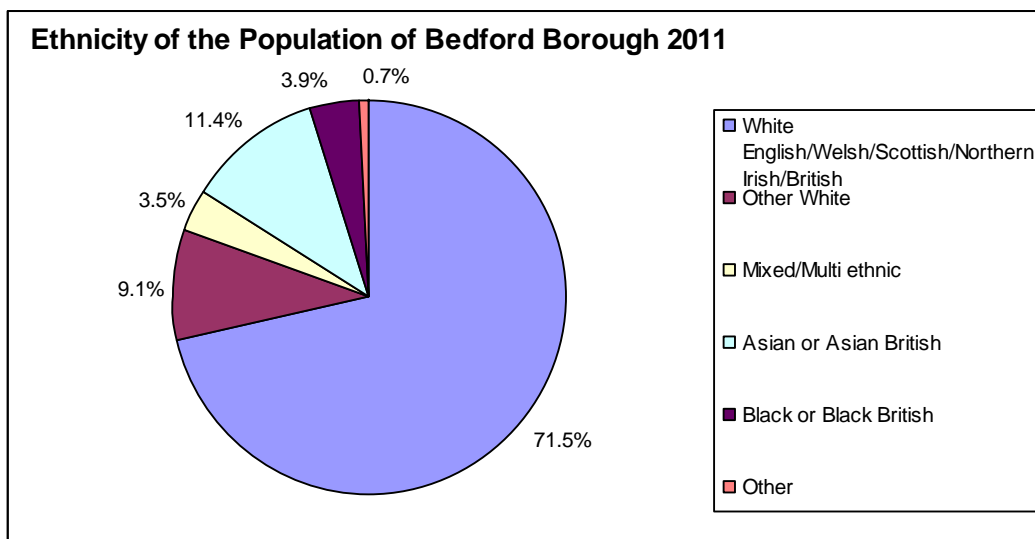
Housing and the built environment

4.4   According to the December 2014 Bedford Borough Profile, as of March 2014 the Borough has an estimated number of 67,000 households. (Bedford Borough Council)

4.5   Average household size is of 2.42 people, only a slight decline on 2.44 in 2001. (Census 2011)

4.6   Owner occupation and private renting accounted for 80% of properties (ONS, Census 2011, Bedford Borough Council – 2011 latest data).

4.7   The largest single type of dwelling in the borough is semi-detached.

Economy

4.8   There is a total of 101,900 people of working age in the borough according to the ONS 2013 mid-year population estimate.   91,700 people in the borough were economically active during the monitoring period. (ONS annual population survey)

4.9   In 2014, an average employee working in the borough earned approximately £25,803 per year, a slight increase compared with last year. (ONS annual population survey – figures for previous years may not match figures in previous reports due to adjustment by ONS).
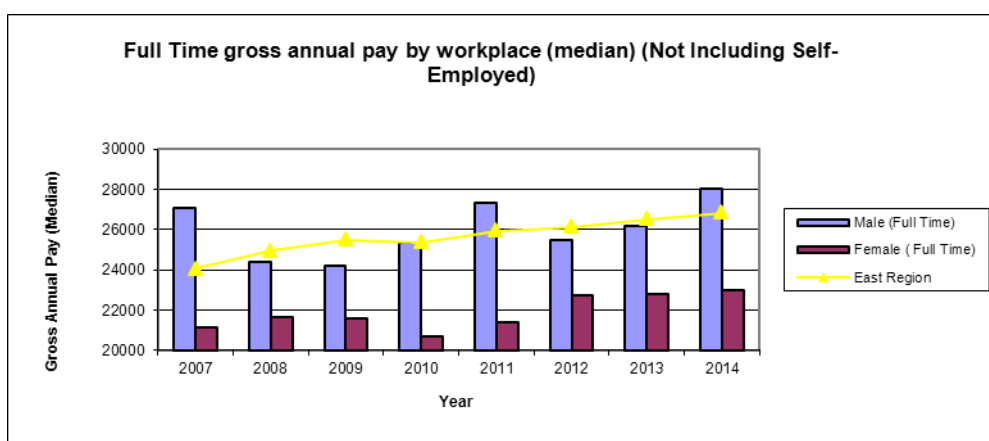
4.10   'Professional occupations' is the single largest category of employment in the borough with 24.5% of those in employment. 'Associate professional and technical occupations' is the second largest category with 13.3%. (ONS population survey)

Social/Health

4.11   New information on the Index of Multiple Deprivation was published in 2011. It assesses relative deprivation levels across the country and

provides a relative ranking of deprivation. In 2010, Bedford Borough was ranked at 159 out of 326 local authorities, with 1 being the most deprived. Bedford Borough also contains 4 Local Super Output Areas (see glossary), that are among the top 10% most deprived in England; 2 in Castle ward, 1 in Cauldwell ward and 1 in Harpur ward. (Source: Bedford Borough Council)

4.12   In the monitoring period 83,600 people were in employment. (Source: ONS, Bedford Borough Council)

4.13   The number of unemployed in the monitoring period was 6,600 (for ages 16-64), largely consistent with the previous monitoring period. This represents 7.3% of the economically active population. (Source: ONS annual population survey – model based estimate; figures for previous years may not match figures reported in previous reports due to adjustment by ONS)

4.14   Crime levels for the Bedfordshire Police force are at 58 offences per 1000 population. This is a slight increase on the last monitoring period. Figures for the borough alone are no longer recorded. Bedfordshire Police force covers Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton. (Source: Office of National Statistics)

4.15   Average life expectancy (at birth) in the Borough between 2011 and 2013 was 79.8 years for men and 83.6 years for women. Both are marginally higher than their respective national averages. (Source: ONS)

Education

4.16   5.4% of the borough's population have no qualifications, a 0.9% drop on 2012. However there has also been a slight decrease in the percentage of people qualified to NVQ level 4 or above (39.4% compared to 41.7% in 2012/13).

Transport and Spatial Connectivity

4.17   In 2011 79.5% of households in the borough had access to at least 1 car or van. 37.7% had access to 2 or more cars or vans. 20.6% of households had no access to a car or van. The proportion of households without a car in the urban area (26.9%) is much higher than in the rural area (9.3%) (Bedford Borough Council, Census 2011)

It should be noted that figures from the annual population survey are based upon a sample of the population and should be treated as guidelines only.

Further statistics on the borough can be found on the council's website:
http://www.bedford.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/statistics_and_census.aspx

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Indicator H1: Plan Period and Housing Targets

	Start of plan period	End of plan period	Total housing required	Source of plan target
H1 (a)	April 2001	March 2021	16,270 dwellings in the Growth Area of Bedford Borough (Bedford, Kempston, northern Marston Vale area)	Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008
H1 (b)	April 2001	March 2021	1,300 in the rest of Bedford Borough – known as the Rural Policy Area in the adopted Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan.	Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008

Indicator H2: (a) Net additional dwellings in previous years
(b) Net additional dwellings for reporting year (formerly NI 154)

Target: *Core Strategy requirement of 16,270 dwellings in the Growth Area of the Borough 2001-2021 and of 1,300 dwellings in the remainder of the Borough outside the Growth Area*

The housing targets for Bedford Borough can be found in the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008. The Borough has a target to deliver 16,270 dwellings in the Growth Area and 1,300 dwellings in the Rural Policy Area. This latter target has been met.

A net total of 997 dwellings were built in the monitoring period, 929 of which were in the Growth Area. A total of 6,760 dwellings have been built in the Growth Area since 2001. There were 8,968 dwellings with outstanding planning permission at the end of the monitoring period.

68 net additional dwellings were built in the Rural Policy Area in the monitoring period, with 263 dwellings with outstanding planning permission. The council publishes more information about housing supply on its website here.

In autumn 2013 the council began work in earnest on a new local plan. As part of the evidence base for the plan, a strategic housing land availability assessment (SHLAA) will be prepared.

