

**Milton Keynes Local Development
Framework**

**Annual
Monitoring
Report 2004/05**

December 2005

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Executive Summary

This is the first Annual Monitoring Report prepared by Milton Keynes Council under the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It contains information on the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the Policies set out in the Milton Keynes Local Plan are being achieved.

Key Aspects of the Local Development Scheme.

The key stages of the programme that have been delivered this year include:

- The publication of Proposed Modifications to the Local Plan for consultation in May 2005. The replacement Milton Keynes Local plan is set to be adopted in January 2006, subject to Legal Challenge.
- The Minerals Local Plan was the subject of a Public Inquiry in October 2004 and proposed modifications were published in November 2005.
- Consultation on the draft Statement of Community Involvement is to take place in December 2005.
- Consultation on the Issues and Options for the Waste Development Plan Document was undertaken in August 2005. This early consultation has indicated that additional work will be required before the publication of a Preferred Option.
- Work on the preparation of the MK2031: Long Term Growth Plan commenced in April 2005. A launch conference was held in June 2005 and public exhibitions detailing the scope of the project ran from July – August 2005. A series of 'Spatial Growth Options' have been developed for public consultation from November 2005 to January 2006.

Key finding of the Policy Progress Section:

Key findings of the Annual Monitoring Report:

- Clear progress has been made with progressing the Local Plan through to adoption. Once adopted the new Local Plan will replace the Borough of Milton Keynes Local Plan (January 1995) in its entirety.
- A total of 1,370 new dwellings were built in Milton Keynes between April 2004 and March 2005. This figure is below the annual dwelling requirement for Milton Keynes.
- 16% of new dwellings were built on previously developed land exceeding Best Value Performance Indicator target of 15% but below the Local Plan target for 2011 of 20%.
- 446 affordable dwellings were provided during 2004/05 representing 33% of the total number of dwellings built. This exceeds the Local Plan target of 30%.
- Gaps in the data collected by the Council relating to the indicators for Transport and Biodiversity are recognised, and it is anticipated that these will be addressed in the next Annual Monitoring Report.
- Gaps in the data linked to the Community Strategy Indicators will be addressed in the next Annual Monitoring Report.

Chapter 1 - Background

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Requirements for an Annual Monitoring Report

Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS 12)

Review and monitoring are key aspects of the Government's 'plan, monitor and manage' approach to the planning system. Regulation 48 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations, 2004, requires local planning authorities to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

The Council is required to regularly monitor how effective its policies and proposals are in delivering the objectives of the Local Development Framework (LDF). This is the first Milton Keynes Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report and is based upon the period 1st April 2004 to 31st March 2005.

The report details progress of Local Development Documents against the information detailed in the MK Local Development Scheme. The report provides:

1. An update on progress in terms of LDD preparation against the targets and milestones set out in the LDS for Milton Keynes.
2. The extent to which policies in LDDs of Milton Keynes are being implemented
3. Where policies are not being implemented, an explanation why and the steps which are to be taken to ensure that the policy is implemented; or whether the policy is to be amended or replaced
4. The significant effects of implementing policies in the LDDs and whether they are as intended
5. Whether policies are to be amended or replaced.

The report details the progress made in implementing the change from the old system of plan making to the new Local Development Framework. The existing 'saved' development plan policies have been monitored, and will continue to be, to ascertain whether they are still working and to highlight priorities for replacement in future reviews of the Local Development Scheme.

1.1.2 LDF Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide

The ODPM published 'LDF Monitoring: a Good Practice Guide' to assist local authorities prepare Annual Monitoring Reports and monitor the LDF.

The guidance states that local authorities should develop clear *targets* and *indicators* as a means of ensuring effective policy implementation, monitoring and review.

The guidance provides information for the development of 3 types of target:

- a. Process targets - as part of monitoring document preparation against the milestones in the LDS
- b. Policy targets - linked to output indicators, which will provide a benchmark for measuring policy implementation.
- c. Sustainability appraisal targets - linked to the sustainability appraisal objectives and related indicators to provide a benchmark for measuring the significant effects of implementing policies.

Two types of indicators have been used in the preparation of this report:

1. Contextual Indicators – detailing the wider social, environmental & economic background against which the LDF operates. These indicators have been derived from related policy areas indicator sets including Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Community Strategy (CS) and Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs).
2. Output indicators – to assess the performance of policies by measuring quantifiable physical activities that directly relate to, and are a consequence of, the implementation of planning policies.

Data for the indicators needs to be collected on a consistent timeframe using a clearly identified set of definitions. The majority of indicators are detailed in the ODPM document “Local Development Framework monitoring: a good practice guide

1.1.3 Structure of the Annual Monitoring Report

The Annual Monitoring Report is split into several sections following the recommendations made in the ODPM good practice guide.

Chapter 1 provides contextual information relating to the Social, Economic and Environmental demographic of Milton Keynes.

Chapter 2 provides detailed information relating to the progress of the Milton Keynes Local Development Framework against the information detailed in the Local Development Scheme (2005 – 08).

Chapter 3 provides detailed data relating to the identified Core Output Indicators including Housing Trajectories.

Chapter 4 provides data relating to the Best Value Performance Indicators and Community Strategy Performance.

Chapter 5 provides data and information relating to the performance of policies in the emerging Milton Keynes Local Plan.

1.2 Contextual Indicators

1.2.1 Geographical

Milton Keynes Context

The Borough of Milton Keynes is located in the northern sector of the South East Region. Milton Keynes Borough covers both the new city of Milton Keynes and a substantial rural hinterland, including the towns of Newport Pagnell, Olney and Woburn Sands, plus several villages as shown in Figure 1.

Milton Keynes has been one of the fastest growing urban areas in the UK. In the last 30 years the population has grown from 40,000 to its current level estimated at 216,850 in June 2004. The city benefits from its excellent location midway between London and Birmingham, and its connections to the M1 Motorway and West Coast Mainline trains service. It's position at the centre of the Oxford to Cambridge Arc offers great opportunities for the future growth of the MK economy.

Milton Keynes was designated as a new town in 1967. A master plan was drawn up in 1970 by consultants, led by Llewelyn Davies and the plan was implemented by the Milton Keynes Development Corporation until 1992.

Eight million people live within an hour's drive of the city and the area has evolved into a major shopping and recreational leisure destination.

The government has identified Milton Keynes and the surrounding South Midlands area as the location for major new housing development as part of its Sustainable Communities Plan. The City will continue to expand with in the region of 70,000 more homes added by the year 2031 creating a vibrant city-region with a population of over 300,000.

The Council publishes an annual Milton Keynes population atlas available at www.mkobservatory.org.uk . This provides further contextual information for MK.

The role of Milton Keynes Partnership

The Milton Keynes Partnership Committee (MKPC) was established in 2004 to bring forward growth and development in the new city and to determine major planning applications in the designated Urban Development Areas (UDA).

For further information relating to the role of MKPC please go to: <http://www.mkweb.co.uk/mkpartnership/home.asp>

Milton Keynes Partnership is responsible for leading work on the MK2031 – Long term growth plan which will provide much of the evidence base for the

preparation of the Milton Keynes Local Development Framework. The preparation of the MK2031: Long Term Growth Plan commenced in April 2005. A launch conference was held in June 2005 and public exhibitions detailing the scope of the project ran from July – August 2005. A series of ‘Spatial Growth Options’ have been developed for public consultation from November 2005 to January 2006. It is anticipated that the MK:2031 Long Term Growth Plan will conclude in July 2006.

Figure 1 – Milton Keynes Borough
(Source: Milton Keynes Council Corporate Plan 2005-08)



1.2.2 Demographic structure

Population

Population of Milton Keynes at Designation 1967: **60,000**
Population of Milton Keynes June 2004: **216,850**
Population Projected in 2011: **255,760**

Figure 2 - Population breakdown based on 2001 Census

(Source: MKi Observatory - Census 2001 Data)

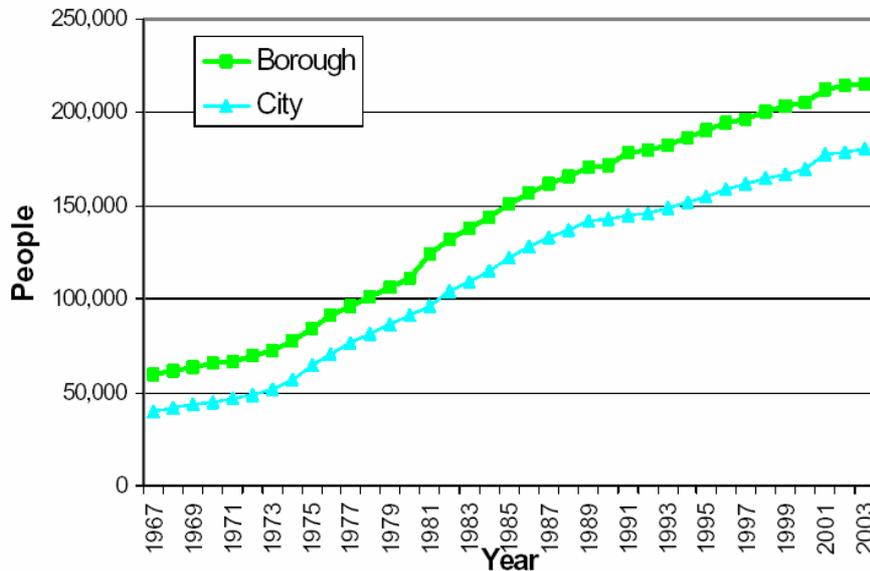
Age Range	Males	Females	Total
0-4	7,303	7,064	14,367
5-15	17,174	15,889	33,063
16-17	3,067	2,737	5,804
18-19	2,614	2,357	4,971
20-24	6,244	6,307	12,551
25-44	33,338	33,874	67,212
45-59	20,332	19,893	40,225
60-64	3,843	3,745	7,588
65-74	5,291	6,087	11,378
75 & over	3,638	6,260	9,898
Totals	102,844	104,213	207,057

Population Growth

- The Borough of Milton Keynes is one of the fastest growing districts in the country.
- Between 1981 and 2001, the population of the Borough increased by 64.4%, compared to 5% for England. Most of the population growth is focused in the new city.

Figure 3 – Milton Keynes Past Population Growth

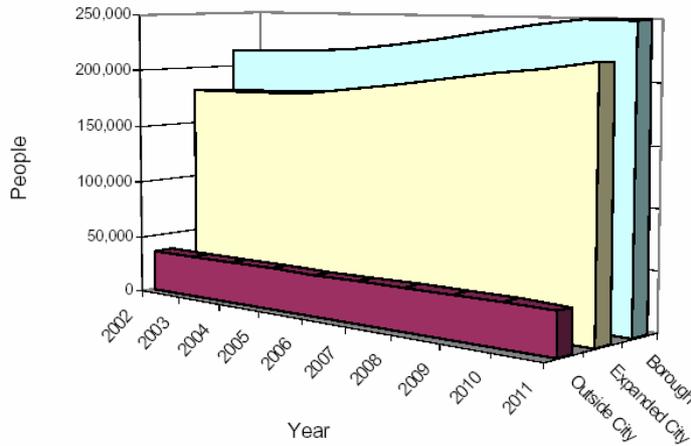
(Source: Milton Keynes Population Bulletin 2004/05)



Future population growth

- The high rate of population growth experienced up to now in Milton Keynes is expected to continue. By 2011, it is estimated that the population of the Borough will increase by an additional 18% to 255,760.
- The majority of this growth will continue to occur in the expanded city, which is expected to reach a population of 219,310 by 2011, as shown in figure 4.

