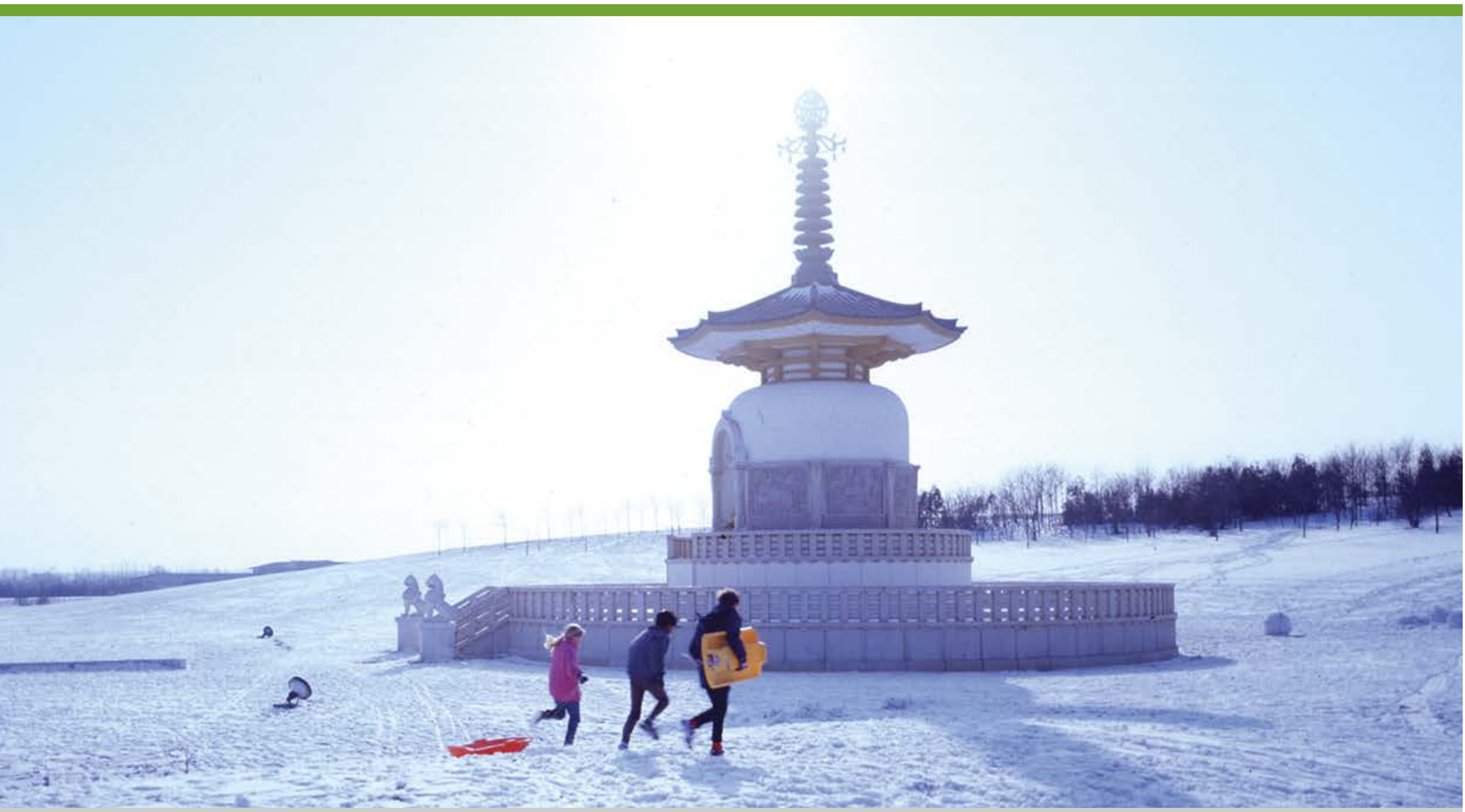
Development Plans

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

Milton Keynes Council
Planning and Economic Development
Annual Monitoring Report 2011-2012

December 2012



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Executive Summary

This is the eighth Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) prepared by Milton Keynes Council. It contains information on the progress of the Local Development Framework and the extent to which the policies within the Local Development Framework (LDF), and the Local Plan, are being implemented. This report covers the monitoring period running from April 2011 to March 2012.

LDF Progress - Key highlights

- The Core Strategy (as approved by the council in January 2010 and September 2011) was the subject of five days of hearings in public in July 2012 before an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State.
- The draft Houses in Multiple Occupation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was made available for consultation between October 2011 and January 2012. The SPD was adopted in April 2012.
- Work has began on six Neighbourhood Plan "Frontrunners" in Milton Keynes.
- The Wind Turbines SPD and Emerging Policy: Wind Turbines Planning Applications document was adopted in July 2012.
- The draft Residential Design Guide SPD was made available for consultation between 22 December 2011 and 13 February 2012. The New Residential Development Design Guide SPD was adopted on the 10 April 2012.

LDF Policy Implementation - Key highlights

Social

- The population of Milton Keynes is 248,800, almost 3,000 higher than the projected figure of 245,750.
- The population of Milton Keynes is ageing, but remains young relative to the South East and England.
- The proportion of people from black and minority ethnic groups has increased from 13.2% in 2001 to 26% in 2011.
- There are 7 Lower Super Output Areas (Lower Super Output Areas are small areas described by a single deprivation score consisting of a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues) in Milton Keynes that are in the 10% most deprived in England.
- The total number of crimes fell from 24,878 in 2010/11 to 21,553 in 2011/12.