(Bedford Borough Council)

Table A – Growth Area

		2001	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
H2a	Growth Area	557	327	556	312	285	396	552	366	414	580	874	613	
H2b	Growth Area													929

Table B – Rural Policy Area

		2001	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
H2a	Rural Policy Area	174	99	240	324	181	60	79	41	52	54	45	41	
H2b	Rural Policy Area													68

Indicator H3: Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)

No new Gypsy and Traveller pitches were delivered in the monitoring period. Work commenced in the monitoring period on the site at Meadow Lane to deliver 14 new pitches.

Indicator H4: Proportion of completed dwellings within the Growth Area and Rural Policy Area

Core Strategy Objective: Deliver the planning growth in Bedford, Kempston and the northern Marston Vale to achieve a step change in the borough's role in the region

Progress:
Housing development: completions
Growth Area 929 net dwellings (93.2% of total net dwellings)
Rural Policy Area 68 net dwellings (6.8% of total net dwellings)

Housing supply (outstanding planning permissions):
Growth Area 8,968 dwellings (97.2% of total supply)
Rural Policy Area 263 dwellings (2.8% of total supply)

Housing supply (outstanding planning permissions and resolutions to grant subject to s106)
Growth Area 8,968+812=9,780 dwellings (96.6% of total supply)
Rural Policy Area 263+90=353 dwellings (3.4% of total supply)

Proportion of housing development in RPA outside Key Service Centres:

Housing – 37 completions (net) outside of Key Service Centres = 54.4% of housing completions in the RPA.

Housing development in the monitoring period has been more prevalent in the Growth Area than the Rural Policy Area. Outstanding planning consents for housing clearly show that the focus for future development is in the Growth Area.

Indicator H5: % of affordable houses secured on sites of 15 or more dwellings

Local Target: On sites of 15 units or over and in villages having a population of less than 3,000 on sites of 3 dwellings or more the council will expect the provision of 30% affordable housing (CP8 Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan)

Progress:

In the monitoring period, 3769 new dwellings were permitted on sites subject to the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan policy CP8, requiring 30% affordable housing on sites that met a certain threshold. Of these 3769, 792 dwellings were affordable, equating to 21%.

225 affordable homes have been delivered through the planning process in the monitoring period, with 77 being the result of applications for 100% affordable housing (75 at St Bedes, Bromham Road and 2 in Clapham) and 148 completed through policy CP8 of the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan.
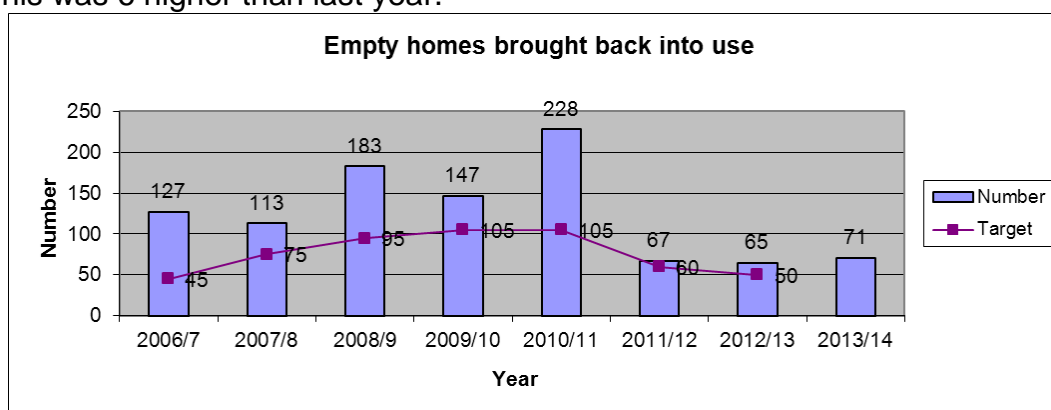
(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator H6: Number of empty homes brought back into use

Local Target: N/A
Progress:

In the monitoring period, 71 empty homes were brought back into use.
This was 6 higher than last year.

Empty homes brought back into use

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

A separate target is no longer provided for this indicator as it now forms part of the New Homes Bonus calculations.

Indicator H7: Amount of mobility housing completed each year

Target: 10% of new housing should be mobility housing

Progress:

145 mobility units were completed on 10 sites in the monitoring period. This equates to 14.1% of the total gross completions. 69 of these completions were as a result of a condition attached to a planning permission with the

remaining 76 as a result of applications including mobility standards without condition.

12 new planning permissions including a mobility housing requirement were granted in the monitoring period, for a total of 1618 dwellings, 162 of which will be mobility housing, secured through a condition, equating to 10% of the development. This is consistent with the percentage granted last year and with planning policy.

A further 231 mobility dwellings were granted permission in the monitoring period on 2 sites without being subject to a condition. 230 were granted at the land north of the Causeway, Wixams as part of an extra care village and a further 1 dwelling at the Swan, High Street, Elstow.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator H8: Number of housing units completed in Town Centre area

Target: To increase housing completions within the Bedford town centre area, providing a mix and range of housing types, tenures and sizes

Progress:

2 units completed in town centre area.
No Further units were completed in the wider Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan Area (2 units in total).

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

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Indicator B1: Total amount of additional employment floorspace – by type

Core Strategy Objective: Foster significant employment growth
Amount and type of completed employment floorspace (gross and net) (m2) by type B1 (a), (b), (c), B2 and B8

Data for this indicator is categorised by employment type. Additional categories are also included in the table, to cover those circumstances where planning permissions do not fall into the categories specified in the target.

Indicator B2: Employment land available – by type

Amount and type of employment land available (allocated sites, sites with planning permission that are not allocated) (hectares) by type B1 (a), (b), (c), B2 and B8

Data for this indicator is categorised by employment type. Additional categories are also included in the table, to cover those circumstances where planning permissions do not fall into the categories specified in the target.

			B1a	B1b	B1c	B1 unknown	Total B1	B2	B1/2	B1/8	B8	B2/8	B1/2/8	Total
Emp completions by floorspace sq m	B1	Gross sq m	0	0	0	908	**908**	936	0	0	5964	778	0	**8586**
		Net sq m	-12020	0	0	-1561	**-13581**	158	0	-888	5077	778	0	**-7548**
Emp land supply Ha	**B2**	Has (net)	-1.87	6.07	-0.33	16.63	**20.5**	0.44	6.42	0	14.81	0.61	9.41	**52.19**

Indicator B3: Proportion of completed Employment development within the Growth Area and Rural Policy Area

Core Strategy Objective: Deliver the planned growth in Bedford, Kempston and the northern Marston Vale to achieve a step change in the borough's role in the region

Progress:

Completions 2013/14
Area (ha)
Growth Area -9.85 hectares (net)
Rural Policy Area 4.91 hectares (net)

Floorspace (sq.m)
Growth Area -9807 sq.m floorspace (net)

Rural Policy Area 2259 sq.m floorspace (net)

Borough-wide, gross completions in employment floorspace this monitoring period are -8,586. There have been losses of 16,134 sq.m, which is comparable with the losses of the last monitoring period however the lower gross floorspace completions results in an overall net loss of -7,548 sq.m borough-wide.

Whilst there have been completions of employment floorspace in both the Growth Area and the Rural Policy Area, all of the losses have occurred in the Growth Area, so there has been greater net gain in the Rural Policy Area. The clearing of the Riverside North site represents a large loss of B1 use in the Growth Area. Other losses are as a result of the new rules allowing change from B1a to C3 use under permitted development starting to have an effect.