Figure 4 – Future Population Growth in Milton Keynes
(Source: Milton Keynes Population Bulletin 2004/05)

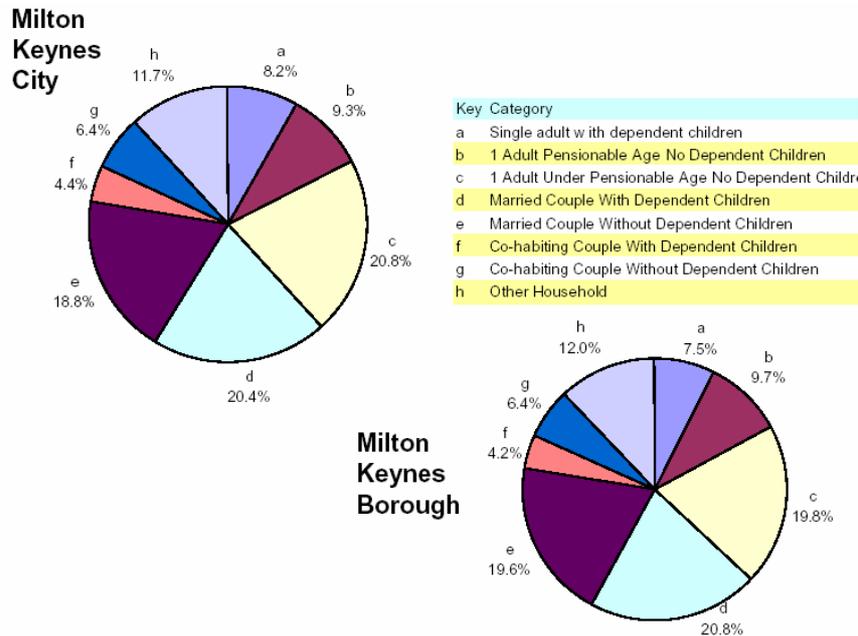


Source: Milton Keynes Population Model November 2004

Household Types

The 2001 Census gives information on household composition in Milton Keynes.

Figure 5 – Household composition of Milton Keynes City/Borough
(Source: Milton Keynes Population Bulletin 2004/05)



Between 1991 and 2001, in the new city:

- The number of families with two or more adults and dependent children decreased by about 5%;
- Single parent families increased by 2.6%, taking the total above the national average of 6.5%.
- Single person households now account for 27% of all households in the Borough, almost 10% of which contain a single elderly person.

Ethnic composition

Figure 6 – Ethnic Composition of Milton Keynes, 2001

(Source: Milton Keynes Population Bulletin 2004/05)

Ethnic Composition Milton Keynes 2001		Persons	%
White	British	179,694	86.8
	Irish	2,918	1.4
	Other White	5,240	2.5
Mixed Ethnicity		3,716	1.8
Asian or Asian British	Indian	3,967	1.9
	Pakistani	1,682	0.8
	Bangladeshi	1,072	0.5
	Other Asian	850	0.4
Black or Black British	Caribbean	1,956	0.9
	African	2,596	1.3
	Other Black	434	0.2
Chinese or other ethnic group	Chinese	1,835	0.9
	Other ethnic group	1,097	0.5
Total		207,057	100

Figure 6 shows that in 2001:

- Black and minority ethnic groups represent 13.2% of the population of Milton Keynes. 9.3% of the population considered themselves to be non-white. (This compared to 5.8% in 1991 Census).
- Asian groups were the biggest minority ethnic group of which over 50% were Indian.
- Black or Black British ethnic groups accounted for 2.4% of the population of Milton Keynes.
- The Chinese groups accounted for 0.9% of the population of Milton Keynes (compared to the figure for England of 0.45%).

Occupational Groups

The occupational groups of the economically active population of Milton Keynes, as at the 2001 Census, are shown below.

Figure 7 – Occupational Groups in Milton Keynes/ England & Wales 2001

(Source: MKi Observatory)

Occupational Group	Total Population MK	% MK	% England & Wales
Age 16 – 74	108,075		
Managers and Senior Officials	17,988	16.6%	15.1%
Professional Occupations	12,307	11.4%	11.2%
Associate, Professional & Technical Occupations	14,259	13.2%	13.8%
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	16,048	14.9%	13.3%
Skilled Trades Occupations	10,124	9.4%	11.6%
Personal Service Occupations	5,431	5.0%	6.9%
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	9,442	8.7%	7.7%
Process; Plant and Machine Operatives	8,300	7.7%	8.5%
Elementary Occupations	14,176	13.1%	11.9%

Figure 7, shows that in 2001:

- The largest occupational group was Managers and Senior Officials, accounting for 16.6% of the economically active population.
- The smallest occupational group was Personal Service occupations, accounting for only 5% of the economically active population.

1.2.3 Socio-cultural issues

Crime rates

Figure 8- Crime rates per 1000 population 2003 - 04

(Source: <http://www.crimestatistics.org.uk>)

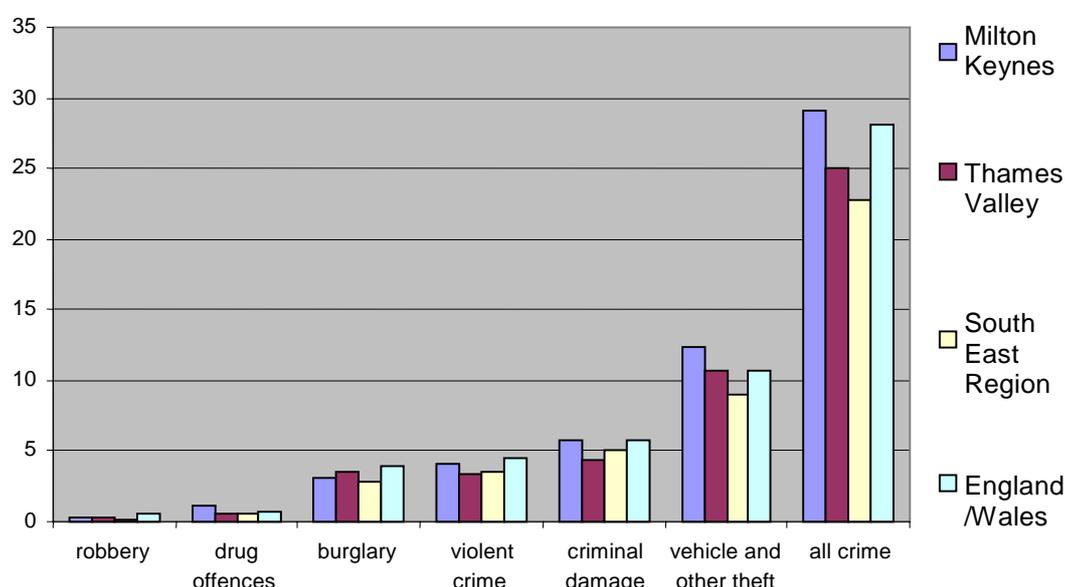


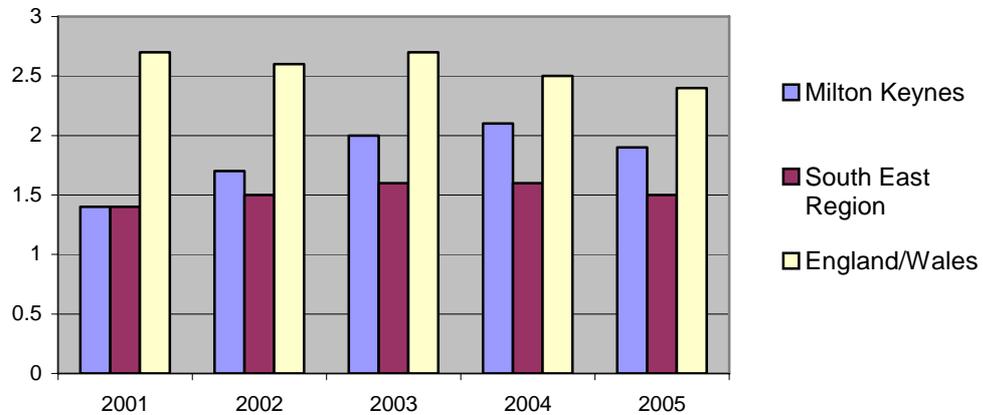
Figure 8 shows that:

- In 2003/04 the total crime rate in Milton Keynes was slightly above national average.
- The drug offences rate per 1000 population was significantly high at 1.18 in comparison to the national level of 0.68 (74% higher).
- The total crime rate in Milton Keynes at 29.08 was 27% higher than that of the South East at 22.83.
- The total crime rate in Milton Keynes was also 16% higher than that of Thames Valley at 24.98.

Unemployment level

Figure 9 – Unemployment in Milton Keynes: Claimants Rate 2001 - 2005

(Source: MKi Observatory)



Analysis of data from figure 9 shows that:

- Claimants rate in Milton Keynes fell from 2.1 in 2004 to 1.9 in 2005.
- Average unemployment rate for period 2001 –2005 in Milton Keynes was 29 per cent lower than the national average but above the average for the South East region.

Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) is a measure of multiple deprivation at the small area level, shown as a score and rank. The lower the rank the more deprived an area is.

The average IMD Score for the Borough of Milton Keynes in 2004 was 15.56 (Score: Social Atlas 2005)

Figure 10 below shows the twenty most deprived areas of Milton Keynes.

Figure 10 – IMD: Most deprived areas in Milton Keynes 2004

(Source: Office of Deputy Prime Minister)

Area	IMD Score	IMD Rank
Beanhill	49.4	1.0
Netherfield	46.8	2.0
Coffee Hall	44.8	3.0
Leadenhall	43.9	4.0
Tinkers Bridge	39.6	5.0
Fishermead	36.6	6.0
Hodge Lea	32.8	8.0
Fullers Slade	31.5	9.0
Central Milton Keynes	29.3	11.0
Conniburrow	28.7	12.0
Grange Farm	27.7	13.0
Medbourne	27.7	13.0
Ashland	27.2	15.0
Granby	27.2	15.0
New Bradwell	26.1	18.0
Eaglestone	25.0	19.0
Greenleys	24.8	21.0
Central Bletchley	20.4	24.0
Peartree Bridge	20.4	22.0
Bradville	19.9	26.0

The IMD score of the most deprived areas are all greater than the average IMD Score for Milton Keynes.