Development Management

- This year's monitoring figures show that the number of planning applications submitted to the Council has decreased by two when compared to last year from 1,316 in 2010/11, to 1,314 in 2011/12.
- The figures also show that in the last three years there was a continuous and significant increase in the group of major applications (46.6%) and minor applications (26.1%).
- The Council's appeal record has improved, with the percentage of appeals allowed falling from 65.7% in 2007/08 to 21.3% in 2011/12.
- Planning Obligations monitoring shows that S106 expenditures stood at £7,315,326 whilst receipts stood at £8,439,957.

Housing

- The dwelling completions figure rose this year to 1,580, a rise of 285 dwellings from last years figure of 1,295.
- The Council has an overall total of commitments (all permissions and allocations) in the Borough to accommodate 25,531 homes. This is the sum of the overall land supply in the council area, and is sufficient to deliver the equivalent of around 14 years of the Core Strategy housing target.

- The Council currently forecasts that c 10,664 homes are likely to be built over the next 5 years (although land and consents/allocations exist for many more homes). This figure exceeds our 5-year target, as required by the NPPF, and corresponds to 5.88 years of housebuilding at our target rate.
- The number of affordable housing completions rose to 467 this year, accounting for a total of 29.5% of all completions.
- The number of 1 and 2 bedroom flat completions increased from 36% to 52.5% whilst the proportion of 3 and 4 bedroom houses dropped from 49% to 36% of overall completions. This is considered to be an annual fluctuation caused by (amongst other things) a high number of completions of flats with specialist care for the elderly.

Economy

- The annual jobs to dwelling ratio figure increased from 1.61 in 2010 to 2.21 in 2011
- Rates of development fluctuate more widely for employment when compared with housing. This year the amount of development completed was below the average for the last three years.
- There is 222.3 ha of employment land available for development, compared to 195.6ha in 2010/11.
- 99% of all employment floorspace was completed on previously developed land, up from 23% last year.
- The decline in the business survival rate (of the first year) in Milton Keynes continues, reflecting the state of the wider economy.
- Between April 2011 and March 2012 the unemployment claimant rate has fluctuated between 3.8% and 4.2%.
- The proportion of people with the highest qualifications (NVQ3, 4 and above) has slightly decreased over the past year but overall was higher than in 2005.

Transport

- Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3), which provides the transport strategy for Milton Keynes up to 2031, has been updated by the 2012 Transport Strategy Review. This has also included outlining new performance indicators for monitoring the future performance of LTP3.
- A number of transport projects, including works at both Central Milton Keynes and Wolverton Stations have been completed.
- Bus patronage increased again, by approximately 900,000 journeys.

Energy and Climate Change

- Milton Keynes continues to pioneer in the field of sustainable development, with the introduction of the Low Carbon Living Strategy and Action Plan.
- CO_2 emissions in the Borough are continuing to fall and the authority is on track to achieve the Low Carbon Living Strategy target of reducing carbon emissions per person in the Milton Keynes area by 40% by 2020, from a 2005 baseline.
- Up to April 2011, 5.2% of all residential properties in Milton Keynes have benefited from improved insulation as a result of the Carbon Offset Fund (COF).
- In total, £706,841 has been transferred to the COF in 2012 as a result of policy D4. This would save over 3,534 tonnes of CO_2 in one year, based on £200 of COF monies offsetting one tonne of carbon emissions.

Natural and Historic Environment

- 63% of Local Biodiversity Sites are in positive conservation management, a significantly higher proportion than neighbouring authorities.
- No planning applications were granted contrary to advice from the Environment Agency on flooding or water grounds.

- Milton Keynes Council is working towards the production of a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, in line with its new responsibilities as a Lead Local Flood Authority.
- All of Milton Keynes' air targets were met, with one exception - Olney, where again nitrogen dioxide levels were measured to be at an unacceptably high level. The AQMA Action Plan for Olney has however now been completed.
- The Conservation and Archaeology Team received 1077 consultations relating to planning applications in 2011/12.

Minerals and Waste

- For commercial confidentiality reasons minerals data is not available.
- There has been no increase in the capacity of operational waste management facilities.
- Both of the significant waste measures are moving in the right direction:
    - the total amount of waste produced in the Borough fell to 118,081 tonnes, down from 130,818 in 2010/11, and
    - the recycling, composting and re-use for 2011/12 was 55.57%, up from last year's figure of 51.82%.