Supply (land with planning permission)
Growth Area 27.87 hectares net
Rural Policy Area 25.57 hectares net

There has been an increase in net employment land supply from 46.1ha last year to 52.19ha this reporting period.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator B4: Self employment rates

Progress:

The data from NOMIS is based on small samples which leads to significant annual fluctuations in estimated totals for a relatively small area like Bedford Borough. It is therefore considered better to use estimates based on small area data moderated by wider area trends. The source for this is Oxford Economics' East of England Forecasting Model. The results from the latest (Spring 2014) run of the model area as follows:

Self Employed in Bedford

Year	Self Employed in Bedford (1000s)
2001	7.7
2002	8.0
2003	8.7
2004	9.1
2005	9.0
2006	9.5
2007	9.2
2008	9.3
2009	8.5
2010	8.7
2011	9.1
2012	9.4
2013	9.8

(Source: Oxford Economics' East of England Forecasting Model)

Indicator B5: Numbers of jobs created in the Borough

Target: Policy CP10 of the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan states the creation of a minimum of 16,000 net additional jobs by 2021

Progress:

Year	Total Jobs	Annual Growth	Cumulative Growth (from 2001)
2013	79,300	2,400	5,600
2012	76,900	700	3,200

2011	,76,200	1,000	2,500
2010	75,200	-2,100	1,500
2009	77,300	-4,200	3,600
2008	81,500	1,400	7,800
2007	80,100	800	6,400
2006	79,300	900	5,600
2005	78,400	800	4,700
2004	77,600	3,000	3,900
2003	74,600	2,400	900
2002	72,200	-1,500	-1,500
2001	73,700		

The statistics above show a trend for increased jobs except over the period 2008 to 2010, attributable to global recession.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council, Oxford Economics' East of England Forecasting Model.

Indicator B6: Jobs created in the Rural Policy Area

Target: To increase the number of jobs created in the Rural Policy Area

People employed in RPA:

Year	Employees (Business Register and Employment Survey)	Self Employed (46/47%* x EEFM Self Employed Totals)	Total Jobs
2013	15,200	4,600	19,800
2012	15,700	4,400	20,100
2011	15,100	4,400	19,500
2010	14,200	4,100	18,300
2009	14,300	4,000	18,300
2008	14,700	4,500	19,200

*46% is the estimated rural share of total East of England Forecasting Model estimated borough self employed in 2008 and 2009. 47% in 2010to 2013

There was a decrease in people employed in the Rural Policy Area in 2013, compared with 2012.

(Source: Census 2011, Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator B7: Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'

Target: Policy CP10 of the Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan states the creation of a minimum of 16,000 net additional jobs by 2021

Amount of completed floorspace (gross and net) for town centre uses within
(i) the Town Centre and (ii) the Local Authority Area
A1, A2, B1 (a) and D2.
.

BD4		A1	A2	B1a	Total
(i) Town Centre	Gross (sqm)	558	0	0	558
	Net (sqm)	79.1	0	-9651	-9571
(ii) Local Authority Area	Gross (sqm)	8033.25	36.6	0	8069.85
	Net (sqm)	7195.15	-185	-12020	-5009.85

For a definition of 'town centre uses', please refer to the glossary at the end of the document.

Indicator B8: Percentage of vacant units within the primary shopping area of Bedford town centre

Progress:

11.4% of units within the primary shopping area were vacant during the monitoring period, lower than the 12.4% in the last monitoring period.

(Source: Bedford Town Centre Company)

7

Indicator S1: Barriers to Planning services for the people protected by the Equality Act 2010

Progress:

The council continues to implement a programme of Equality Analysis of Planning Services. Each analysis is undertaken in accordance with the council's protocol for Equality Analysis and is monitored by a Directorate Equality Group. An Equality Analysis of each activity helps us provide and deliver excellent services to Bedford Borough residents and staff by making sure that these reflect the diverse needs of the community and staff profile. It also makes sure we consider our equality duty, under the Equality Act 2010, in the development and implementation of all our work.

The specific documents and services which have been assessed in the year ended 31st March 2014 are:

- Parking Standards for Sustainable Communities: Design and Good Practice SPD
- Local Plan 2032 Issues and Options paper and Town Centre discussion paper
- Planning Enforcement
- Building Control Service
- Draft Open Spaces SPD for consultation and adoption
- Neighbourhood Area designations
- Revised Statement of Community Involvement adoption
- Planning Obligations SPD
- Allocations and Designations Local Plan adoption
- Neighbourhood Planning funding
- Local Development Scheme
- Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Strategic Sites and Policies Plan for adoption

Equality Analyses are published on the council's website at http://www.bedford.gov.uk/community_and_living/equality_and_diversity/equality_analysis.aspx

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator S2: Statement of Community Involvement

A revised Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in July 2013, reflecting the changes in legislation and national planning guidance.

| Aim	Target	Indicator	Progress
Community engagement practices in	100% of adopted policy documents	a) % of adopted policy documents	The Allocations and Designations Local Plan was approved for adoption by the

Aim	Target	Indicator	Progress
accordance with the SCI	produced in accordance with the SCI.	produced in accordance with SCI	council's Executive in July 2013. The Plan was prepared in accordance with the SCI at each stage of its development. An Issues and Options consultation and a 'call for sites' were conducted on the Local Plan 2032 in February 2014. In addition to the statutory requirements of consulting statutory consultees, notifying those on our consultation database and advertising the consultation on our website and in local press, the Planning Policy team held drop in sessions around the borough to allow residents to talk with Planning Officers. Leaflets and posters were also displayed in 'community hub' locations such as shops, post offices and pubs.
Pre-application consultation	Increase pre-application consultation by applicants of 'major' schemes	d) % of major schemes undertaking pre-application consultation	There have been a total 719 preapp enquiries, a decrease of 5 on last year – 32 preapp enquiries were considered by the major applications team. This follows a trend of steady decreases in the number of pre-app enquiries received since 2010/11.

Indicator S3: Community Safety Design Guide

SPD objectives	Associated targets	Indicators	Progress
To assist in planning out crime within existing and new developments	Lower recorded crime levels	a) Borough crime levels	Total number of recorded crimes: 07/08 = 13,279 08/09 = 11,611 09/10 = 11,956 10/11 = 11,469 11/12 = 10,634

SPD objectives	Associated targets	Indicators	Progress
			Total recorded crime for Bedfordshire police force: 12/13 – 35,678 13/14 – 36,262 Due to a change in the data, last year the figure is reported for the area covered by the Bedfordshire Police Force and not the Local Authority Area. Source: www.ons.gov.uk Crimes per 1000 population for Bedfordshire Police Force: 10/11 – 68.1 11/12 – 60.5 12/13 – 56.61 13/14 - 58 Source: www.police.uk, www.ons.gov.uk
To help ensure that all parties work effectively in partnership at both the strategic and local level	Use of SPD in planning decisions	b) Number of planning permissions in which SPD conditions are used	35 decisions stated policy BE45 in the decision, an increase of 16 on last year. 11 of those decisions mentioned the design guide in the officer report or decision notice.
Every opportunity is taken to create sustainable new communities	Decrease fear of crime in Borough	c) Fear of crime levels	Citizens Panel Survey Summer/Autumn 2014 When asked 'how safe do you feel when visiting the town centre, 89% said they felt 'very safe' or 'safe' during the day, largely consistent with last year. This dropped to 35% when asked about 'after dark' against 37% last year. During the day only 3% answered that they felt 'unsafe' or 'very unsafe'. This increased to 35% in the evening, compared with 38% last year. The figures are comparable to the

SPD objectives	Associated targets	Indicators	Progress
			figures reported last monitoring period.

When asked 'how safe do you feel in your local area', 90% of respondents to the survey said they felt safe during the day, against 4% feeling unsafe. 61% said they felt safe or 'after dark', with 22% saying they felt unsafe or very unsafe.

During the day people show that they largely feel safe around town and in their local area. This figure drops noticeably after dark however, particularly in the town centre. More people report feeling unsafe after dark both in the town centre and in their local area, than during the day, when only small percentages say they felt unsafe. |
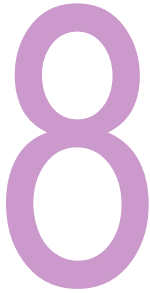
Indicator E1: Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds sites

Local Plan 2002 Target: Number and scale of planning permissions gained against advice of utilities companies and other agencies

	Flooding	Water Quality	Total
E1	0	0	0

The Environment Agency was consulted on 105 applications in the monitoring period. Applications where potential objections were raised were the subject of conditions that addressed those concerns.