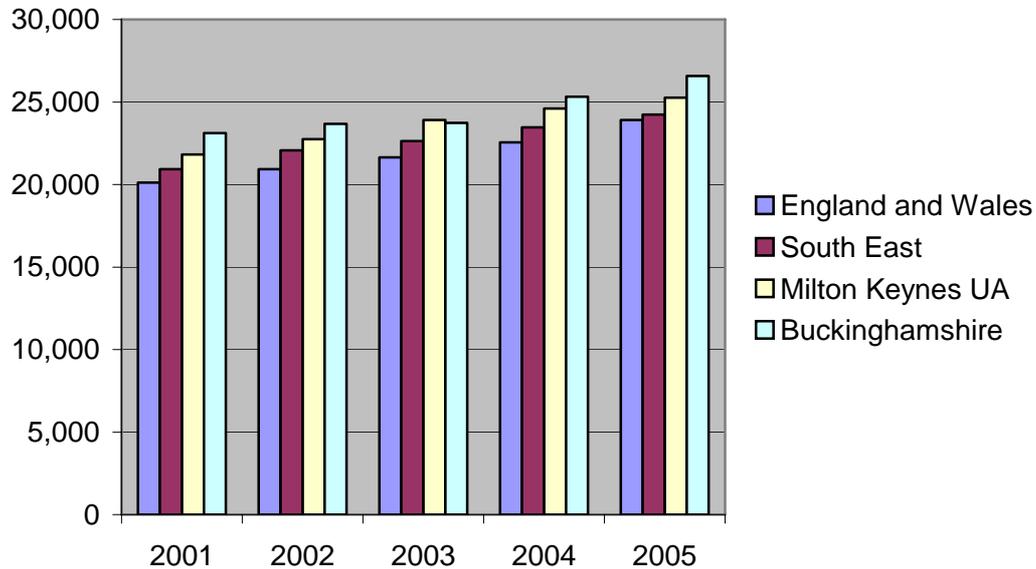
Milton Keynes Council has identified the estates of Beanhill, Coffee Hall and Tinkers Bridge as a focus for a regeneration and social inclusion pilot to try and address the problems of multiple deprivation in these areas.

1.2.4 Economy

Household income

Figure 11 – Average (mean) Annual Earnings for period 2001 – 2005

(Source: www.statistics.gov.uk - Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings)



Analysis of the data for the period 2001 – 2005 shows that:

- The average gross annual earnings in Milton Keynes were 8% higher than the average for England and Wales and 4% higher than the average for the South East.
- However in comparison to Buckinghamshire, the average gross annual earnings in Milton Keynes were more than 3% lower.

House price level

Figure 12 – Average house prices for properties in Milton Keynes

(Source: MKC Quarterly Monitoring Report Jan / Mar 05)

Type of Property	New Houses		Second-hand houses		Market Rent per month unfurnished	
	Oct 04	Apr 05	Oct 04	Apr 05	Oct 04	Apr 05
1 bed flat	165,995	132,995	104,810	108,115	445	450
2 bed house/2-3 bed flat with parking	150,000	147,000	128,850	119,890	600	595
3 bed semi/terraced/town house	221,995	237,695	196,000	180,625	695	715
3 bed detached house	N/A	N/A	250,025	196,650	740	745
4 bed detached (single garage)	256,050	263,000	256,615	217,500	840	765
4+ bed luxury (double garage)	406,690	429,535	417,550	404,735	1675	1330
1-2 bed executive apartment	151,270	152,455	160,960	191,405	755	680
4+ bed town house (garage)	334,330	N/A	246,150	213,490	1275	1095
National Average	203,166	N/A	186,822	N/A	N/A	N/A

Figure 12 above shows the following trends between October 04 and April 05:

- A **decrease** in the price of new housing for properties of type:
 - i) 1 bed flats;
 - ii) 2 bed houses / 2–3 bed flats with parking
- An increase in the price of new housing for all other property types.
- An **increase** in the price of second hand housing for properties of type:
 - i) 1 bed flats;
 - ii) 1–2 bed executive apartments
- A decrease in the price of second hand housing for all other property types.
- An **increase** in the market rent for properties of type:
 - i) 1 bed flat;
 - ii) 3 bed semi/detached/townhouse;
 - iii) 3 bed detached
- A decrease in the market rent for all other property types.

Chapter 2 - Progress on LDF & LDS Implementation

This section reviews progress in implementing the Council's first Local Development Scheme 2004 - 2005. In reviewing progress, it also proposes minor amendments to some of the LDS milestones or key stages in the preparation of new planning documents. These are mainly the result of a better understanding of the resource implications of the new processes emerging as work commences. The Council anticipate submitting a revised Local Development Scheme to the Government Office in March 2006.

2.1 Overview

Regional / Sub-regional progress.

Regional Spatial Strategy 9 - the South East Plan was published for consultation by SEERA in January 2005. The South East Plan covers Milton Keynes and the whole of the South East. It is anticipated that the South East Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State in Spring 2006.

The Milton Keynes and South Midlands sub-regional strategy (SRS) was adopted in March 2005 and provides the basis for the preparation of the South East Plan and the new Local Development Framework. The RSS and SRS detail how many homes are needed to meet the future needs of people in the region, policies for the location of employment, and safeguarding the environment.

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

The first Milton Keynes Local Development Scheme was submitted to the Government Office in March 2005. The Local Development Scheme detailed the transitional arrangement in Milton Keynes between the 'old' and the 'new' system.

Project Management and Responsibilities

The Development Plans Team is responsible for the development and preparation of the Local Development Framework in Milton Keynes. Other internal departments (such as Urban Design, Transport Policy etc.) and outside agencies assist with the preparation of documents as required. The Development Plans team liaise closely with these teams to ensure that documents are identified in the Local Development Scheme, undergo all statutory and Council procedures and are set to realistic and deliverable timetables.

Replacement Milton Keynes Local Plan progress

A key priority identified in the LDS is the completion and adoption of the Milton Keynes Local Plan. The emerging Local Plan is set for adoption in January 2006, subject to legal challenge. Once adopted the new Local Plan (2006) will replace the Adopted Borough of Milton Keynes Local Plan (1995) in its

entirety. Under the interim arrangements of the new Planning System all policies in the new Local Plan will be saved in their entirety. The LDS will be updated to reflect this change.

Minerals Local Plan progress

The Second Deposit Minerals Local Plan was published in February 2004 and was the subject of a Public Inquiry in October 2004. Proposed Modifications were published in November 2005 with an anticipated adoption date of May 2006.

Figure 13 - Status of MK Local Planning Documents

Document	Status	Date of Adoption	Amend LDF?
Borough of Milton Keynes Local Plan	Adopted	January 1995	Remove from LDF
Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Buckinghamshire	Adopted	January 1995	No change
Replacement Milton Keynes Local Plan	In preparation	Estimated late 2005	Amend status in LDF
MK Minerals Local Plan	In preparation	Estimated mid 2006.	Update LDF
Waste Local Plan for Buckinghamshire	Adopted	March 1997	No change,

2.2 Progress of Milton Keynes LDF 2004/05.

Figure 14 – LDF Progress

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	Development Plans team - Milton Keynes Council.			
<i>Timetable</i>	STAGE	LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST MILESTONES	PROPOSED TIMETABLE 2006-09
	Early stakeholder & community engagement	February - May 2005	Meetings with MKP Officers, Community Involvement Officer, and relevant MKC officers January – April.	
	Consultation: draft SCI	June / July 2005	Consultation Questionnaire to all Local Plan contacts June. Audit of consultation activities and consultancy advice June – October	Consultation on full draft of SCI in December 2005 – January 2006
	Submission to SoS	April 2006	No change.	
	Pre-examination meeting	September 2006	No change.	
	Examination	October 2006	No change.	
	Estimated adoption	April 2007	No change.	
Progress towards milestones	Progress towards early milestones hampered by conflicting priorities (e.g. Local Plan Proposed Modifications) and delay in staff appointments within DP team. However 1 st LDS timetable on SCI production assumed reporting to Cabinet to approve draft and submission SCI. This is now not proposed as SCI is not a DPD.			
Amend LDS? Reason	– Amend consultation dates on draft SCI for the reasons stated above. Estimated submission date still remains realistic.			

WASTE DPD				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	Minerals and Waste planning team in conjunction with the Council's Waste Strategy Department – Milton Keynes Council.			
Timetable	STAGE	DATES AS SET OUT IN LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST LDS TIMETABLE	REVISED TIMETABLE
	Early stakeholder & community engagement	April 2005	Achieved (continuous from Dec 2004).	
	Consultation: Issues and Options	October 2005	15 Aug – 30 Sept 2005.	Update LDS.
	Public participation: Preferred Options & Proposals	April 2006	See note below.	June 2006
	Submission to SoS	January 2007		January 2007
	Pre-examination meeting	July 2007		July 2007
	Examination	September 2007		September 2007
	Estimated adoption	February 2008		February 2008
Progress towards milestones	Background studies undertaken and early stakeholder engagement carried out with the Waste Forum, Council Members and a Citizens Advice Group on Waste. Issues and Options Paper presented for consultation with the Municipal Waste Strategy in August 2005. Evaluation of the results will be reported at Cabinet on 20 December 2005.			
Amend LDS? – Reason	LDS timetable needs amending as detailed. Early consultation has indicated that additional work will be required before Preferred Option Stage. Timetable has been amended accordingly.			

WOLVERTON AREA ACTION PLAN DPD				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	Development Plans team - Milton Keynes Council are responsible for leading the work on the Development Plan Document with additional support from the Urban Design & Landscape Architecture team, Wolverton Unlimited and a number of other stakeholder agencies.			
Timetable	STAGE	DATES AS SET OUT IN LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST LDS TIMETABLE	REVISED TIMETABLE
	Early stakeholder & community engagement	May / June 2005	Not met (see below)	July 2005
	Consultation: Issues and Options	May / October 2005	Not met (see below)	February/March 2006
	Public participation: Preferred Options & Proposals	April / May 2006		September/October 2006
	Submission to SoS	March 2007		April 2007
	Pre-examination meeting	July 2007		July 2007
	Examination	September 2007		September 2007
	Estimated adoption	March 2008		March 2008
Progress towards milestones	Production of the Issues and Options paper delayed due to staff involvement in the Local Plan process and unresolved site specific issues within the Wolverton AAP area.			
Amend LDS? Reason	- Amend LDS to reflect above delay with consequential effect on following dates.			

STANTONBURY PARK SPD				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	Development Plans Team – Milton Keynes Council with additional input from the Urban Design & Landscape Architecture team and the corporate Consultation team. Externally support for public involvement with the Primary Care Trust and a local secondary school. Site developer has provided resources in terms of background technical studies.			
Timetable	STAGE	DATES AS SET OUT IN LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST LDS TIMETABLE	REVISED TIMETABLE
	Preparation	March – September 2005	Timetable met (see note below).	April – July 2005.
	Public participation on draft SPD	November / December 2005	Consultation on draft SPD (Development Brief) Sept – Nov 2005. Consultation on SA/SEA Nov – Dec 2005.	
	Estimated adoption	March 2006	On target - subject to adoption of Local Plan.	
Progress towards milestones	Following approval of Local Development Scheme loss of key personnel from the Council's Urban Design team delayed the production of draft LDS. MKC worked with developer on a programme of public consultation on the Local Plan Modification and an outline planning application. Outline application submitted to MKC in September 2005 including a Development Brief. Brief will be progressed by MKC as SPD (in order to meet the requirements of Policy EA1 in the Local Plan). Formal SA/SEA being undertaken and consulted on by MKC.			
Amend LDS? Reason	- Amend dates to reflect achieved progress but estimated adoption date remains realistic.			

CMK – CORE AREA SPD (formerly known as HEART OF THE CITY MASTERPLAN SPD)				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	The CMK Team at Milton Keynes Partnership manage the production of this document in consultation with a joint MKP/MKC officer team.			
Timetable	STAGE	DATES AS SET OUT IN LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST LDS TIMETABLE	REVISED TIMETABLE
	Preparation	March – June 2005	Preparation commenced in early 2005 but delay in production of draft SPD (see note below).	March – December 2005
	Public participation on draft SPD	August – September 2005	Early stakeholder participation achieved, but formal public participation to be undertaken in early 2006.	March 2006
	Estimated adoption	December 2005	Revised date (See below).	July 2006.
Progress towards milestones	Early stakeholder involvement achieved, but progress towards publication of draft SPD delayed as further work required to address issues identified through the early stakeholder involvement.			
Amend LDS? Reason	- Change name of SPD to reflect revised boundary of SPD and to conform with the MK Local Plan and CMK Development Framework. Amend LDS to reflect revised timetable.			