1 Introduction

The Annual Monitoring Report

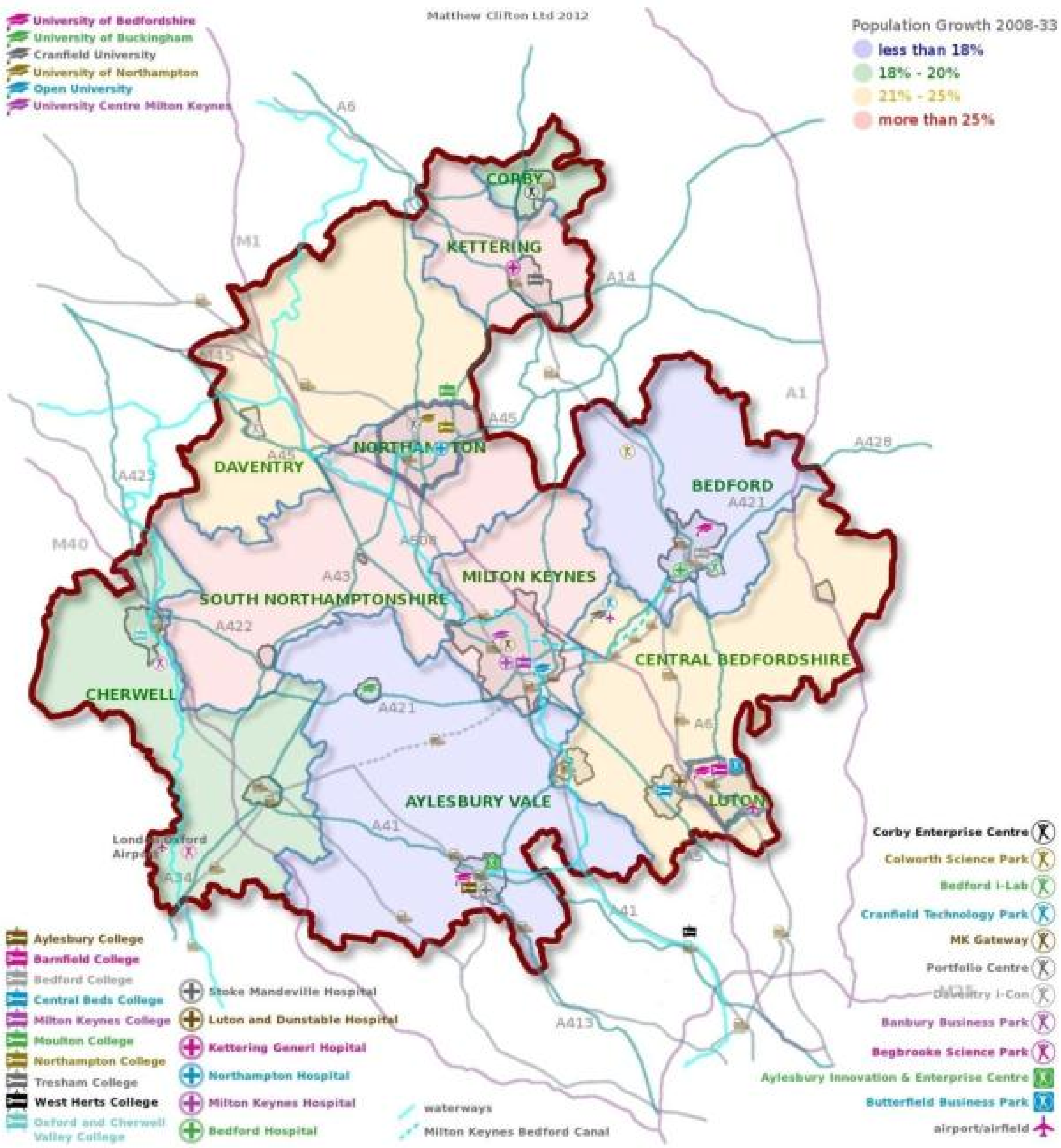
1.1 Local authorities are required to produce and publish monitoring reports by the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). On 30 March 2011, the parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Bob Neill MP, wrote to authorities announcing the withdrawal of Annual Monitoring Report Guidance, meaning authorities are now free to choose which targets and indicators to include in their reports (providing they are in line with relevant UK and EU legislation). As a result of the changes to monitoring requirements brought about by the Localism Act, a copy of the monitoring report is no longer sent to the Secretary of State.

1.2 This monitoring report covers the period April 2011 to March 2012.

Milton Keynes Background Information

1.3 Milton Keynes Borough covers the 'new city' of Milton Keynes as well as the large rural area which includes many villages, including the larger villages of Newport Pagnell, Woburn Sands and Olney. The Borough is located in the centre of the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) which brings together businesses, universities and colleges, community groups, social enterprises and local government in 11 local authority areas which include Aylesbury Vale, Central Bedfordshire, Bedford and South Northamptonshire (see Figure 1.1 'SEMLEP Map'). The aim of SEMLEP is to promote the South East Midlands as a prime growth location for business, investors and visitors. It is one of 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in England established by the Coalition Government to play a central role in determining local economic priorities and to undertake activities that drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

Figure 1.1 SEMLEP Map



1.4 Milton Keynes was designated as a New Town in 1967. The development of the city was subject to the 1970 Master Plan, implemented by the Milton Keynes Corporation until 1992. Milton Keynes has been, and continues to be, one of the fastest growing areas in the UK, with around 2,500 to 3,000 new residents every year. Since designation, the Borough's population has grown from 60,000 to 248,800 (2011 Census). The Submission Core Strategy sets a housing target of 28,000 over the period 2010-2026. This growth is expected to lead to an increase in population to almost 300,000 by 2026. The majority of land allocated to accommodate this growth was allocated in the Local Plan; further sites will be allocated through the Core Strategy and the new Local Plan.

1.5 The growth of Milton Keynes can be attributed to its advantageous location midway between London and Birmingham, as well as its connections to the M1 motorway and the West Coast Mainline train service. Also, Milton Keynes' position at the centre of the Oxford to Cambridge Arc offers good opportunities for economic growth. There are currently around 145,100 jobs[(1)] in the Borough and 2001 Census figures show that 25.7% of workers commute from outside the Borough[(2)].

1.6 Milton Keynes is a major shopping and leisure destination, with approximately 23 million people[(3)]within a 90 minute drive of the city. Popular destinations include the shopping centre, the theatre and Xscape.