Core Indicator E2: Change in areas of biodiversity importance (NI197)

Local Target: Biodiversity Action Plan targets

Progress:

Date of Change	Site Change Occurred	Type of Change	Comment	Area of change
April 2013	Hanger Wood and Oxleys CWS	Boundary modified	The boundary of the northern tip was changed to remove the portion overlapping the Bromham bypass and its verge and match that of the SSSI at this part of the site.	Approx. 2600 sqm removed
April 2013	St. John's Station CWS	Boundary modified	The portion of the site which has been tarmac'd to form a play area was removed from the site.	Approx. 1500 sqm removed

Bedford Borough has 125 Local Sites (local wildlife sites and local geological sites) in the borough. These are non-statutory sites that are locally designated for their significant nature conservation value. 71 of these sites are in positive management, which equates to 56.8%.

Year	Number of Local Sites	% in positive management
2009/10	124	51
2010/11	122	57
2011/12	123	57
2012/13	124	58.06
2013/14	125	56.8

Source: Beds and Luton Biodiversity Recording and Monitoring Centre on behalf of the County Wildlife Site Panel.

Indicator E3: Percentage of land in nationally important wildlife sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) which are in favourable condition

Progress:
Land designated SSSI – 166.73 hectares
SSSI in:

- Favourable condition – 51.64ha (30.97%)
- Unfavourable recovering – 115.09ha (69.03%)

All SSSI designated land in the borough assessed as being in unfavourable condition, is considered to be recovering. According to the Natural England website, assessments of SSSIs are conducted on a 6 year cycle. The latest assessment was conducted at Yelden Meadows in May 2014 (outside the monitoring period). Information on the other SSSIs in the borough dates from 2008 to 2012.

SSSI site	Main habitat	Size (hectares)	Condition
Biddenham Pit	Earth heritage	0.13 + 0.30	100% favourable (last checked 08/09)
Felmersham Gravel Pits	Standing open water and canals	21.52	100% unfavourable recovering (last checked 08/09)
Hanger Wood	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland-lowland	21.31 + 2.63	100% favourable (last checked 2012)
Odell Great Wood	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland-lowland	18.72 + 13.68 + 31.49 + 22.06	100% unfavourable recovering (last checked 09/10)
Stevington Marsh	Neutral grassland-lowland	4.68 + 2.94	100% unfavourable recovering (last checked 2011)
Swineshead Wood	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland-lowland	9.01 + 12.85	100% favourable (last checked 2011)
Tilwick Meadow	Neutral grassland-lowland	2.57	100% favourable (last checked 2011)
Yelden Meadows	Neutral grassland-lowland	2.84	100% favourable (last checked 2014)

(Source: Natural England website www.naturalengland.org.uk 2014)

Indicator E4: Increase in areas of woodland in the Growth Area

Forest Plan Target: Increase woodland cover in Forest of the Marston Vale Community Forest to 30% by 2030

Progress:

In the monitoring period (2013/14), a further 9.1ha of new community woodland was created in the Forest of Marston Vale. This saw the planting of the final phase of Rectory Wood, a 70ha new community woodland at Cranfield. Rectory Wood buffers and protects the ancient woodland of Marston Thrift, a SSSI, and links the expanding population of Cranfield to a growing area of accessible greenspace that may ultimately exceed 300ha. A total of around 12,500 native trees and shrubs were planted, bringing the total number planted in Rectory Wood to over 100,000. The winter period saw around 1,000 people involved in a series of public, school and corporate tree planting events, between them planting around 10,000 trees.

Planting activity generally alternates between Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council administrative areas, with the designated Forest of Marston Vale area spanning the boundary lines. During this monitoring period, most activity took place in Central Bedfordshire, as indicated by the statement above.

(Source: Forest of Marston Vale)

Indicator E5: Securing local standards for open space provision

National Target: Local Authorities must set robust local space standards

Progress:

The local standards are now part of the adopted Allocations and Designations Local Plan Policy AD28. An Open Space supplementary planning document (adopted in September) provides guidance on how Policy AD28 will be applied, the thresholds for on-site provision and assists applicants and developers on calculating the requirements of open space in any new development.

The Borough of Bedford Green Space Strategy was adopted in February 2013. This document includes appendices which outline the green space deficiencies for the rural area and recommendations supported by the 2007 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study. One of the actions of the Green Space Strategy is to update the village profiles. To achieve this, the council asked Parish Councils to provide updates on open spaces in their parishes. This information was then used to update the geographic information system (GIS) used by the Parks team.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator E6: Designated air quality management areas

National Target: Meet national air quality targets for 13 different pollutants
Local Target: Monitor air quality against national targets for NO2 and SO2 in the relevant AQMAs

Progress:
Under the provisions of the Environment Act 1995 Part IV Section 83(1) an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) was declared in Bedford town's centre on 6th November 2009. The order also revoked AQMA 1 for sulphur dioxide (SO_2) following the closure of Stewartby brickworks in February 2008.

The AQMA (known as AQMA 5) covers most of the town centre where the annual mean Objective for NO_2 is widely exceeded. In April 2014 the council fulfilled its part in the Local Air Quality Management Process (LAQM) by submitting a Progress Report. The Report indicated that there may be areas along Ampthill road where in the fullness of time the Government's annual mean objective for NO_2 may not be met.

To date the proposed development is only part completed, and monitoring indicates that at present the levels of NO_2 do not exceed the permitted annual mean. The council will continue to collect data to establish the levels of NO_2 along Ampthill Road, then the council can identify potential action if required as the development continues. The council will also revise its Air Quality Action Plan which will link closely with Local Transport Plan 3 and other council polices to detail the measures the council and its stakeholders are taking to improve air quality within the town centre AQMA.

The air quality monitoring stations continue to run and provide continuous accurate data on levels of NO_2 within the town centre. This data is used to inform modelling and future work carried out within the borough.

No other areas out of the AQMA were found to exceed Government objectives and therefore the council will produce a further Progress Report in April 2015.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator E7: Household and commercial waste recycling

Draft Target: Recover 70% Municipal Solid Waste by 2015

Bedford Borough Council Minerals and Waste Service is run jointly with, and hosted by Central Bedford Council. The Minerals and Waste Team produce their own reports to monitor the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and other documents.

Information on Minerals and Waste can be found in the Minerals and Waste Monitoring Report.

9

Indicator HB1: Listed buildings at risk

Progress:

2014	1 entry on the national at risk (Church of All Saints, Church Lane, Little Staughton grade I)
2013	2 entries on the national at risk register (Cardington No. 1 Shed at RAF Cardington grade II* and Church of All Saints, Church Lane, Little Staughton grade I)
	28 entries on the local at risk register
2012	1 entry on the national at risk register (Cardington No. 1 Shed at RAF Cardington grade II*
	35 entries on the local at risk register
2011	1 entry on the national at risk register (Cardington No. 1 Shed at RAF Cardington grade II*
	36 entries on the local at risk register
2010	1 entry on the national at risk register (Cardington No. 1 Shed at RAF Cardington grade II*)
	39 entries on the local at risk register (reported last year as on national register)
2006-10	1 entry on the national at risk register Priority B (Cardington No. 1 Shed at RAF Cardington grade II*)
2005	2 entries on the national at risk register (records grades I and II* only)
2004	24 entries on the local at risk register
2000	33 entries on the local at risk register

RAF Cardington No1. Air Shed at Shortstown is currently undergoing restoration and has therefore been removed from the national and local at risk registers. The number of buildings on the local at risk register has been reduced from 28 to 26. The other entry to be removed is the Granary at Manor Farm, Cotton End Road, Wilshamstead, with the condition of the building making any restoration impossible.