Figure 15 - Proposed new Supplementary Planning Documents for inclusion in Local Development Scheme 2006 – 2009

SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE FOR POLICY D4 SPD				
<i>Arrangements for production</i>	Development Plans team - Milton Keynes Council are responsible for leading the work in consultation with MKP.			
Timetable	STAGE	DATES AS SET OUT IN LDS 2005 – 2008	PROGRESS AGAINST LDS TIMETABLE	REVISED TIMETABLE
	Preparation	n/a		September – Dec 2005.
	Public participation on draft SPD	n/a		January 2006.
	Estimated adoption	n/a		April 2006.
Progress towards milestones	Document to be proposed for inclusion within MK Local Development Scheme 2006 – 2009.			
Amend LDS? – Justification.	This document is listed in the Local Plan as a requirement for the successful implementation of D4. The preparatory work for the production of the draft is reasonably advanced and the Council is confident that the benefits of producing this document as SPD outweigh the disbenefits of non-production. The productions			

It is anticipated that during 2006/07 work will commence on the production of a Milton Keynes Urban Development Area Tariff Supplementary Planning Document but as yet the proposed approach to the delivery has yet to be agreed with the ODPM. It is therefore not possible to say with certainty the timetable for the production of the document and it is therefore not included within this document. The review of the MK Local Development Scheme will detail the latest position.

Developing the Evidence Base

The review of the Local Development Scheme will set out a programme of study and research that the Council intends to undertake over the next few years to help develop its Evidence Base for the production of the MK LDF.

2.3 Progress of MK2031

- 2.3.1 Work on the production of the MK2031: Long term sustainable growth plan commenced in April 2005. A launch conference was held in June 2005 and public exhibitions detailing the scope of the project ran from July – August 2005. Following this period of early stakeholder engagement a series of technical ‘Directions Papers’ were produced for comment. Building on the evidence base set out in the Direction Papers a series of ‘Spatial Growth Options’ have been developed for public consultation from November 2005 to January 2006.
- 2.3.2 A Preferred Option paper is to be developed following consultation on the ‘Spatial Option’ paper. Consultation on a preferred option is timetabled for consultation in May 2006. It is anticipated that the MK:2031 Long Term Growth Plan will conclude in July 2006.

2.4 Proposed Amendments to MK LDS 2006 – 2009.

- 2.4.1 It is not proposed to significantly amend the documents listed in the subject to the comments of the Government Office and the Secretary of State. The Scheme will be updated to reflect the minor amendments to the timetables for the production of SPD.
- 2.4.2 A new Supplementary Planning Document on supplementary guidance for Policy D4 is proposed to be introduced into the review of the Local Development Scheme. The Council is also anticipating undertaking work on an SPD linked to the proposed MK Tariff but as yet this timetable has yet to be agreed.
- 2.4.3 A review of the LDS will take place in the New Year and it is proposed that a revised scheme will be submitted to the Secretary of State in March 2006. The Local Development Scheme will provide further information relating to the production of the Core Strategy and the development of the MK Local Development Framework.

Chapter 3 - Core Output Indicators

This section details information collected on the core output indicators as identified in the ODPM guidance: Local Development Monitoring (2005). Core output indicators are used to monitor economical, environmental and physical change against the implementation of planning policies and LDF targets. The majority of core output indicators detail information collected during the period 1st April 2004 – 31st March 2005.

In cases where a gap in data collected by the Council has been identified; these are detailed and should be addressed in the next Annual Monitoring Report.

3.1 Business Development

3.1.1 Amount of floorspace developed for employment by type

**Figure 16 – Amount of floorspace developed for employment
Period April 2004 - March 2005**

(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Floor Space Loss (m2)	Floor Space Gain (m2)
B1(a)	1,010	31,418
B1(b)	0	0
B1(c)	9,160	463
B2	25,580	25,243
B8	6,083	33,383
Total	41,833	90,507

Figure 16 indicates Use Classes B1(a) and B8 constituted the highest floorspace developed for employment.

3.1.2 Amount of land developed for employment, by type, which is in development and/or regeneration areas defined in the local development framework.

**Figure 17 – Amount of land developed for employment, Development Areas Period
April 2004 – March 2005**

(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Floor Space Loss (m2)	Floor Space Gain (m2)
B1(a)	1,010	30,785
B1(b)	0	0
B1(c)	0	463
B2	25,580	25,243
B8	6,083	31,232
Total	32,673	87,723

Figure 17 indicates that:

- The majority of development took place within areas allocated for employment in Milton Keynes Local Plan (table1b).
- Almost 37 per cent of all development has been recorded as warehouse development (B8). Office development (B1a) accounted for 35 per cent of all completed floor space.

3.1.3 Percentage of land developed for employment, by type, which is on previously developed land.

Figure 18 – Percentage of land developed for employment on brownfield sites
(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Total Floor Space Brownfield Sites (m2)	% of Brown field Development as a total of all sites
B1 (a)	30,738	98%
B1 (b)	0	0
B1 (c)	463	100%
B2	19,907	79%
B8	17,181	51%
Total	68,289	

3.1.4 Employment Land Supply by type

Figure 19 - Sites defined and allocated in the local plan (as at Oct 2005)
(Source: Local Plan Monitoring)

Use Class	Total employment land supply (hectares)	% of employment land supply
B1¹	64.4	6.9%
B1/B8	14.7	1.6%
B2/B8	252.7	27.1%
B1/B2/B8	601.23	64.4%
Total	933.03	100%

Figure 19 shows the amount of land that was available for employment use.

¹ Milton Keynes Local Plan does not specify B1a, B1b and B1c classes and most of sites are not allocated only for one class use.

**Figure 20 - Sites for which planning permission has been granted
(March 2004 – April 2005)**
(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Floor Space Gain (m2)	Sites Area (ha)
B1(a)	44834	53.41
B1(b)	715	
B1(c)	787	
B2	17147	1.70
B8	25080	10.82
B1/B2	N/a	0.12
B1/B8	N/a	15.68
B1/B2/B8	N/a	12.39

3.1.5 Losses of employment land

Figure 21 – Loss of employment land due to completion of development
(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring, Milton Keynes Local Plan, 2002)

Use Class	Loss within Borough (m2)	Loss within employment area defined and allocated in the local plan (m2)
	due to completion of development	
B1a	3568	3239
B1b	0	0
B1c	0	0
B2	5996.5	5568
B8	10300	0

Figure 22 – Loss of employment land due to sites with planning permission
(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring, Milton Keynes Local Plan, 2002)

Use Class	Loss within Borough (m2)	Loss within employment area defined and allocated in the local plan (m2)
	Sites for which planning permission has been granted	
B1a	5972	4612
B1b	0	0
B1c	0	0
B2	282	0
B8	0	0

3.1.6 Amount of employment land lost to residential development

Figure 23 - The amount of employment land lost to completed residential development in 2004/2005.

(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Loss of employment land to residential development (m2)	
	due to completion of development	Sites for which planning permission has been granted
B1a	0	304
B1b	0	0
B1c	0	0
B2	356	0
B8	0	0

Figure 23 indicates that for the period Apr 2004 – March 2005 the amount of floor space loss from employment to residential development due to completion was 356 sq m. This loss was all from Use Class B2.

The table also shows that the amount of floor space lost from employment to residential development where planning permission has been granted but not yet developed is 304 sq m. This loss will be from Use Class B1(a).

3.2 Housing

3.2.1 Housing Trajectory

During the last monitoring year (April 2004 – March 2005) a total of **1370** new dwellings were built. There were 10 losses to the overall dwelling stock as a result of demolition and re-builds.

Figure 25 shows the Council's proposed housing trajectory and the associated table details the Council's approach to the development of a deliverable housing trajectory. The accompanying methodology shows how these figures have been derived. Figure 25 also provides an analysis of the trajectory. It reveals a constant undersupply of dwellings during the period of 2001-2011.

The red "**monitor**" line shows how many dwellings above or below the planned rate is being delivered in MK at any point in time. The areas where the trend line moves below 0 the strategy is under delivering relative to its requirement.

The Orange "**manage**" line represents the annual number of completions needed to meet the strategic plan total, taking into account any shortfalls or surpluses from both previous and future years.

Figure 26 identifies major sites of 200 or more dwellings with current planning permissions / allocations on a site by site basis and an anticipated yield. A total for all other sites below 200 dwellings is included in the table for completeness.

Methodology

Following an analysis of past trends the Council considers it over optimistic and unrealistic to achieve the maximum potential level of housing delivery in the short term and has therefore developed what it considers as a more realistic estimation of delivery over the next 15 years.

The requirements of this amended delivery are still extremely challenging and will require a significant increase in current building rates.

The maximum potential completions line in the following table details the total number of sites with planning permission and allocations identified for delivery in Milton Keynes. The maximum potential completions figure was derived from the forecast set for each active scheme by MKC, MKP and private developers each year. The Projected Completion rate adjusts the maximum potential delivery by deflating individual site forecasts by 25%. Monitoring has shown that this has been the average overestimate which has been evidenced since 2001.

	Actual	Estimate	% of target
2001 -02	1231	1506	81.73971
2002 -03	1183	1494	79.1834
2003 -04	1133	1538	73.6671
2004 -05	1370	1902	72.02944
	1229.25	1610	76.35093
Round to 75% in projection			

Whilst forecasts for years 2011-2016 cannot as yet be set the current Local Plan allocation at 2011, assuming targets are achieved, will see 15,820 dwellings remaining to be built. To conclude the actual completions forecast 2001 - 2016 is 32,757 against an actual target of 35,100. There is therefore a shortfall against target of 2343 using the above methodology.

Housing delivery

The Council recognises the importance of improving the delivery of housing in Milton Keynes from current levels.

The accompanying information shows that there are sufficient sites with planning permission to deliver the Local Plan level of housing requirement. There are therefore other reasons why housing delivery is below the levels required.

To address (amongst other things) delivery issues the MK Joint Housing Delivery Team (JHDT) was set up in 2002. It comprises officers from MKC, MKPC, the Housing Corporation and the Government Office for the South East. The team meets monthly to review the progress on all new housing projects across Milton Keynes. It looks at all opportunities and mechanisms to improve annual output by

delivering faster and increasing on site capacity. JHDT develops detailed programmes for the joint delivery of key projects including master planning, planning applications, site preparation and marketing.

The work of the JHDT can already be shown to be addressing the delivery issue as in April 2004 the number of houses under construction and starts on site were 917 and 1,115 respectively. In April 2005 the figures had increased to 1,577 homes under construction and 2,030 starts.

Another factor that should be acknowledged and will aid the delivery of housing will be the adoption of the Milton Keynes Local Plan which will provide the certainty the development industry requires.

In addition to this work the Council is exploring the opportunity to ascertain more detailed information from the land owners and developers of sites in MK to work towards increasing delivery. Over the next monitoring year, the Council will be seeking to develop information relating to strategic housing sites and to identify any significant constraints to the delivery of housing development and explore information to resolve these barriers.