Local Investment Plan

Milton Keynes Council has taken on the responsibility for producing the Local Investment Plan (LIP) from the Homes and Communities Agency. The LIP is an important tool to support decision-making of the Council and partners in relation to investment in infrastructure to support or facilitate new homes, new jobs or population growth, and lead to economic prosperity. This new role comes at a significant time in the history of Milton Keynes with the Council purchasing a number of HCA assets, plus taking on responsibility for the management of the MK Tariff and full development management powers for the whole Borough. This will be the first time a single, locally accountable authority will have full control over planning in Milton Keynes and the capability to create the conditions that encourage investment and drive social change and economic development. The transfer of assets and responsibilities from the Homes and Communities Agency to MKC will take effect on 14 January 2013.

Milton Keynes Council Planning, Economy and Development Group

1.7 Milton Keynes Council has continued to go through a process of restructuring. The Council's Planning teams are part of the Planning, Economy and Development Group, which itself has been going through a continuing process of change. The main changes which have occurred in terms of the overall structure of the group in the last 12 months are the transfer of the Planning Enforcement team into the the Council's Regulatory Services department, and the move of the Urban Design and Landscape Architecture team, so that they now fall under the Infrastructure Co-ordination and Delivery Service. There has also been further restructuring within individual teams. As a result of these changes the PED Group is now formed as follows:

- **Development Plans** - produce planning policy documents which direct the location of growth and development and provide the policy basis for the determination of planning applications.
- **Development Management** - handle and determine (or make recommendations for determining) planning applications.
  - **Conservation and Archaeology** - provide advice and comments on planning applications, and produce policy documents covering conservation and archaeological issues.
  - **Highways Development Management** - provide transport comments on planning applications.
  - **Land Charges -** process search requests from solicitors, conveyancers and the public.
- **Economic Development** - provide advice and information to other teams within the Council to support economic development. They also provide help and support for businesses looking to locate or expand in Milton Keynes.
- **Infrastructure Co-ordination and Delivery Service** - facilitate and support the delivery of growth in Milton Keynes.
  - **Urban Design and Landscape Architecture** - help shape the layout and design of developments, buildings and open space.

1 Source: Office for National Statistics, Business Register and Employment Survey 2011
2 Source: Office for National Statistics, 2001 Census
3 Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Mid Year population Estimates

1.8 As part of the restructuring that took place in 2011, together with the transfer of responsibilities from the HCA / Milton Keynes Partnership (MKP), the MKP planning and InvestMK teams transferred to the Council. The planning team is now part of the Council's Development Management team. The InvestMK team is now part of the Council's Economic Development team. The InvestMK team provides help and support for businesses looking to expand within, or move to, Milton Keynes.

2 Progress on LDF & LDS Implementation

Changes to the Planning System

Localism Act

2.1 The Coalition government has introduced a raft of changes to the planning system through the Localism Act[4]. As a result, there has been a lot of uncertainty, resulting in delays to the production of planning documents. The Localism Bill was first published in December 2010 and received Royal Assent in November 2011. Arguably, the two most significant planning related changes introduced by the act are:

- the provision to revoke regional spatial strategies, and
- the introduction of neighbourhood planning

2.2 In terms of the impact of the introduction of the provision to revoke regional spatial strategies, since the intention was originally announced by the Government in May 2010 this has had a significant impact on the timescale for adoption of the Milton Keynes Core Strategy. Consequently, the timescale for the production of the DPDs scheduled to follow adoption of the Core Strategy has also been delayed.

2.3 The impact of the introduction of neighbourhood planning is significant in the sense that it involves a substantial amount of officer resource, meaning a reduced level of resource is available for the production of Development Plan Documents. Work has began on Neighbourhood Plans in Milton Keynes, see paragraph 2.17 for more information.

National Planning Policy Framework

2.4 With the aim of clarifying and simplifying national planning policy, the government is replacing the existing national planning policy statements and guidance notes with a single National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)[5]. In July 2011 the Draft National Planning Policy Framework was published for consultation. The final NPPF came into force on 27 March 2012. All future Milton Keynes Local Plan Documents will need be in conformity with the Framework.

2.5 Also in December 2012 an External Review of Government Planning Practice Guidance [6]prepared by Lord Matthew Taylor of Goss Moor was published. It recommends that the existing 7,000 plus pages of Government Planning Practice guidance which supports the implementation of national planning policy, and which DCLG owns or owns with other Government Departments or agencies, should be replaced with a single 'online resource' that is 'actively managed' and updated annually.

Local Development Framework

Introduction

2.6 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the planning policy documents that the council intends to produce over a three year period and the timetable for producing them. It is essentially a summary of the more detailed project management behind each document.

2.7 The Local Development Scheme (2009 – 2012) includes a range of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) that the council was to produce. The DPDs proposed for production were the:

4 See this link for a guide to the Localism Bill http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishguide
5 The Framework is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2
6 The review is available at External-Review-of-Government-Planning-Practice-Guidance

- Core Strategy DPD – contains strategic policies and allocations
- Site Allocations DPD – contains non-strategic allocations (housing, employment, opens space etc)
- Development Management DPD – contains detailed policies to guide development, used in determining planning applications
- Minerals DPD – covers the strategic approach, site allocations and detailed policies for minerals matters.

2.8 Since the LDS was approved there have been considerable delays to document production, caused by amongst other things, the announcement by the Secretary of State about the revocation of Regional Strategies and significant changes to the planning system such as the Localism Bill and Act, the draft and final published National Planning Policy Framework, neighbourhood planning and new planning regulations.