Local At Risk Register: Buildings at Risk by Parish and Grade

Site	Grade
BEDFORD	
Bedford Hospital (Main South Block) Kimbolton Road	II
1 and 1a Saint Paul's Square	II
Sketchley Dye Works 80a High Street	II
CARLTON AND CHELLINGTON	
Monument to Sir Robert Darling, 1 1/2 metres from s.e. Corner of chancel, St Nicholas church	II
KEMPSTON	

Threeways Farmhouse West End Road	II
KEMPSTON RURAL	
Meadow Farmhouse West End Road	II
KNOTTING AND SOULDROP	
Barns At Strawberry Hill Farm	II
LITTLE BARFORD	
Barn North Of Farmhouse, Lower Farm	II
PODINGTON	
4 Hinwick Village	II
Gatepiers To Drive Entrance, Hinwick Hall	II
RENHOLD	
Ice House To Howbury Hall St Neots Road	II
Garden Wall To Howbury Hall St Neots Road	II
Great Dairy Farmhouse St Neots Road	II
RISELEY	
Granary At Riseley Lodge Farm North East Of House Bowers Lane	II
ROXTON	
Chawston Lodge	II
ROXTON	
Dovecote At Forty Farm Great North Road	II
Forty Farmhouse Great North Road	II
SHARNBROOK	
Former Farmhouse At Hill Farm Mill Road	II
Magniac Mausoleum St Peter's Churchyard Church Lane	II
STAPLOE	
Dovecote At Number 49 Woodhouse Lane	II
STEWARTBY	
Two Kilns And Four Chimneys At The Stewartby Brickworks	II
THURLEIGH	
Churchyard Cross Near South Door Of Church High Street	II*
TURVEY	
Great Oaks Farmhouse Bedford Road	II
WILDEN	
Manor Farmhouse High Street	II
WILLINGTON	
Garden Wall At Manor Farm Church End	II
WILSHAMSTEAD	
Cawne Close 34 Bedford Road	II

(Source: Bedford Borough Council, English Heritage at Risk Register)

Indicator HB2: Shopfronts and Advertisements in Conservation Areas SPD

SPD objective	Associated target	Indicator
To improve the appearance of new shopfronts within conservation areas, where they are introduced into historic areas or old buildings	Improve the appearance of new shopfronts in conservation areas	a) Standard of shopfronts in conservation areas
Progress		
26 planning applications decided where policy BE16 of the Borough Local Plan 2002 was used, 17 of which were approved, 1 approved subject to a planning obligation, 4 where a split decision (where part of the application was approved and part was refused) was issued and 3 of which were refused. 1 application was disposed of. The SPD was referred to in 18 of the above 26 applications either in the Officer's Report, or in the Decision Notice		
SPD objective	Associated target	Indicator
Encourage a higher standard of shopfronts on newer buildings	Improve standard of shopfronts on newer buildings	b) Standard of shopfronts on new buildings
Progress		
5 applications were received in the town centre conservation area for alterations to shop fronts on buildings where the SPD was mentioned 3 of which were on newer (postwar) buildings. 4 applications were permitted and 1 application was refused permission. A further application for a change of use of a building to a shop, with accompanying shop front was permitted subject to a planning obligation. 7 applications were received for adverts on newer (post war) buildings in conservation areas where the SPD was mentioned either in the officer's report or the decision notice. 3 of these were granted consent, 1 was refused, 2 were granted split decisions and 1 was disposed of. Overall there were 7 applications where the SPD was not mentioned.		
SPD objective	Associated target	Indicator
New advertisements should respect the character and style of the building and the area in question, in terms of design, materials and location.	Improve advertisements in terms of respecting local character, design, materials and location	c) Standard of new advertisements
Progress		
34 planning advertisement applications decided where SPD was		

mentioned either in the officer's report or the decision notice, 26 were approved, 2 were refused, 5 were issued a split decision and 1 was disposed of. Of the 34 applications, 10 were in conservation areas. 8 advertisement applications in conservation areas were decided where the SPD was not mentioned, 5 more than last year.

Indicator T1: Level of proposed transport infrastructure set out in the, LTP2 and LTP3 that has been achieved

Programmed Schemes in Local Transport Plans 2 and 3.

	Scheme	Project Lead	Target Date	Achievement at 31/03/2014
1	A421 Improvements Bedford to M1	Highways Agency	Now open	Completed and open Dec 2010
2	A6 Wixams Re-Alignment	Developer Led (some public sector funding)	Complete	Complete and open
3	Bedford Western Bypass A421-A428	Council and English Partnerships led (with subsequent Developer Contributions)	Autumn/ Winter 2009	Completed and open
4	Bedford Western Bypass A428-A6	Some public sector funding	Phase 2 of the bypass has planning permission.	Funding was identified for the bypass in Dec 2013 and planning permission obtained. *Construction started on site in September 2014 (outside the monitoring period)*
5	East-West Rail Oxford/Aylesbury to Bedford	East West Rail Consortium	East West Rail Consortium scheme under consideration.	The East-West Rail link was included in the Government's High Level Output Specification (the investment plans for the rail industry). Delivery of western section planned for 2017. Electrification expected by 2019. Majority

				of funding will be Government, with a contribution from local authorities along the route.
6	Wixams Station	Developer Led (some public sector funding)		Planning application approved in February 2012.
7	Bedford Town Centre Improvements including River Bridge	Bedford Borough Council		Foot/cycle bridge proposed as part of Riverside North development – the planning application was permitted subject to a Planning Obligation at Planning Committee on 25 March 2013. Options for new all vehicle river crossing being considered. Town centre improvements tied up with development opportunities in town
8	Bedford Midland Road Rail Station Improvements	Developer Led (some public sector funding)		Platform lengthening as part of the Thameslink programme completed 2010. Government announced electrification of Midland Main Line and East West Rail in

				July 2012. Redevelopment of station has subsequently been put on hold. Electrification is expected to require remodelling of the station.
9	Park and Ride (Biddenham/Great Denham and Clapham)	Bedford Borough Council	N/A	A parking facility at Great Denham which can serve as a Park and Ride (using the service bus) has been constructed and opened. Clapham P&R is linked with development opportunities as a result of proposed development on land north of Bromham Road and the provision of the bypass Phase II
10	Detrafficking of Bedford High Street	Bedford Borough Council		Form of detrafficking and timescale will depend on completion of A428/A6 bypass and other developments under consideration in the town centre.

(Source: Local Transport Plan 2, Local Transport Plan 3 and Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator T2: % of households in the urban area within 400m of a quarter hourly bus service

Core Strategy Objective 8: Support delivery of coordinated transport improvements with emphasis on non-car modes, improving east-west communications and achieving greater transport interchange

Progress:

49.77% of households in the urban area are within 400 metres walking distance of a bus service with a quarter-hourly bus service. Because of a change in the way the figure is calculated, direct comparison cannot be made with previous years' figures.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator T3: Rural households within 400m walk of an hourly bus service

Core Strategy Objective 8: Support delivery of coordinated transport improvements with emphasis on non-car modes, improving east-west communications and achieving greater transport interchange

Progress:

64.41% of rural households are within 400 metres walking distance of an hourly bus service. Because of a change in the way the figure is calculated, direct comparison cannot be made with previous years' figures. .

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator T4: Traffic levels in the town centre

LTP3 Objective: To encourage and support a sustainable transport system that contributes to a healthy natural and urban environment

Progress:

Bedford Inner Cordon Count
Site Locations 1:8,000 @ A3
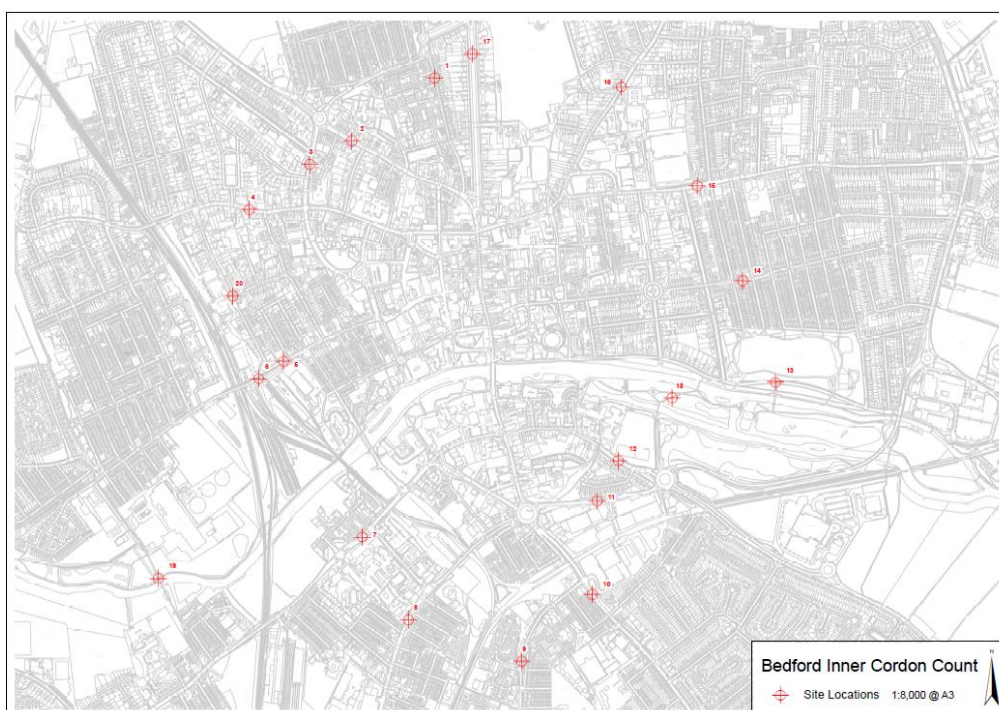
Categories	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2014
Large Goods Vehicles	3168	3650	3966	4459	2632	3179	3524	3762
Other Goods Vehicles	1768	1789	1324	1102	1675	1638	899	528
Cars	32061	30486	32626	32521	32110	29156	30440	33128
Motor Cyclists	290	321	249	280	320	273	233	243
All Buses	701	764	687	749	856	593	530	525
Cyclists	1187	1345	1247	1112	1187	1509	1182	1180
ALL VEHICLES	39040	38097	38229	40005	38651	36222	36692	39624
Pedestrians	5178	5256	5250	6576	5825	5956	4728	6465
People on foot/cycle/bus	9781	9987	10619	12182	10996	11023	9090	10795
People in cars	41434	39277	43613	43272	46684	39242	40650	41077
ALL PEOPLE	51505	49585	54481	55734	58000	50538	49973	52115
% on foot/cycle/bus	19%	20%	19%	22%	19%	22%	18%	21%

Figures are collected from each cordon point at the inner cordon with 18 road points and 2 cycle/footpaths indicated on the map above. The counts are done on one weekday in October between the hours of 7am and 12 midday for all vehicles and people heading inbound into the town.

Compared with last year there has been an increase on the number of vehicles entering the town. The number of people entering by bus, cycle or on

foot has also increased. Between 2001 and 2014, the percentage of sustainable journeys (foot/cycle/bus) has fluctuated between 18-22% with no clear trend pattern.

The number of people on buses is estimated for the purposes of this indicator. Based upon previous data, an estimated occupancy rate of 6 people per bus is then multiplied by the counted number of buses within the inner cordon. The number of people in cars is counted.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator T5: Footfall levels in the town centre

Target: N/A

Progress:

Total footfall for 13/14 = 13,931,978

Footfall has fallen by 83,169 compared with the previous monitoring period. Due to a required recalibration of the software used, this year's figure is based upon estimates.

(Source: Bedford Town Centre Company)

Indicator T6: Completion/enhancement of cycle routes in the Borough

Progress:

In 2012, a draft urban cycle network was identified, consisting of 26 strategic Bedford cycle routes (BCR), town centre routes (TCR) and Bedford orbital routes (BOR). This will give an urban cycle network of 125 kms length. This network is currently being assessed for works and any legal issues of ownership or traffic regulation orders. Developer, Local Sustainable Transport Fund and local transport plan funding will be concentrated on enhancing and completing this network.

2015 update:
In the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) 2013/4 programme the Council delivered with LSTF funding:
o Covered cycle parking at Bedford St Johns
o BCR 26: Upgrade of Hastingsbury cycle route alongside Kempston and Bedford Road
o BOR A the completion of cycle lanes in Park Avenue
o BCR 2: cycle logos on uphill sections of Ford End Road Bridge

- BCR 4: cycle logos on uphill sections of Bromham Road railway bridge
- NCN 51: Widening and resurfacing of cycle path in St Marys Gardens (LSTF contribution to larger scheme)

BCR 7: Lighting of path through Bedford Park and TCR N55: Cycle Lanes in Prebend Street were not completed as scheduled due to lack of finances

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator M1: Land North of Bromham Road

Planning permission has been granted for phase II of the bypass to the north of Bedford. Planning permission has also been granted for 1,300 new dwellings on site. The contract for the completion of the bypass was let in Oct 2014 (outside the monitoring period), with work commencing on site soon after.

Indicator M2: Great Denham and West of Kempston

Objective	Indicator	Great Denham	West of Kempston
To make best and most efficient use of land	Density of residential development (dwellings per hectare)	1 reserved matters application for 101 dwellings was granted permission in the monitoring period. The density is 41.06 dwellings per hectare	4 reserved matters applications for a total of 232 dwellings were granted permission in the monitoring period. The average density for these applications is 31.73 dwellings per hectare
To encourage energy efficiency, sustainable drainage, waste minimisation and provision of renewable energy within the area	Number of renewable energy schemes	Modifications made to the planning obligations have removed the requirements to provide renewable energy schemes	Modifications made to the planning obligations have removed the requirements to provide renewable energy schemes
	Number of homes and buildings built to Ecohomes/ BREEAM standards	All affordable housing to date has been built to code for sustainable homes level 3 through HCA funding. All reserved matters applications are in compliance with the design	All affordable housing to date has been built to code for sustainable homes level 3 through HCA funding All reserved matters applications are in compliance

		code in terms of materials, scale, form and detail vernacular.	with the design code in terms of materials, scale, form and detail vernacular.
To ensure a well-connected and accessible development	Creation of new vehicular and pedestrian routes into the development	The Design Code and Masterplan provide an outline for access infrastructure on site and this is being completed on a phased basis.	The Design Code and Masterplan provide an outline for access infrastructure on site and this is being completed on a phased basis.
To create an attractive development of local distinctiveness and character	Number of Reserved Matters Applications approved	1 reserved matters application for 101 dwellings was granted permission in the monitoring period.	4 reserved matters applications for a total of 232 dwellings were granted permission in the monitoring period.
To value and protect the diversity of nature	Creation of integrated network of open space inc. areas managed specifically for ecological interest	The country park is currently under construction, with completion likely in 2015/16	Pilgrim Park was completed in the monitoring period.
To strengthen the local community and cultural identity To make opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation readily available to all	Use made of culture, leisure and recreation facilities	The country park is currently under construction	Pilgrim Park is currently under construction. Sports pitches will also be made available as will the country park pavilion by 2013/14
To ensure that everyone has access to a good quality affordable home that meets their needs	Number of new dwellings built on site	122	167
	Number of affordable homes built as a proportion of all new dwellings	35 (29% of new dwellings)	14 (8% of new dwellings)

Indicator M3: Wixams

Objective	Indicator	Wixams
To make best and most efficient use of land	Density of residential development (dwellings per hectare)	35 – 40 dwellings per ha.
To create an attractive development of local distinctiveness and character	Number of Reserved Matters Applications approved	No new reserved matters applications for housing were granted permission during the monitoring period.
To value and protect the diversity of nature	Creation of integrated network of open space inc. areas managed specifically for ecological interest	Network of open spaces across village 1 in the form of recent completion of Greenway B acting as a buffer between village 1 and village 2.
To strengthen the local community and cultural identity	Use made of culture, leisure and recreation facilities	Greenways will allow leisure routes through village 1 and between village 1 and 2. Village 1 contains community hall recently transferred to the local residents' association.
To make opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation readily available to all		Open space includes formal pitches for public use. Village 1 contains MUGA.
To ensure that everyone has access to a good quality affordable home that meets their needs	Number of new dwellings built on site	109 (0 affordable).
	Number of affordable homes built as a proportion of all new dwellings	220 equal to 31% of total dwellings built on site
To create a vibrant local economy	Employment floorspace completed in monitoring period	Outline approval granted for B8 development in employment area in 11/12.
	Retail floorspace completed in the monitoring period	No new retail floorspace was completed in the monitoring period. A3 uses have been permitted in units originally intended for A1 use, reducing the

		village centre retail floorspace by 140sqm.