Figure 24 below details recent extant permissions trends.

Figure 24 - Extant Permissions Trends

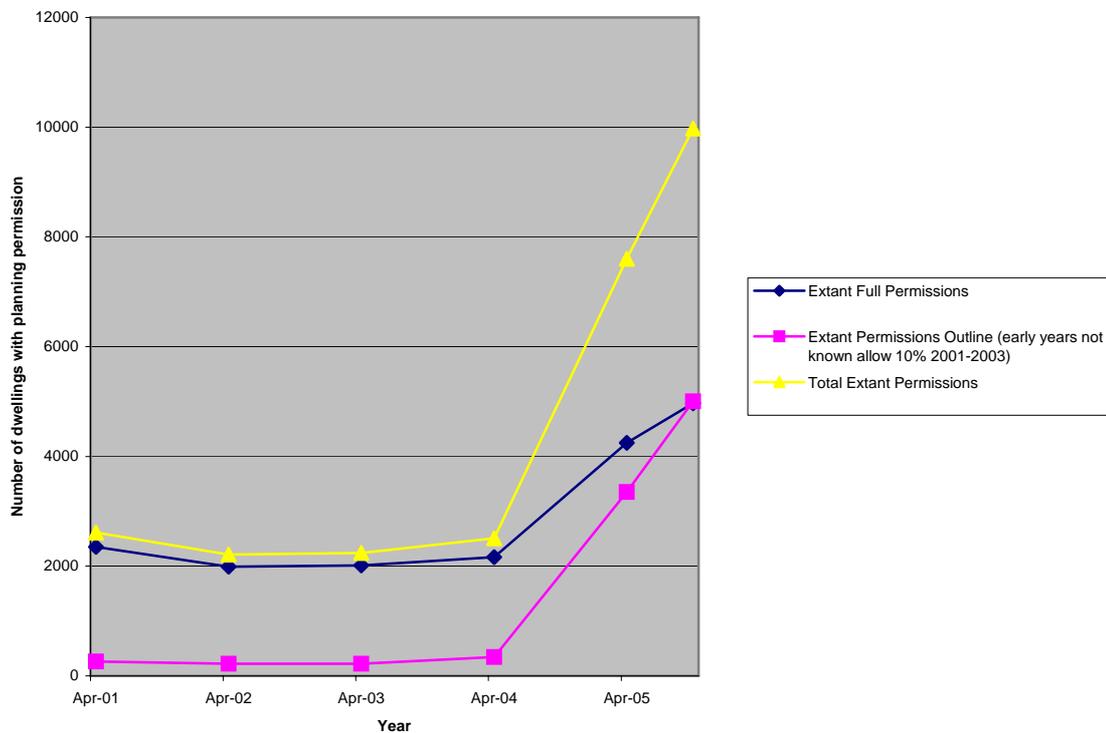


Figure 25a – Housing Trajectory

	2001/2	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Past Completions	1231	1183	1133	1360											
Projected Completions * 6					1550	2100	2900	2800	2800	2700	2600	2600	2600	2600	2600
Cumulative Completions	1231	2414	3547	4907	6457	8557	11457	14257	17057	19757	22357	24957	27557	30157	32757
PLAN - Strategic Allocation (annualised) *9	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2410	2200	2200	2200	2200	2200
MONITOR - No. dwellings above or below cumulative allocation	-1179	-2406	-3683	-4733	-5593	-5903	-5413	-5023	-4633	-4343	-3943	-3543	-3143	-2743	-2343
MANAGE - Annual requirement taking account of past/projected completions	2340	2419	2514	2629	2745	2864	2949	2955	2978	3007	3069	3186	3381	3772	4943
Maximum Potential Completions *5					2055	2847	3905	3678	3789	3572	3500	3500	3500	3500	3500
How Projected Completions are derived *6															
Projection Using 75% of potential completions					1541.3	2135	2928.8	2758.5	2841.8	2679	2625	2625	2625	2625	2625
Projection Using 75% of potential completions - Rounded					1550	2100	2900	2800	2800	2700	2600	2600	2600	2600	2600

Figure 25b – Housing Trajectories

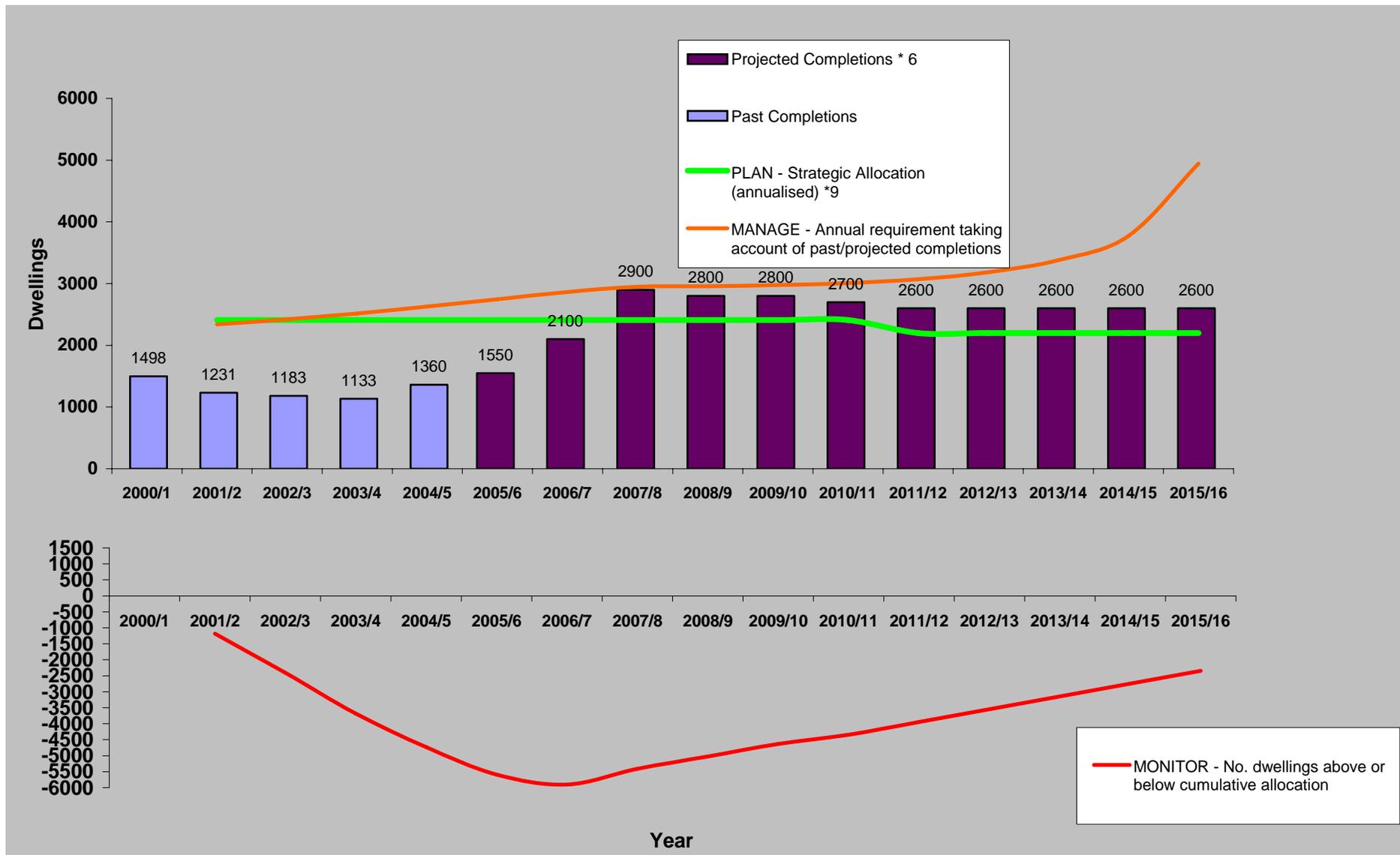


Figure 26 - Major Sites

	2001/2	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11
PART 1 SUMMARY BY TYPE *2 pre deflation										
Small scale unidentified windfalls *11					88	83	77	22	7	3
Large scale unidentified windfalls * 11					188	665	677	238	0	0
Total from windfall sites					276	748	754	260	7	3
Strategic Site/Local Plan Sites *3					1779	2099	3151	3418	3782	3569
PART 2 DETAILED PROJECTED SITE COMPLETIONS *2										
ASHLAND					20	80	119	141	0	0
BLETCHLEY NEWTON LEYS					0	0	200	200	200	200
BLETCHLEY PARK/MK COLLEGE					0	36	50	100	75	100
BROUGHTON					243	449	212	0	0	0
REMAINDER OF CAMPBELL PARK					0	0	243	202	270	292
CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES					0	352	528	200	285	275
EASTERN EXPANSION AREA					0	200	350	350	619	619
GRANGE FARM					117	52	6	6	3	3
KINGSMEAD					22	0	72	144	144	122
MONKSTON PARK					298	171	12	6	0	0
NORTHERN EXPANSION AREA					0	50	152	152	101	0
OAKGROVE					0	0	200	320	280	320
OAKHILL					91	81	0	0	0	0
OXLEY PARK					55	100	254	256	245	378
STANTONBURY PARK FARM					0	0	0	100	100	150
TATTENHOE PARK					0	0	57	196	250	250
WESTCROFT					283	94	39	65	0	0
WESTERN EXPANSION AREA NORTHERN SCENARIO					0	30	250	400	600	700
WILLEN PARK - GYOSEI SCHOOL					0	62	355	91	0	0
NAMPAK AND ADJOINING LAND					0	0	30	100	100	0
WOLVERTON					10	115	177	260	298	110
Total all Sites Under 200					677	975	599	389	219	53
Completions 2005/06 Not accounted for*4a					239					

Footnotes:

*1 This table includes all sites which have a valid planning permission or have been allocated within the Local Plan, this includes windfall sites, it does not proffer a windfall estimate.

*2 The sites shown at the top of the table, PART 1, show windfall allocations from committed windfall sites, for information. PART 1 is for information only and is not used in the calculations associated with this table. On no account should these be calculated in the overall totals as this would lead to double counting.

*3 Strategic Sites - Local Plan Sites - this line summarises potential development rates on all Local Plan sites.

*4 As we have had scheme completions to date in 2005/06 completions on those schemes must be added to the potential completions for the remaining schemes to give an overall 2005/06 figure.

*5 The Maximum Potential Completions are derived from the forecast set for each active scheme by MKC, MKP and private developers each year.

*6 The projected completions are derived by taking 75% of the maximum potential completions estimated across all sites. This is based upon what has been estimated and achieved in the past using actual's against first year estimates.

*7 Forecasts for years 2011-2016 cannot as yet be set as current Local Plan allocation at 2011, assuming targets are achieved, will see 15,820 dwellings remaining to be built.

*8 New allocations will supplement the current Local Plan allocation under the MKSM growth strategy delivering on average 2400 dwellings to 2031.

*9 Allocation – MKSM requirement 2001-2011 = 24100, MKSM requirement 2011-2021 = 22,000. Total requirement 2001-2016 = 35100

*10 Actual Completions forecast 2001 - 2016 = 32757. Actual target 2001-2016 = 35100 - therefore shortfall against target of 2343. Given that the requirement for the next 15 years 2016-2031 is 35900 (71,000 - 2001-2031) this would give an average completion rate 2016-2031 of around 2550.