2.9 All of these changes need to be reflected in updated LDS. In July 2012 the Council agreed a new approach to producing a development plan for Milton Keynes. Under the new approach the Council will combine the Site Allocations and Development Management documents, that had previously been identified in the Local Development Scheme 2009, to form a single document known as 'Plan:MK'. It will provide more detail to review the Core Strategy and allocate non strategic sites to achieve the requirements set by the Core Strategy. Should the need become apparent, it may be adapted to also provide contingency to deal with any strategic matters which remain following the Inspector's report on the Core Strategy. Minerals and Waste matters will continue to be addressed in separate documents. A detailed timetable for Plan:MK and the Minerals DPD is still to be confirmed.

Core Strategy

2.10 The Core Strategy (as approved by the council in January 2010 and September 2011) was the subject of five days of hearings in public in July 2012 before an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. In September the Inspector has provided a working draft of modifications that she considers necessary to make the Core Strategy sound and legally compliant.

2.11 It is anticipated that a public consultation on the main modifications to the Core Strategy will take place in January 2013 and that the Strategy will be adopted in March the same year.

Site Allocations Plan

2.12 Following the Inspector's working draft relating to the main modifications for the Core Strategy, a site Allocations Plan will need to provide contingency and feasibility for the Core Strategy housing figure. The LDS will be updated to reflect this.

Local Plan

2.13 Given the publication of the NPPF in March 2012 and its references to a "Local Plan", the Council now intends to progress the review of the Core Strategy and Development Management policies as a single Local Plan document ('Plan:MK').

2.14 Some Local Plan preparation work has began. The main priority for 2012/13 will be to review and update the evidence base, although the resource available will depend on, amongst other things, the Core Strategy examination and progress with Neighbourhood Plans.

Minerals Development Plan Document

2.15 The Minerals DPD will be progressed separately from the new Local Plan. Background minerals work, which will inform the production of the DPD, began in September 2011.

Strategic Land Allocation Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document

2.16 Informal consultation with the local community was undertaken, during November 2011 – January 2012, on draft concept plans for the Strategic Land Allocation. The results of the informal consultation and ongoing engagement processes have been taken into account in the preparation of the Draft Development Framework. Formal consultation on the draft Development Framework started in July and finished in October 2012.

2.17 Following the Core Strategy Examination hearings the Inspector has prepared a draft list of main modifications required to make the Core Strategy sound and legally compliant. One of the main modifications recommended by the Inspector is to increase the extent of land that is allocated for development in the Strategic Land Allocation.

2.18 It is proposed to further consult on the Framework and the changes resulting from the Inspector's recommendation early in 2013.

Neighbourhood Plans

2.19 As a result of the Localism agenda, Neighbourhood Planning is becoming an important and growing area of work for the Development Plans team, but does not feature in the current Local Development Scheme. In advance of the neighbourhood planning initiatives coming into effect, the Government encouraged local planning authorities to work with some of their communities on pilot or 'frontrunner' neighbourhood plans, to test out the process. Milton Keynes Council has five frontrunner projects underway at present in: the Lakes Estate, Castlethorpe, Stony Stratford, Wolverton and Great Linford. There is also a CMK Business Neighbourhood Plan 'frontrunner' which was out for public consultation until 7 December 2012 (more information on the CMK Business Neighbourhood Plan can be found at http://www.cmkalliance.co.uk/index.php/Welcome_to_Central_Milton_Keynes). Some parishes have also embarked on producing a Neighbourhood Plan outside a 'frontrunner' programme' and applied to Milton Keynes Council, to designate a Neighbourhood Plan Area; these include Woburn Sands and Wavendon. More information on Neighbourhood Planning in Milton Keynes Borough can be find at http://www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/planning-policy/displayarticle.asp?ID=86113

Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document

The Council is currently reviewing its Planning Obligations policies. As part of that work, consultation is taking place on a draft Affordable Housing SPD, until 9th January 2013. The tenure mix set out in that SPD will be used in the viability modelling work to understand the level at which we can set our Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule, and level of planning obligations/S106 contributions. Officers will be working with the various Council services and other external service providers as necessary to determine where they will sit within the new policy regime (e.g. under S106 or under CIL). It is intended that a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for CIL and a Draft Planning Obligations SPD will be agreed by Cabinet in April 2013, and consultation on both documents will be held in May/June 2013 (6 weeks). The new Planning Obligations SPD (which will replace the existing suite of SPDs) will be adopted in summer 2013. Further consultation and an examination will need to be undertaken on the CIL Charging Schedule, with the CIL being brought into effect locally around April 2014.

Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document

2.20 A Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was approved for public consultation by Cabinet in October 2012. The consultation on the draft SPD closes in January 2013. It is anticipated that the SPD will be adopted in early 2013.

Houses in Multiple Occupation Supplementary Planning Document

2.21 Production of the SPD was delayed last year, due to the government's removal of the requirement to seek planning permission for the change of use from a dwellinghouse to a house in multiple occupation. Milton Keynes Council took the decision to retain planning control of houses in multiple occupation and, as a result, introduced Article 4 Directions removing the new permitted development rights.

2.22 Work on the SPD recommenced in 2011, and a draft SPD was made available for consultation in October 2011 for a 12 week period. The Houses in Multiple Occupation Supplementary Planning Document was adopted on the 10 April 2012.