Indicator M4: Shortstown

3 reserved matters applications were permitted in the monitoring period for a total of 392 dwellings and 6 B1 office units. 109 dwellings were completed in the development in the monitoring period, bringing phases 1a and 1b near to completion. 22 of the 109 dwellings were affordable homes.

Full planning permissions were also granted on land to the east and south east of the sheds for a total of 473 dwellings and a further 119 dwellings were granted outline planning permission.

Indicator M5: North of Fields Road, Wootton

1 reserved matters application was permitted in the monitoring period for 193 dwellings.

101 dwellings were completed in the monitoring period. Of these, 30 were affordable homes.

An application for a large development opposite the Kempston Interchange Retail Park and an application on the former Camford site on Ampthill Road were granted planning permission in the monitoring period. Both have commenced development with a new B&Q store at the Interchange and a new Morrisons at Ampthill Road. Permission was also granted for the Riverside North development – a mixed use development which will include residential, retail, hotel and leisure uses. Demolition of the town hall commenced in the monitoring period.

Indicator I1: Completed infrastructure schemes secured from planning permission legal agreements

Aim: Provide a mechanism for the delivery of infrastructure in tandem with new development

Target: To provide additional/improved infrastructure, amenities or facilities where development would create additional need for services

S106 Finance received 13/14

Service area	£
Highways and Public Transport	1,160,227
Education	2,309,292
Green Infrastructure*	676,658
Community and miscellaneous.	198,498
Footpaths/cycleways	428,872
Affordable housing	-
Staff fees	151,244
Total	**4,924791**

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator I2: Level of infrastructure improvements secured by means of condition/ S106 agreements or town centre/Plan area sites

Aim: To ensure that new development and other partner agencies contribute to the delivery of the council's strategy for the town centre as a whole, including the provision of infrastructure.

Target: To provide sufficient levels of affordable housing, landscaping, highway and public transport improvements to account for the impact of development in the town centre and the wider area.

Progress:

No S106 money went towards the public realm in the town centre during the monitoring period.

(Source: Bedford Borough Council)

Indicator I3: S106 money spent during monitoring period

List of Projects in 2013/14 for which S106 finance was used.

	Project	£
Highway	Norse Road 30 mph Traffic Regulation Order	1,103
Highways	Traffic Regulation Order Parking Restrictions Tavistock Street	2,000
Highways	Ampthill Road development, baseline traffic monitoring study	15,315
Highways	Cauldwell Street, Travel Plan monitoring and enforcement	10,437
Highways	Phase 1 - Park and Ride Great Denham completion	45,000
Public transport	Public transport infrastructure and extended service, Great Denham and school transport	171,932
Public transport	Wixams extended service and service enhancements	77,569
Public transport	For BRCC to undertake Wixams Rural Transport study	5,000
Public transport	Bus shelters and Real Time information for development sites	140,327
Total		**468,683**
Education	Shortstown Primary School	1,250,603
Education	Schools West Kempston/Great Denham	2,620,212
Education	Additional facilities including group room Castle Lower School	46,332
Education	Classroom extension Riseley Lower School	92,575
Total		**4,009,722**
Greenspace	Russell Park play area new play equipment	113,990
Greenspace	Allen Park improvements including tennis court refurbishment, cricket square, outfield and football pitch improvements e	119,911
Greenspace	Southfields refurbish 2 tennis courts and convert basketball court to tennis, completion	7,500
Greenspace	Jubillee Park Pitch and car park provision and Jubillation Centre feasibility study	26,002

Greenspace	Mowsbury/Hillgrounds sports hub pitch enhancement programme year 3	31,187
Greenspace	Bedford Park football pitch improvements phase 2	10,519
Greenspace	Addison Howard Park drainage improvement	1,004
Greenspace	Woodlands Park pitch drainage improvements	16,542
Greenspace	Moor Lane improvements to MUGA	3,000
Greenspace	Major refurbishment 3 changing facilities Mowsbury park	81,064
Greenspace	Mowsbury basketball court improvement	1,580
Greenspace	Forest of Marston Vale	52,635
Greenspace	To Wootton Parish Council towards new skate park	23,000
Greenspace	To Bromham Parish Council for future management and maintenance of football pitches	54,294
Greenspace	To Eastcotts Parish council , playing field improvements	4,500
Greenspace	To Oakley Parish Council for boules pitch, netball pitch and play area improvements.	12,744.2
Greenspace	To Great Barford Parish Council for new goal posts	1,074.5
Total		**565,548**
Community	Queens Works CCTV maintenance improvements	4,876
Community	Off site primary care improvements for West Kempston	14,710
Community	Bromham Hospital silt trap	3,389
Community	Burial Ground infrastructure	15,000
Total		**37,975**
Staff /monitoring	Towards staff/monitoring costs Wixams and Great Denham	75,399
Total		**75,399**

Source: DCM based on Projects, date authorised report

Term	Explanation
Adoption Statement	Statement produced by the Borough Council when a document is adopted to explain where the adopted document can be viewed and how the adoption can be challenged.
BBPMR	Bedford Borough Planning Monitoring Report
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A new charge that could be applied to new development upon planning approval for the purposes of funding necessary infrastructure. The charge for development of different locations and sizes is calculated according to a schedule produced by the council, which is the subject of independent examination.
Contextual Indicators	Set of indicators that show the social, economic and environmental circumstances that exist within the Borough.
Output Indicators	Set of indicators that are used to measure the implementation of planning policies.
Commencement of Production	When the production of a document begins.
Examination	Examination of a submitted document by an independent inspector to consider whether the document is 'sound'.
Elementary Occupations	Unskilled and/or routine occupations
Growth Area	Bedford, Kempston and the northern Marston Vale portion of Bedford Borough.
Housing Trajectory	A graph that shows the past and anticipated supply of housing over the life-span of a Development Plan Document.
Local Development Documents	General term for planning documents that contain planning policies.
Local Development Scheme	Sets out the programme for preparing local development documents
Local Development Orders	A Local Development Order is made by a planning authority in order to extend permitted rights for certain forms of development, with regard to a relevant local development document.
Local Plan	Document that includes planning policies and is part of the development

Term	Explanation
	plan.
Managers and Senior Officials	Occupations whose main tasks consist of the direction and co-ordination of the functioning of organisations and businesses including internal departments and sections, often with the help of subordinate managers and supervisors.
Milestones	Milestones are progress targets for the production of local development documents. They are set out in the Local Development Scheme, and monitored in the BBPMR.
Monitoring Measures	The regular and systematic collection and analysis of information for the Bedford Borough Planning Monitoring Report
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy document
Pre-hearing Meeting	A meeting between the Independent Inspector and the parties to be involved in the hearing sessions discuss the management of the hearing and procedural matters.
Residual Area / Rural Policy Area	The area of the Borough not in the Growth Area.
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD)	Provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in Local Development Documents or Local Plan policies. SPDs do not form part of the Development Plan and are not subject to independent examination.
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)	Sets out the standards which authorities will achieve with regard to involving local communities in the preparation of the planning documents and in development management decisions.
Scoping Report	The first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal.
Section 106 Agreement (s106)	Section 106 Agreements are legal agreements that secure community infrastructure to meet the needs of residents in new developments and/or to mitigate the impact of new developments upon existing community facilities.
Sustainability Appraisal	Tool for appraising policies to ensure

Term	Explanation
	they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors) and required to be undertaken for local development documents and in certain cases Supplementary Planning Documents.
Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations	Requires the environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes including those in the field of planning and land use.
Submission of Local Development Document	The point at which a Local Development Document is submitted to the Secretary of State.
Super Output Areas (SOA)	SOAs were introduced in 2004 as a new geography for the collection of small area statistics (such as indices of deprivation). Due to ward sizes and populations varying to large degrees, SOAs were created to provide greater consistencies in size and boundary stability for comparison purposes.
Town Centre Uses	Refers to land uses classified as A1 (shops), A2 (Financial and Professional Services), B1 (a) (Offices, other than a use within Class A2) and D2 (Assembly and leisure).
Use Classes Order	A list of land-use classes. Each land-use (e.g. housing, retail, employment etc) falls within a 'class', either A, B, C, D or sui generis (i.e. of its own kind).