*11 unidentified sites - sites which were not allocated specifically in a Local Plan. Small sites <5, Large Sites => 5

3.2.2 Percentage of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land

Figure 27 - Completions on Brownfield & Greenfield Sites in Milton Keynes 2002 - 2005

(Source: MKC Quarterly Development Monitoring Report)

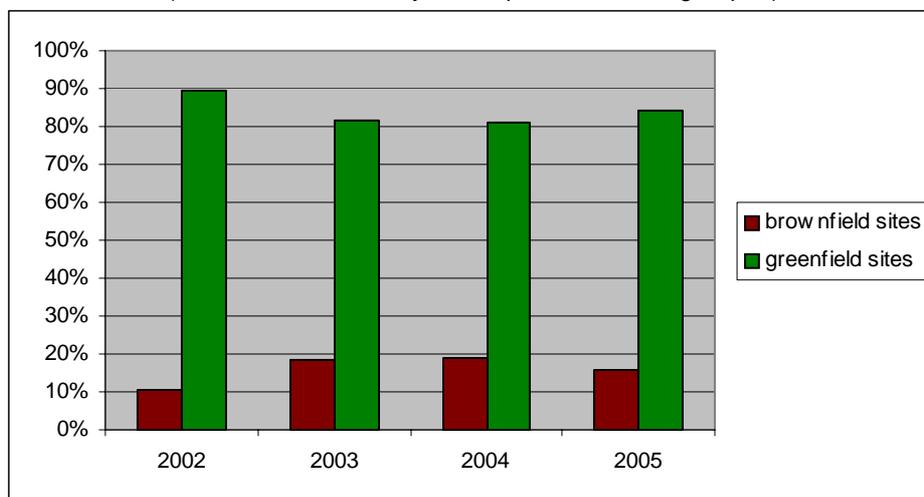


Figure 27 above shows the annual percentages of houses built on brownfield land in comparison to Greenfield land between 2002 and 2005. It indicates that:

- From 2002 to 2004, the percentage of houses being built on brownfield sites was steadily increasing, from 10.7% in 2002 to 19% in 2004.
- Between 2004 and 2005, the percentage of houses being built on brownfield sites decreased to 16%. However, this was still above that for 2002.

In considering these trends, it should be noted that Milton Keynes is a New town and therefore most of its developments will take place on greenfield sites.

Furthermore, the percentage of houses built on greenfield sites meets Milton Keynes Council's Best Value Performance Indicator of 15% (Section 4.1 refers).

3.2.3 Percentage of new dwellings completed

Figure 28 – Percentage of new dwellings completed by density
Period April 04- Mar 05
 (Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Density	Percentage completed
< 30 dws/ha	56%
30 - 50 dws/ha	26%
> 50 dws/ha	18%

Figure 28 shows the percentage of new dwellings completed in the period April 04 – March 05, by density (dwellings per hectare). Although 56% of new dwellings were of low density (below 30 dws/ha) the average density of new dwellings in Milton Keynes is actually higher at 31 dwellings / hectare.

3.2.4 Affordable housing completions.

For the period April 04 to March 05:

- The total number of affordable dwellings completed in MK was **446**. This constitutes 33% of total housing completions for the period.
- There were no losses in affordable housing.

3.2 Transport

3.3.1 Amount of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards

No monitoring is currently carried out regarding the amount of non-residential development within Use Class Orders A, B and D complying with car parking standards as set out in the Local Development Framework.

It is anticipated that this gap in information will be addressed and information shall be made available for the 2005/06 Annual Monitoring Report.

3.3.2 Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of local services.

Data is not currently collated in regards to the amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of local services. Information is therefore not available for the current reporting period April 2004 – March 2005.

A suitable method for obtaining this data for future Annual Monitoring Reports has been provided by Transport Strategy as follows:

The amount of new development within 30mins public transport time of various amenities can be worked out by plotting the new housing developments (taken from MKC housing database) into Accession (developed by MVA). The Amenities (from various administrative sources) are also then plotted into Accession. Public transport routes (e.g. bus stops and timetables) are loaded into Accession to then work out amount of new development within 30mins public transport time of the amenities.

It is anticipated that this gap in information will be addressed and information made available for the 2005/06 monitoring report.

3.3 Local Services

3.4.1 Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development (2004/05)

Figure 29 – Retail, Office and Leisure Development

(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Gross Internal Floor space Loss	Gross Internal Floor Space Gain	Total Gross Internal Floor space (m ²)
A1	345	1652	1307
A2	0	2669	2669
B1(a)	1010	31418	30408
D2	106	3315	3209

Figure 29 shows that for the period April 04 – March 05:

- Use Class B1(a) accounted for the highest amount of completed development
- Use Class A1 accounted for the lowest amount of completed development

N.B. The amount of floor space shown for Use Class A1 is the amount of trading floor space. The total gross internal floor space is 1867m².

3.4.2 Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres

The town centres in Milton Keynes are defined in the Local Plan as:

- Regional Shopping Centre: Central Milton Keynes
- District Centres: Bletchley, Wolverton, Westcroft and Kingston

Figure 30 - Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in Milton Keynes town centres for period April 04 – March 05

(Source: MKC Annual Monitoring)

Use Class	Regional Shopping Centre		District Centres		Total Loss	Total Gain	Total Gross Internal Floor space
	Loss	Gain	Loss	Gain			
A1	103	0	0	705	103	705	602
A2	0	215	0	130	0	345	345
B1(a)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 30 shows that for the period April 04 – March 05:

- Use Class A1 accounted for the highest amount of completed development within town centres
- No development had been completed in town centres for Use Classes B1(a) or D2

3.4.3 Amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag Award standard

Milton Keynes Council and The Park Trust, Milton Keynes are responsible for the management of public open spaces within the borough of Milton Keynes.

The largest of the spaces eligible for a Green Flag Award which are managed by Milton Keynes Council are:

- Emberton Country Park;
- Blue Lagoon Nature Reserve;
- Tongwell Lake;
- Mount Farm

For the period April 04 – March 05, there were **no** Green Flag Awards for any of the eligible open spaces managed by Milton Keynes Council.

The largest of the spaces eligible for a Green Flag Award which are managed by The Parks Trust, Milton Keynes are:

- i) Campbell Park
- ii) Ouse Valley Park

For the period April 04 – March 05, there were **two** Green Flag Awards for the eligible open spaces managed by The Park Trust, Milton Keynes. These Green Flag Awards consisted of one award for Willen Lakeside Parks and one award for Howe Park Wood.

3.4 Minerals

3.5.1 Production of primary land won aggregates

The total amount of primary land won aggregates was 0 tonnes. Throughout the period of 2004/2005 there was only one operational site. However, the site was nearly worked out and no sand and gravel was extracted between April 2004 and March 2005.

A site was granted planning permission for sand and gravel extraction in July 2003, however the site is not yet operational. Within the period April 2004 to March 2005 planning permission was granted for a site at Manor Farm.

3.5.2 Production of secondary/recycled aggregates

There is one operational site with planning permission. As there is only one site, the total figures are confidential. There is likely to be other secondary/recycled aggregates on construction sites, however the Council does not have any figures.

The South East Region is currently preparing a report 'Towards a methodology apportionment of recycled and secondary aggregates' to meet the aims of the Regional Minerals Strategy. A subsequent review of the Annual Monitoring Report will adopt this methodology once in place.

3.5 Waste

3.6.1 Capacity of new waste management facilities by type

There have been two planning applications for which planning permission has been granted, both for inert land raising:

App Ref:	04/00089/MIN
Applicant:	The Caldecotte Centre
Application:	Construction of an artificial caving system, associated earthworks and landscaping George Amey Centre
Location:	Simpson
Quantity:	34,000m ³
App Ref:	04/01098/MIN
Applicant:	English Partnerships
Application:	Strategic landscaping project and associated earthworks
Location:	Land Off Snelshall Street, Tattenhoe Park
Quantity:	47,500m ³

3.6.2 Municipal waste arising and managed by type

Figure 31 shows that the total amount of municipal waste arising in Milton Keynes in the period April 04 – March 05 was **124,686 tonnes**.

**Figure 31 – Management of waste in Milton Keynes
(April 04 – March 05)**

Management type	Quantity (tonnes)	% Waste Managed
Recycled via MRF / other recycling outlet	21,395	17.2%
Windrow composted	9541	7.7%
Incinerated with energy recovery	365	0.3%
Landfill	89,874	72%
Sent for hardcore	2361	1.9%
Sent for re-use	1150	0.9%
Total	124,686	100%

3.6 Flood Protection & Water Quality

3.7.1 The number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency

No monitoring is currently carried out regarding the number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality.

It is anticipated that this gap in information will be addressed and information shall be made available for the 2005/06 Annual Monitoring Report.

However, data is available regarding the amount of new development permitted within the floodplain, which is a Performance Indicator for Milton Keynes Local Plan. To avoid duplication, this data will be provided in chapter six.

3.7 Biodiversity

3.8.1 Change in areas and populations of biodiversity importance

No data was available for the period April 04 – March 05 in relation to either:

- i) The change in priority habitats and species;
- ii) The change in areas designated for their intrinsic value.

However Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre has provided a provisional baseline for the biodiversity indicators in 2005, shown in Appendix 2.

It is proposed that information shall be made available for the next Annual Monitoring Report based upon this baseline and using the following sources:

- A. Bucks & Milton Keynes Biodiversity Action Plan 2000.
A co-ordinator is to be appointed in Jan 2006 to be responsible for the monitoring and collation of data regarding biodiversity. Milton Keynes Council, as a partner for the Biodiversity Action Plan, will be provided with this data.
- B. Community Strategy Performance Indicators.
Biodiversity is one of the Performance Indicators for Milton Keynes Community Strategy 2004 – 2034. Data will be made available on MKi Observatory.

3.9 Renewable Energy

3.9.1 Renewable energy capacity installed by type

No renewable energy capacity was installed in the borough of Milton Keynes in the period April 04 – March 05.

Chapter 4 - Local Output Indicators

4.1 Best Value Performance Indicators

Figure 32 – Milton Keynes Council Best Value Performance Indicators 2004 / 05

(Source: www.mkweb.co.uk/best-value/home.asp)

The following Best Value Performance Indicators are collected in Milton Keynes and have particular relevance to the Local Plan process.