Wind Turbines SPD

2.23 The Council carried out a consultation on a Draft Wind Turbines Supplementary Planning Document and Emerging Policy between February and March 2012. The consultation responses were considered at a Members' Workshop, resulting in some minor changes to the SPD and Emerging Policy document which were carried forward into the Adopted document. The Wind Turbines Supplementary Planning Document and Emerging Policy: Wind Turbines Planning Applications document was adopted in July 2012. A legal challenge has been made against the Council's decision to adopt this SPD. A hearing in the High Court is scheduled for February 2013.

CMK Development Framework

2.24 In July 2010, cabinet resolved to initiate a review of the CMK development framework due to the dramatic change in the economic climate since 2002, when the document was published. This work was considered to be a priority which should be carried out ahead of the other CMK SPDs. Consultation on the draft SPD ran between September and November 2012. It is anticipated that the new Framework will be adopted early in 2013.

Residential Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

2.25 A revised draft of the Residential Design Guide SPD was made available for consultation between 22 December 2011 and 13 February 2012. The New Residential Development Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document was adopted on the 10 April 2012.

CMK: Tall Buildings, Green Frame, Block Parameter Plan Supplementary Planning Documents

2.26 Work on issue-specific SPDs for CMK (the Tall Buildings, the Green Frame, MK Block Parameter Plan) has either stopped or not yet commenced because it is considered that this should not precede the review of the CMK Development Framework. It is likely that guidance around the greenframe and individual blocks, if deemed necessary, may emerge within the CMK Business Neighbourhood Plan.

Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document

2.27 Work on the Residential and Business Parking Standards SPD is at the evidence gathering stage. It is anticipated that a draft SPD will be issued for consultation in 2013.

Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

2.28 A draft SPD is expected to be made available for consultation in 2013.

3 Social

Population

3.1 Table 3.1 'Population of Milton Keynes Borough'[(7)] shows that the population of Milton Keynes borough has continued to increase since the New Town designation in 1967, and is now over four times its original size. The 2011 Census data shows that the population, now 248,800, is almost 3,000 higher than the projected figure of 245,750[(8)]. The projected population of the Borough for 2020 is 281,350[(9)], however this figure may be revised upwards as a result of the 2011 Census data.

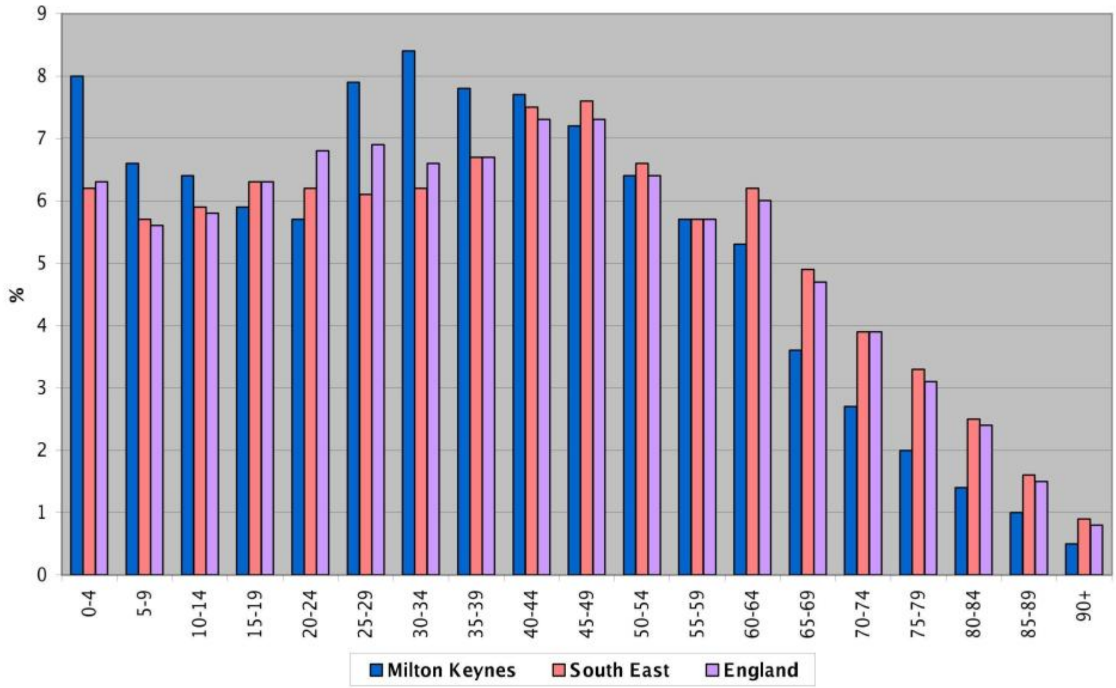
Table 3.1 Population of Milton Keynes Borough

Date	Population
Milton Keynes at designation in 1967	60,000
2008	232,920
2009	236,670
2010	241,500
2011 (Census data)	248,800

3.2 Figure 3.1 '2011 Population breakdown by age group'[(10)] shows that, relatively, Milton Keynes has a young population when compared to the South East region and England as a whole. The categories where the proportions are significantly higher in Milton Keynes are the 0-9 categories and 25-39 categories.