APPENDIX A – Progress against Local Development Scheme Milestones

Local Development Scheme 2013

Local Plan 2032 timetable

2013

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
								LDS			

2014

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
									▲		

2015

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
								●			

2016

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1. Evidence base gathering. Look at options and prepare Issues and Options.

2. Public Consultation on Issues and Options and 'call for sites'.

3. Prepare and agree plan for submission, consult and submit.

▲ Submission plan consultation,

● Submission.

4. Formal examination. Includes hearing sessions before appointed Inspector to debate outstanding soundness issues.

5. Receive Inspector's report and adopt the plan if found to be sound.

At all relevant stages above need to undertake
- o SA/SEA,
- o Equality Analysis
- o Soundness self assessment
- o Consultation statement.

Use Class		Use/Description of development
A1	Shops	Retail sale of goods to the public – Shops, Post Offices, Travel Agencies and Ticket Agencies, Hairdressers, Funeral Director and Undertakers, Domestic Hire Shops, Dry Cleaners, Internet Cafés, Sandwich Bars (where sandwiches and other cold food are to be consumed off the premises)
A2	Financial and Professional Services	Financial Services – Banks, Building Societies and Bureau de Change, Professional Services (Other than Health and Medical Services) – Estate agents and Employment Agencies. Other services which it is appropriate to provide in a shopping area: Betting Shops, (Where the services are provided principally to visiting members of the public)
A3	Restaurants and Cafes	Restaurants and Cafes (i.e. places where the primary purpose is the sale and consumption of food and light refreshment on the premises). This excludes Internet Cafes which are now A1
A4	Drinking Establishments	Public House, Wine Bar or other Drinking Establishments (i.e. premises where the primary purpose is the sale and consumption of alcoholic drinks on the premises).
A5	Hot Food Takeaway	Take-aways (i.e. premises where the primary purpose is the sale of hot food to take-away).
B1	Business	(a) Offices other than in a use within Class A2 (financial services) (b) Research and Development or products or processes (c) Light Industry
B2	General Industrial	General Industry: use for the carrying out of an industrial process other than one falling in class B1.
B8	Storage and Distribution	Use for storage or distribution centre.
C1	Hotels	Use a Hotel, Boarding House or Guest House, where no significant element of care is provided
C2	Residential Institutions	Hospital, Nursing Home or Residential School, College or Training Centre where they provide residential accommodation and care to people in need of care (other than those within C£ dwelling houses).
C2A	Secure Residential Institution	Use for a provision of secure residential accommodation, including use as a prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, secure training centre, custody centre, short term holding centre, secure hospital, secure local authority accommodation or use as a military barracks.
C3	Dwelling houses	Use as a dwellinghouse (whether or not as a sole or main residents) by a) a single person or by people to be regarded as forming a single household b) not more than six residents living together as a single household where care is provided for residents; or c) not more than six residents living together as a single household where no care is provided for residents (other than use within C4)
C4:	Dwelling houses	Use as a dwellinghouse by not more than six residents as a "house in multiple occupation".
D1	Non-Residential Institutions	Clinics and Health Centres, Crèches, Day Nurseries and Day Centres, Museums, Public Libraries, Art Galleries and Exhibition Halls, Law Court, Non-residential Education and Training Centres, Places of Worship, Religious Instruction and Church Halls.
D2	Assembly and	Cinemas, Concert Halls, Bingo Halls, Dance Halls, Swimming

	Leisure	Baths, Skating rinks, Gymnasiums, or area for indoor or outdoor sports or recreations, not involving motor vehicles or firearms.
Sui Generis		A use on its own, any change of use to or from a sui generis use will require planning permission. Includes: Theatres, Nightclubs, Retail Warehouse Clubs, Amusement Arcades, Launderettes, Petrol Filling Stations and Motor Car Showrooms. Casinos – following declassification planning permission is needed for any premises, including D2 premises, to undergo a material change of use to a casino.

Policies not saved through Direction granted in 2007 due to duplicating national policy:

- S8 Supplementary Planning Guidance
- NE1 Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- NE2 Species protected by law
- NE5 Tree Preservation Orders
- NE15 River Protection Area
- NE25 Pollution
- NE26 Agricultural land quality
- NE27 Wildlife habitats v agricultural land
- NE28 Land Contamination
- NE29 Uncertain consequences of proposals
- BE10 Review of Conservation Areas
- BE12 Plans, drawings and cross sections
- BE14 Premature demolition
- BE17 Retaining listed buildings
- BE33 Gateways
- H4 Land at Ford End Road
- H15 Land off Northampton Road, Bromham
- H16 Bromham Hospital
- H17 Clapham Folly
- H19 Land at Yelnow Lane, Sharnbrook
- H20 Land south-east of Sharnbrook Upper School
- H21 Land between A6 and Luton Road, Wilstead
- H22 Land off the Meadway, Harrold
- H35 Gypsy Sites
- H36 Winter quarters for travelling show people
- E3 Land west of Elstow Bypass
- E7 Land at Marsh Leys Farm
- SH1 Regional shopping centres
- TC2 Grant aid

Policies superseded by adoption of Core Strategy and Rural Issues plan 16th April 2008:

- S1 Urban Priority
- S4 South West Bedford Strategic Corridor
- S5 Marston Vale
- S6 Settlement Policy Areas
- S7 Rural Settlement Hierarchy
- S9 Facilities in tandem with development
- NE14 Area of Great Landscape Value
- BE6 Renewable Energy
- H1 Provision of housing land
- H30 Local needs housing in rural areas
- H31 The provision of affordable housing

- H32 The mix and range of housing type and size
- E1 Provision of employment land
- E12 Loss of employment land
- SH2 Shopping development in the town centre
- T1 Strategic road network

Policies superseded by adoption of Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan 8th October 2008:

- SH3 Primary shopping frontage
- SH4 Pilgrim Square
- TC1 Protecting architectural and historic features
- TC3 Environmental improvements
- TC4 Shopfronts and advertisements
- TC5 Riverside enhancements
- TC6 Secondary shopping frontages
- TC7 Living over the shop
- TC9 Office use in Primary Shopping Area
- TC10 Town centre amenity

Policies superseded by adopted of the Allocations and Designations Local Plan 13th July 2013 (outside the monitoring period):

- S3 Urban area boundary
- NE7 Wildlife corridors
- NE17 Open Spaces
- NE19 Wyboston Land Settlement Association
- NE21 Forest of Marston Vale
- NE22 Bedford Linear Park
- NE23 Bedford River Valley Park
- BE5 Area of Special Restraint
- BE34a Protected views
- H25 Important open space
- E4 Land west of B530
- SH5 District centre
- SH6 Local centres
- SH8 Change of use of local shops
- SH9 Loss of village shops, Pos and pubs
- SH10 New village shops, Pos and pubs
- T2 Local transportation network improvements (partially deleted 8th Oct 2008)
- T5 Motorists' facilities
- T13 Pedestrian Routes (partially deleted 8th October 2008)
- T14 Cycle routes
- T17 Park & ride facilities and town centre parking
- T18 Commercial vehicle park

- LR15 Provision of outdoor playing space for sport
- LR16 Provision of children's play space
- LR17 Provision of general amenity open space

The partially deleted policies were:

- S2 Opportunity sites
- BE1 Mixed uses
- BE2 Mixed uses in opportunity sites

The full list of saved policies can be viewed at the council's web site
http://www.bedford.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/planning_town_an
d_country/planning_policy__its_purpose/local_plan.aspx

The East of England Plan 2008 (the Regional Spatial Strategy covering
Bedford) was revoked in January 2013, along with the saved policies
from Bedfordshire Structure Plan.