BVPI	Indicator Description	Actual 2004/05	Target 2004/05
82a (05/06)	i) Total of household waste arising – percentage recycled ii) Total tonnage of household waste recycled	18.1% 20,649 tonnes	24%
82b (05/06)	i) Total household waste arising – percentage composted (04/05 wording changed to include % composted or sent for anaerobic digestion treatment) ii) Total tonnage of household waste composted	8.4% 9,558 tonnes	9%
Comments: BVPI 82 (a & b) – The government has revised Milton Keynes’ statutory Waste target for recycling and composting to 30% of household waste by 2005/06. Targets for 82 a&b should be added together to compare against the waste target. For 05/06 slight amendment to BVPI 82a to d which could mean not directly comparable with previous years figures. BVPI 82b - improvement in performance due mostly to the expansion of the kerbside garden waste collection scheme, which increased from 21,000 to 25,000 properties in 2004/05. Together with the weather conditions has led to a doubling of the garden waste composted.			
82c (05/06)	i) Total of household waste arising - percentage used to recover heat, power and other energy sources ii) Total tonnage of household waste recovered heat power and other energy sources	0.3% 365 tonnes	Nil Nil tonnes
Comments: BVPI 82c - Slight change in definition for 82b and 82c for 04/05 means not comparable with previous years’ figures. No waste in Milton Keynes is currently used for energy recovery and there are no plans at present for energy recovery activities. However, for a short period this year our contractors sent some materials to a fibre fuel plant in Slough instead of landfilling. This is not likely to occur again in the future.			
82d (05/06)	i) Total tonnage of household waste arising - percentage landfilled ii) Total tonnage of household waste arising - landfilled	73.2% 83,588 tonnes	67%

BVPI	Indicator Description	Actual 2004/05	Target 2004/05
84a (05/06)	Number of kg of household waste collected per head of population	529.21kg	538.9kg
84b (05/06)	Percentage change from previous financial year in the number of kg of household waste collected per head of population	New indicator for 05/06	
106	Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land	16%	15%
200a (03/04)	Do you have a development plan that has been adopted in the last five years and the end date of which has not expired	No	See below
200b (03/04)	If "No" are there proposals on deposit for an alteration or replacement, with a published timetable for adopting those alterations or the replacement plan within three years from the beginning of 1 st April 2004?	Yes (see note below)	Yes
200a (05/06)	Plan making: Development Plan Did the local planning authority submit the Local Development Scheme (LDS) by 28 March 2005 and thereafter maintain a rolling three year programme	Changed indicator for 05/06	
200b (05/06)	Plan making: Milestones Has the local planning authority met the milestones which the current Local Development scheme (LDS) sets out?	Changed indicator for 05/06	
200c (05/06)	Plan making: Monitoring Did the local planning authority publish an annual monitoring report by December of the last year?	Changed indicator for 05/06	
<p>Comments: BVPI 200 - There are 3 components to the development plan of Milton Keynes. a) adoption of MK Local Plan estimated for January 2006, b) adoption of Minerals Local Plan scheduled for completion end of December 2005 and c) adoption of Waste Development Plan by March 2008.</p>			

4.2 Community Strategy Performance Indicators

4.2.1 Overview

The new system places considerable emphasis on community involvement in the plan making process and formalises the link between the Council's planning function and the priorities of the Local Strategic Partnership identified in the Community Strategy. The development of Local Development Documents therefore is required to reflect the spatial objectives of the MK Community Strategy.

4.2.2 Milton Keynes Community Strategy 2004 – 2034

The Milton Keynes Community Strategy was published in April 2005. The Community Strategy provides the vision and context in which the first round of Local Development Documents and the MK2031 long term sustainable growth plan is being prepared.

The continued sustainable growth of MK is a key principle of the Community Strategy and detailed Action Plans have been developed to show how the Local Strategic Partnership will deliver this. The Milton Keynes Local Development Framework will play a key role in delivering many of the targets of these action plans.

4.2.3 Monitoring of Community Strategy; Development of Annual Performance Plan

Within the Community Strategy a commitment has been made to monitor progress against achievements. In order to achieve this there will be an Annual Performance Plan published in October of each year. The report proposed a broad framework for the plan and a timetable for the development and publication.

As the Community Strategy was only published in April 2005 the LSP are not publishing a 2004/05 monitoring report. Instead they are focussing on collecting the baseline data. The LDF Annual Monitoring Report will assist in the collection of this data.

4.2.4 Community Strategy Action Plans

The Community Strategy identifies four main areas for action planning:

- i) Reinventing our City, Places and Spaces
- ii) Delivering the Best Services
- iii) Facilitating Participative Communities
- iv) Managing Changing Together.

Each of the specific actions is the subject of a detailed action plan.

Figures 33 - 35 below identify the relevant performance indicators of these Action Plans in relation to the requirements of the Annual Monitoring Report.

Figure 33 – Relevant Performance Indicators in Action Plan 1

(Source: Milton Keynes Community Strategy 2004-2034)

Measurement	Indicator	Baseline 2003 – 04
CS PI 6 Household Recycling	% of the tonnage of household waste arising which have been recycled	18.2%
CS PI 7 Waste	Total household waste generated per head of population	515.97kg per head of population
CS PI 14 Property Affordability	a) Average property prices b) Average property price / average earnings	a) Detached: 248,394 Semi: 145,407 Flat: 83,479 b) 5.54
CS PI 17 Clean Open Spaces	% area of parks and open spaces which are accredited with a Green Flag Award	2 parks accredited with a Green Flag Award (not known as a %)

Figure 34 – Relevant Performance Indicators in Action Plan 2

(Source: Milton Keynes Community Strategy 2004-2034)

Measurement	Indicator	Baseline 2003-04
CS PI 33 Accessibility of Local Services	a) % of residents surveyed finding it easy to assess key local services b) % of residents within a distance of 500m (15 minutes walk) of key local services	Not collected at present

Figure 35 – Relevant Performance Indicators in Action Plan 3

(Source: Milton Keynes Community Strategy 2004-2034)

Measurement	Indicator	Baseline 2003-04
CS PI 37 Employment	% of people of working age in employment	82.2%
CS PI 3 Employment	To generate an average of 3,500 net additional jobs per annum	3270
CS PI 3 Unemployment	Unemployment to be below that prevailing in adjacent areas	MK 2% Mid-Bedfordshire 1.2% Aylesbury Vale 1.1% South Northants 0.8% Northampton 2.4% Bedford 2.5%
CS PI 4 Unemployment	% of young people employed as a proportion of total unemployed	26.5%
CS PI 41 Earnings	Average annual earnings for a) full timers; b) full time males; c) full time females	a) 26,148 b) 29,385 c) 20,745

Chapter 5 - Monitoring Policies in the Milton Keynes Local Plan

The first AMR for Milton Keynes is focussed on the implementation of the Policies in the Milton Keynes Local Plan. The emerging Local Plan is set for adoption in January 2006, subject to Legal Challenge. It is therefore at an advanced stage of preparation, which merits its consideration in the AMR. It is considered impractical to develop a series of indicators for the Adopted Local Plan as it will soon be superseded.

5.1 Local Plan Aims

There are 12 aims of the Milton Keynes Local Plan, divided into three groups, set out below. These aims are then used to develop targets and indicators to measure the performance of the Plan:

5.1.1 Global

Transport

- Reduce the number, length and need to make trips
- Promote an integrated transport system that gives priority to walking, cycling, bus, rail and canals
- Site development at locations that are easily accessible by these priority transport nodes

Energy

- Develop further Milton Keynes' leading role in reducing energy use in buildings
- Increase renewable energy production

Wildlife

- Protect and enhance important wildlife habitats
- Create new habitats to improve biodiversity and increase tree cover for carbon fixing

5.1.2 Resources

Air

- Reduce air pollution from non-transport sources (pollution from transport sources is covered by 1 above)

Water

- Reduce water pollution
- Conserve water supplies and natural water levels

Land

- Reduce land contamination

- Protect the best and most versatile farmland and minimise the amount of greenfield development

Minerals and Waste

- Reduce use of non-renewable mineral resources and protect local mineral deposits
- Develop further Milton Keynes' leading role in waste recycling

5.1.3 Quality of Life

Health and Safety

- Improve human well-being, community safety and recreation
- Reduce noise and light pollution

Culture

- Improve the vitality of town and local centres
- Protect and enhance important archeological and geological sites, listed buildings and conservation areas
- Protect and enhance the local distinctiveness of places and communities and seek the provision of public and cultural facilities
- Encourage good design in new development by promoting consideration of character; continuity and enclosure; quality of the public realm; ease of movement; legibility; adaptability and diversity.

Equality

- Reduce social exclusion and improve equality of opportunity amongst social groups, and access to community facilities, services and information

Housing

- Meet identified housing needs for quantity, quality, range, affordability and location

Employment

- Meet identified employment needs for quantity, variety, location and education / training

5.2 Targets & Indicators

The MK Local Plan has a set of Performance Indicators to monitor how well the aims of the policies are being achieved. The indicators are directly related to Plan policies where possible. The target is normally for the end year of the Plan period and will be measured on an annual basis.

The targets and indicators are shown in Figure 36.

Figure 36 - Targets and Indicators
(Source Milton Keynes Local Plan 2DD - 2002)

Local Plan Aim	Performance Indicator	Base Year (1999)	Target (By 2011)	Actual 2004/05
Transport	% of total journeys to work (either entirely or mainly) by car	77%	55%	71.8%
	% by cycle or on foot	10%	19%	9.87%
Energy	Average energy rating of new houses (NHER scale)	N/A	10	Data unavailable
	% of energy from renewable	0.1%	10%	
Wildlife	% of area covered by nature conservation designations	17.5%	18%	17.5%
Air	% of area exceeding the national air quality limits for nitrogen dioxide	6.8%	0% (by 2005)	0%
Water	% of new houses with water conservation measures	N/A	90%	Data unavailable
Land	% of new houses on brownfield sites	N/A	20%	16%
	Net density of new housing – dws/ha	26 (2000-01)	35	29 (Gross)
Minerals & Waste	% of new development using recycled materials	N/A	90%	Data unavailable
Health & Safety	Amount of new development permitted within floodplain (hectares)	1.1ha	Nil	1.4ha
	Provision of recreation space – hectares / 1000 people	10ha	9.5ha	9.04ha
Culture	Number of Listed Buildings at risk	20	Nil	3*
	Conservation Character Statements produced	6	24	0
Equality	% of properties within 400 metres of a satisfactory bus service (at least 3 bus services per hour)	73%	90%	Data unavailable
	% of retail floorspace in main shopping centres	72%	80%	82.6%
Housing	Annual new dwellings completed	1483	1900	1370
	% of new dwellings that are affordable	22% (1998-99)	30%	33%
Employment	% surplus of jobs over workforce (Borough)	1%	3%	1% (2003)
	% surplus of jobs over workforce (City)	8%	12%	14% (2001)

5.3 Analysis of data

A simple analysis of the performance indicators of Milton Keynes Local Plan is provided below. In cases where data was unavailable for the period covered by this report, there is an indication of how these performance indicators are likely to be measured for future reports.

5.3.1 Transport

Percentage of total journeys to work by car

- Between the period of 1999 and 2004/05 the percentage of total journeys to work by car decreased by 5.2% from 77% to 71.8%. The target for 2011 is to reduce the total number of journeys to work by car to 55%.
- It is suggested that further efforts are needed to encourage the use of alternative forms of transport, including cycling and walking to increase the rate of reduction. If the rate of reduction remains the same as between 1999 and 2004/05, the percentage of total journeys to work by car in 2011 would be 66.6%.

Percentage of total journeys to work by cycle or on foot

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 the total journeys to work by cycle or on foot actually decreased by 0.13% from 10% to 9.87%. The target for 2011 is for 19% of total journeys to work to be by cycle or on foot, equating to an increase of 9.13% required between 2005 and 2011.
- This suggests that measures will need to be taken to encourage cycling and walking, which is also reflected by the small decrease of total journeys to work by car, as above.

5.3.2 Energy

- Data is not currently collected for this performance indicator since the policy to which it relates (Policy D4) has not been fully implemented.
- As detailed in Section 2, the Council is proposing to introduce a Supplementary Planning Document on the implementation of Policy D4. It is therefore likely that some data will be available for inclusion within the monitoring report for 2006/07.