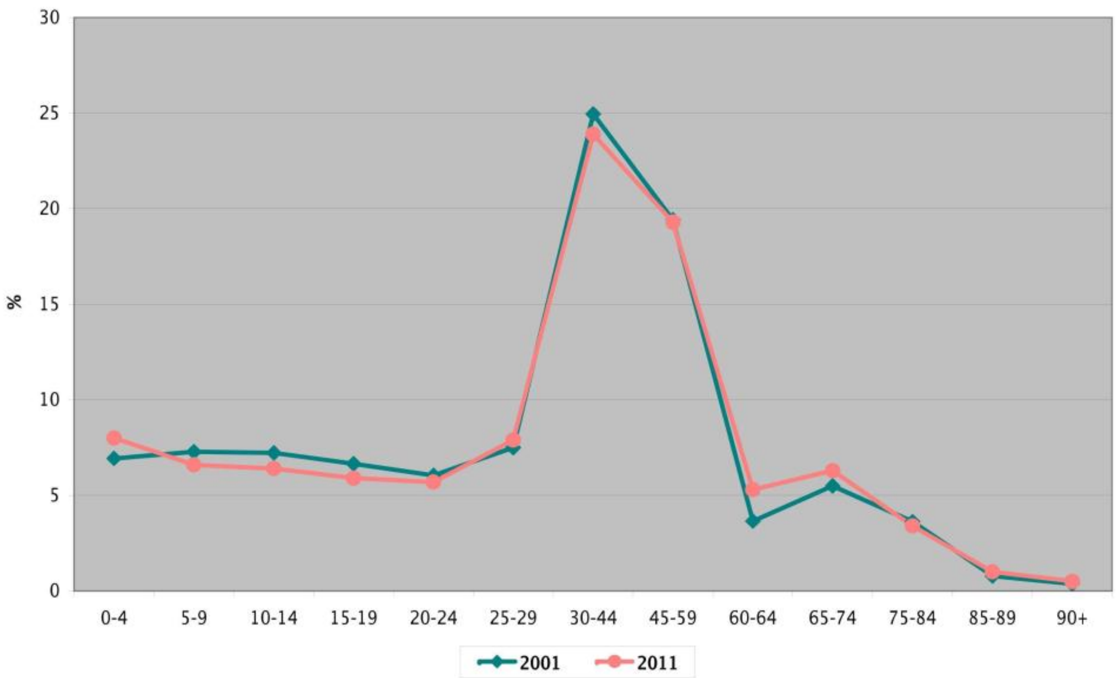
7 Source: 2011 Census data and 2011/12 Population Bulletin http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/document.aspx?id=10094&siteID=1026 & http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/Download/Public/1026/DOCUMENT/9967/Population-Bulletin2011-12.pdf
8 Source: 2-11/12 Population Bulletin (published before publication of the 2011 Census data headline figures) http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1914&siteID=1026
9 Source: 2-11/12 Population Bulletin http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1914&siteID=1026
10 Source: MKI Observatory http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/

Figure 3.1 2011 Population breakdown by age group



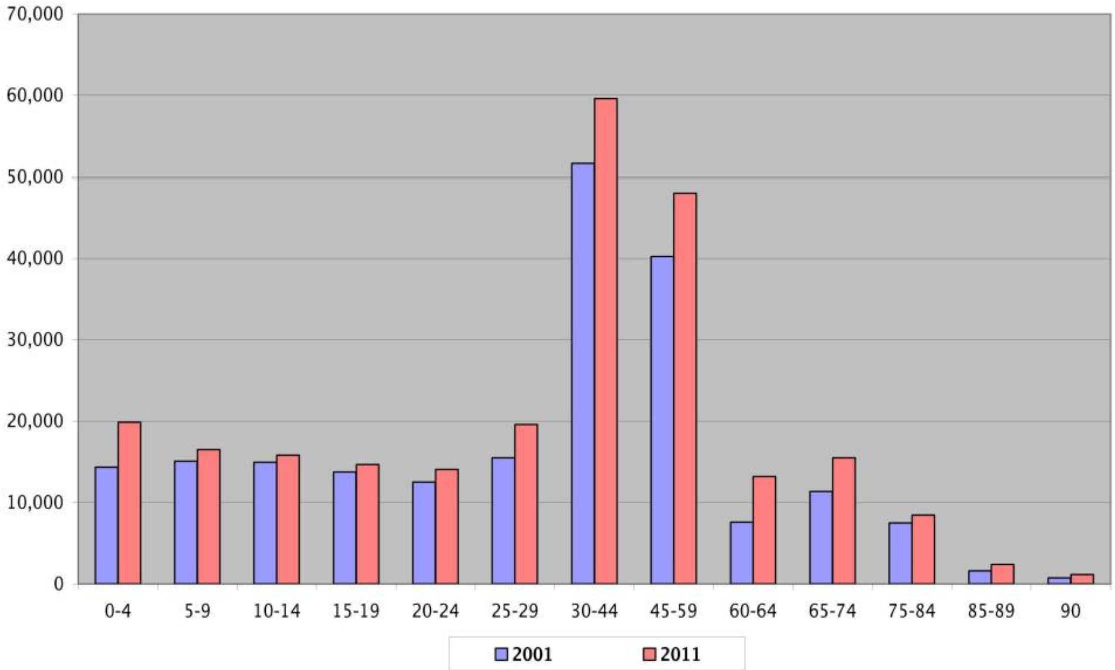
3.3 Figure 3.2 'Milton Keynes Population proportions by age'[(11)] and Figure 3.3 'Milton Keynes Population by age group'[(12)] show that the pattern of age proportions remained broadly similar in 2011 as it was ten years ago, in 2001. However there are a number of areas of change, in particular, the proportion of 5-24 year olds has decreased, while the proportion of 0-4 year olds has increased. There has been a fall in the proportion of 30-44 year olds and, significantly, there has been an increase in the proportion of people in all age groups over the age of 60.