5.3.3 Wildlife

- The borough of Milton Keynes currently has the following Nature Conservation Designations, as defined by the Milton Keynes Local Plan:
 - a) Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
 - b) Local Nature Reserves, MK Wildlife Sites, Regionally Important Geological Sites and Wildlife Corridors;
 - c) Local Wildlife Sites
- The total area Milton Keynes is 30,869ha of which Nature Conservation Designations cover 5,419ha. Therefore the percentage of area covered by the Nature Conservation Designations is 17.5%, which is the same as that for the base year, 1999.

5.3.4 Air

- Between the period 1999 and 2004/05 the percentage of area exceeding the national air quality limits for nitrogen dioxide has decreased by 6.8% to 0%. The target set out in Milton Keynes Local Plan for 0% by 2005 has been met.

5.3.5 Water

- Data is not currently collected for this performance indicator since the policy to which it relates (Policy D4) has not been fully implemented.
- See bullet 5.3.2

5.3.6 Land

Percentage of new houses on brownfield sites

- The percentage of new houses on brownfield sites was 16% for the period 2004/05. There is no base data to which a comparison can be made. Only a 4% increase is required between 2005 and 2011 to meet the performance indicator target of 20% by 2011.

Net density of new housing (dws/ha)

- No data is currently collected on the net density of new housing.
- The data shown in Figure 36 represents the gross density of new housing, which was 29 dws/ha. It is therefore difficult to compare with the base data. Equally, it is not possible to make a comparison with the target for 2011.

5.3.7 Minerals and Waste

- Data is not currently collected for this performance indicator since the policy to which it relates (Policy D4) has not been fully implemented.
- See bullet 5.3.2

5.3.8 Health & Safety

Amount of new development permitted within floodplain

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 there was an increase in the amount of new development permitted within the floodplain by 0.3 hectares.
- The target for 2011 is for no new development to be permitted on the floodplain.

Provision of recreation space / 1000 people

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 the amount of recreation space per thousand people decreased from 10 hectares to 9.04 hectares.
- The target for 2011 is 9.5hectares. The current level of provision falls below this target.

5.3.9 Culture

Number of listed buildings at risk

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 the number of listed buildings at risk decreased by 17 from 20 to 3. The target for 2011 is for no listed buildings to be at risk.

Conservation Character Statements produced

- No Conservation Character Statements were produced on the period of 2004/05.
- The target for 2011 is for 20 Conservation Character Statements to be produced. This is therefore an area requiring careful consideration.

5.3.10 Equality

Percentage of properties within 400m of a satisfactory bus service

- Data is unavailable for the period of 2004 / 05 for the percentage of properties within 400 metres of a satisfactory bus service.
- It is proposed that for future reports, this performance indicator may be measured by plotting all properties and the location of bus stops into Accession (developed by MVA).

The percentage of retail floorspace in main shopping centres

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 the percentage of retail floorspace in main shopping centres increased by 10.6% to 82.6%.

- The target for 2011 of 80% retail floorspace in main shopping centres was exceeded in 2004/05 by 2.6%.

5.3.11 Housing

Annual new dwellings completed

- Between 1999 and 2004/05 the annual new dwellings completed decreased by 113 from 1483 to 1370.
- The target for 2011 is for 1900 new dwellings to be completed annually. This requires an increase of 530 dwellings in comparison to 2004/05.

Percentage of new dwellings that are affordable

- Between 1998/99 and 2004/05 the percentage of new dwellings that are affordable increased by 11% from 22% to 33%.
- The target for 2011 is for 30% of new dwellings to be affordable. This target was exceeded by 3% in 2004/05.

5.3.12 Employment

Percentage surplus of jobs over workforce (Borough)

- The percentage surplus of jobs over workforce has remained the same between 1999 and 2003.
- The target for 2011 is 3% surplus of jobs over workforce in the Borough.

Percentage surplus of jobs over workforce (City)

- Between the 1999 and 2001 the percentage surplus of jobs over workforce in the City has increased by 6% from 8% to 14%.
- The target for 2011 is 12% surplus of jobs over workforce in the City. This target was exceeded in 2001 by 2%.

Appendix 1 – Loss of Employment Land to Residential Development

Grid Square/ Settlement	B1	B1/B8	B2/B8	B1/B2/B8	Notes
Blakelands				40.10	
Brinklow				32.10	
Broughton / Atterbury				18.20	
Caldecotte		14.70			
Crownhill				20.80	
Bletchley – Denbigh				9.30	Figure adjusted to take into account latest position on Newton Leys.
Bletchley - Fenny Stratford				0.97	Figure adjusted to delete land at Denbigh North (being developed for the stadium).
Fox Milne				14.60	
Kents Hill North	5.20				
Kiln Farm				51.20	
Kingston				68.80	
Knowlhill				32.50	
Linford Wood	39.10				
Mount Farm				48.00	
Old Wolverton			41.00		
Redmoor			12.90		
Rooksley				21.40	
Shenley Wood				37.40	
Stonebridge			10.80		
Tattenhoe				16.00	
Tattenhoe Park				20.60	
Tilbrook			38.90		
Tongwell			52.10		
Walton				26.30	
Walton Hall	6.40				
Wavendon Gate	13.90				
West Ashland				7.00	Not in the Monitoring report but added in as a Proposed Modification.
Wolverton				30.70	
Wolverton Mill				34.50	
Wymbush				25.40	
Eastern Expansion Area			97.00		Figure from Development Framework.
Western Expansion Area				16.80	Figure from Development Framework (northern scenario).
Northern Expansion Area				3.40	Land allocated in Development Framework.
Newport Pagnell				25.16	Vacant land that the monitoring report shows is now allocated for housing in the new local plan.
Olney	2.7				Not in the monitoring report - an allocation in the new Local Plan
TOTAL (Hectares)	64.4	14.7	252.7	601.23	933.03

Appendix 2 - Core Output Indicators for Biodiversity in Milton Keynes

Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre (BMERC) was asked in November 2005 to supply data to the Milton Keynes Council Planning Department to inform the Annual Monitoring Report. A new feature of the 2005 reporting round is the inclusion of Core Output Indicators for biodiversity, as part of the Local Development Framework.

BMERC collates data on biodiversity and geology for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes. There is sufficient data available to provide a provisional baseline for the biodiversity indicators in 2005, with a view to targeting data collation next year to provide better information. There is insufficient data to measure change from previous years.

All figures given below are based on data available to BMERC at 22 November 2005.

1. Change in priority habitats

There is no full habitat inventory for the Milton Keynes Council area. However, some data on UK BAP Priority habitats is available from English Nature's national datasets, see their [website](#). The following figures are based on the EN data as it applies to Milton Keynes. There may be other BAP habitats present in Milton Keynes (e.g. Fens and Reedbeds) that are not mapped in this dataset.

<i>Habitat type</i>	<i>Area (ha)</i>
Floodplain Grazing Marsh	308
Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland	55
Lowland Heathland	32
Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	46
Wet Woodland	561

2. Change in priority species

Species data has been collated from the following sources:

- BMERC species database (incorporates data from many sources, including volunteer records and recording groups)
- BBOWT (Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust) species database
- Buckinghamshire Bird Club website
- Buckinghamshire County Moth Recorders (Peter Hall and Martin Albertini)
- Harvey, M.C. 1998. Biodiversity Action Plan invertebrates in Buckinghamshire. Unpublished report to BBONT [Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust].
- National Biodiversity Network Gateway
- North Bucks Bat Group (via Bill Parker)

Where possible, the number of records and the year of the latest record has been identified for each species. Where detailed records are not available we have provided our estimate of the most likely date for the latest record.

2.1 Summary data

We can find evidence that 45 UK BAP Priority species have been recorded in Milton Keynes.

Some of these have been extinct in the Council area for many years; others have only ever been recorded as vagrants and do not breed in the Council area.

- Likely to have been resident in summer and/or winter in Milton Keynes in 2005: 18 species
- Resident in Milton Keynes previously but unlikely to still be present: 18 species
- Recorded in Milton Keynes, but only as a vagrant, migrant or introduction: 7 species
- Status unclear (but unlikely to be resident in 2005): 2 species

2.2 Interpretation for indicator

We suggest that the figure of 18 species is used as a baseline for the number of Priority species recorded in Milton Keynes in 2005. There is insufficient data to provide any figure for change since 2004, although it is clear that over the last 50-100 years there has been a loss of many species, in common with national trends.

3. Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value

There is insufficient data to measure changes from previous years. The following provides a baseline for future comparison.

3.1 Sites of international significance

Type	Area (ha)
Special Areas of Conservation	0
Special Protection Areas	0
Ramsar Sites	0
Total	0

3.3 Sites of national significance

Type	Area (ha)
National Nature Reserves	0
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	* c. 47
Total	47

*: made up of three SSSIs, two of which are entirely within Milton Keynes, but the third (Yardley Chase) straddles the boundary, and the area measurement for the part that is in Milton Keynes has been approximated.

3.4 Sites of local significance

Type	Area (ha)
Milton Keynes Wildlife Sites	196
Milton Keynes Railway Corridors	712
Milton Keynes Road Corridors	988
Milton Keynes Wetland Corridors	2,648
Milton Keynes Woodland Corridors	362
Local Wildlife Sites	1,768
Local Nature Reserves	26
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)	106
Total *	6,674

*: There are overlaps between several of these local designations, e.g. corridors may also be wildlife sites, or local nature reserves may also be RIGS, so the figure for total hectareage is an over-estimate.

4 Options for reporting in future

4.1 Habitats

Milton Keynes Council and its partners would benefit from having a full habitat inventory available for the Council area. This would enable better reporting of the annual indicators, and also provide valuable information for strategic planning more generally. It would also allow better targeting and monitoring of biodiversity work in the Council area. A number of initiatives are under way to facilitate habitat mapping across the UK and in the south-east region; BMERC

hopes to develop a habitat inventory for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, but additional resources are required. BMERC can provide further information on these initiatives and how we could work with Milton Keynes Council to address this issue.

4.2 Species

The number of species recorded is not a very sensitive indicator – the species recorded in any given year will be to some degree dependent on the amount of voluntary recorder effort. Some species are difficult to find and identify, and it is not realistic to expect these species to be recorded every year. Many species undergo large variations in abundance from year to year, e.g. in response to weather conditions. For some species it may be possible to obtain more reliable population estimates, for others we may need to look at records over a longer time period.

Collating such data is part of BMERC's normal work.

4.3 Sites

The intention is that locally designated sites should be reviewed as part of the joint County Wildlife Sites project between Milton Keynes Council and Buckinghamshire County Council. This project has been in abeyance for some time, but it is hoped that it will be reinstated early in 2006. BMERC acts as the data manager for this project, and any changes to the local sites will be available for use in next year's reporting round.

4.4 Local Contextual Indicators

The Local Development Framework encourages local authorities to develop Local Contextual Indicators that measure significant effects of the spatial policies in the LDF. BMERC has not yet been asked to provide data for Local Contextual Indicators in Milton Keynes or Buckinghamshire, but we are aware that such indicators have been discussed in neighbouring counties. The approach taken by local authorities in Berkshire and Oxfordshire, in conjunction with the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre, has been to propose four Local Contextual Indicators, as follows:

- Distribution and status of water voles

- Condition of SSSIs or Condition of WHS in Reading and Slough
- Distribution and status of farmland birds
- Distribution and status of garden butterflies

These would need some adapting for use in Milton Keynes. BMERC can provide further information on what datasets could be developed for use as Local Contextual Indicators in Milton Keynes.