Figure 3.2 Milton Keynes Population proportions by age



11 Source: MKI Observatory http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/
12 Source: MKI Observatory http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/

Figure 3.3 Milton Keynes Population by age group



Ethnicity

3.4 Some headline figures[13] from the 2011 Census data show that:

- 26% of the Milton Keynes population are from a black and minority ethnic group. This compares to 13.2% in 2001 and 20% for England as a whole.
- The black and minority ethnic groups that have grown the most between 2001 and 2011 are Black African (1.3% of the population in 2001 to 5.2% in 2011) and White Other (2.5% of the population in 2001 to 5.1% in 2011).
- 18.5% of residents in Milton Keynes were born outside of the UK. This compares to 13.8% for England as a whole and 9.9% in 2001.

Health and Life Expectancy

3.5 Headline figures from the 2011 Census data show that 15,800 residents consider their day to day activities to be limited a lot because of health issues. This is 6.4% of the population, compared with 8.3% for England[14].

3.6 Table 3.2 'Life Expectancy at Birth'[15] shows that the life expectancy at birth figure in Milton Keynes is slightly lower than the figures for England as a whole, as well as the figure for the South East. Life expectancy for males rose back to the 2006/08 level for 2008/10, after falling slightly in 2007/09. There was no increase in female life expectancy at birth in Milton Keynes, but life expectancy in the South East and the whole of England did rise.

13 Source: 2011 Census data http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1924&siteID=1026
14 Source: 2011 Census data http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1924&siteID=1026
15 Source: MKI Observatory http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/

Table 3.2 Life Expectancy at Birth

Year	Males			Females		
	Milton Keynes	South East	England	Milton Keynes	South East	England
2004/06	77.3	78.5	77.3	80.9	82.4	81.6
2005/07	78.0	78.9	77.6	81.5	82.7	81.8
2006/08	78.1	79.2	77.9	81.8	83.0	82.0
2007/09	77.9	79.4	78.2	82.2	83.3	82.3
2008/10	78.1	79.7	78.6	82.2	83.5	82.6

Deprivation

3.7 The Index of Multiple Deprivation is updated every three years, so the figures in Table 3.3 'The number of LSOAs in Milton Keynes within the least deprived (30%) and most deprived (30%)'[(16)] are the same as those reported in last year's AMR. The Index of Multiple Deprivation is the government measure of deprivation. It combines a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. These small areas are called Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) and these can be combined to create larger, area wide figures. There are 139 LSOAs in Milton Keynes; each of these are ranked relative to one another according to their level of deprivation.

3.8 Milton Keynes was ranked 211th out of 326 in the 2010 figures, with 1 being the most deprived. This compares to the 2007 rank of 212. Authorities ranked closely to Milton Keynes include East Devon (209), Braintree (210), Solihull (212), Chichester (213) and Cheltenham (214).

3.9 Table 3.3 'The number of LSOAs in Milton Keynes within the least deprived (30%) and most deprived (30%)' shows that of the 139 LSOAs in Milton Keynes there are 7 which are within the 10% most deprived in England. This compares to 6 in 2007. Overall there are 24 LSOAs within the most deprived 30%, two more than the 2007 Index. There are 17 LSOAs within the least deprived 10% in England, three more than in 2007.

Table 3.3 The number of LSOAs in Milton Keynes within the least deprived (30%) and most deprived (30%)

	LSOAs within the Most Deprived			LSOAs within the Least Deprived		
	2004	2007	2010	2004	2007	2010
0-10%	5	6	7	14	14	17
10-20%	8	9	11	26	35	34
20-30%	9	7	6	31	23	21
Total	**22**	**22**	**24**	**71**	**72**	**72**

16 Source: 2012 Social Atlas http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/Download/Public/1026/DOCUMENT/10168/SocialAtlas2012.pdf

Citizen's Survey Results

3.10 The 'Citizens Survey' is a shortened version of the 2008 Place Survey questionnaire, designed to monitor changes in opinion and assess the impact of initiatives introduced by the Council. This year's figures show that 85.9% of people are satisfied with their local area as a place to live. This is an improvement on last year's figure of 80.8%.

3.11 Aspects of the 'local area' (defined as 'within 15 to 20 minutes walking distance from your home'), which were most mentioned as most in need of improvement were identified as 'road and pavement repairs' (39.2%), 'activities for teenagers' (29.7%), and 'public transport' (28.1%).

3.12 Respondents were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they are with the way in which Milton Keynes Council runs things: just over half (52.0%) of respondents were satisfied ('very' or 'fairly') with this, whilst 15.0% were 'dissatisfied', and 32.9% gave 'neither satisfied nor dissatisfied' responses.

3.13 Over a third (35%) of respondents agreed that they could influence decisions affecting their local area (4.2% 'definitely agree' and 30.8% 'tend to agree'); whereas 65.0% disagreed (45.3% 'tend to disagree' and 19.7% 'definitely disagree').

3.14 Respondents were asked how safe or unsafe they feel when outside in their local area after dark and during the day. Over half (54.6%) of all respondents feel safe when outside in their local area after dark (12.4% 'very safe' and 42.2% 'fairly safe'), whilst 27.6% feel unsafe (9.1% 'very unsafe' and 18.5% 'fairly unsafe')[17].

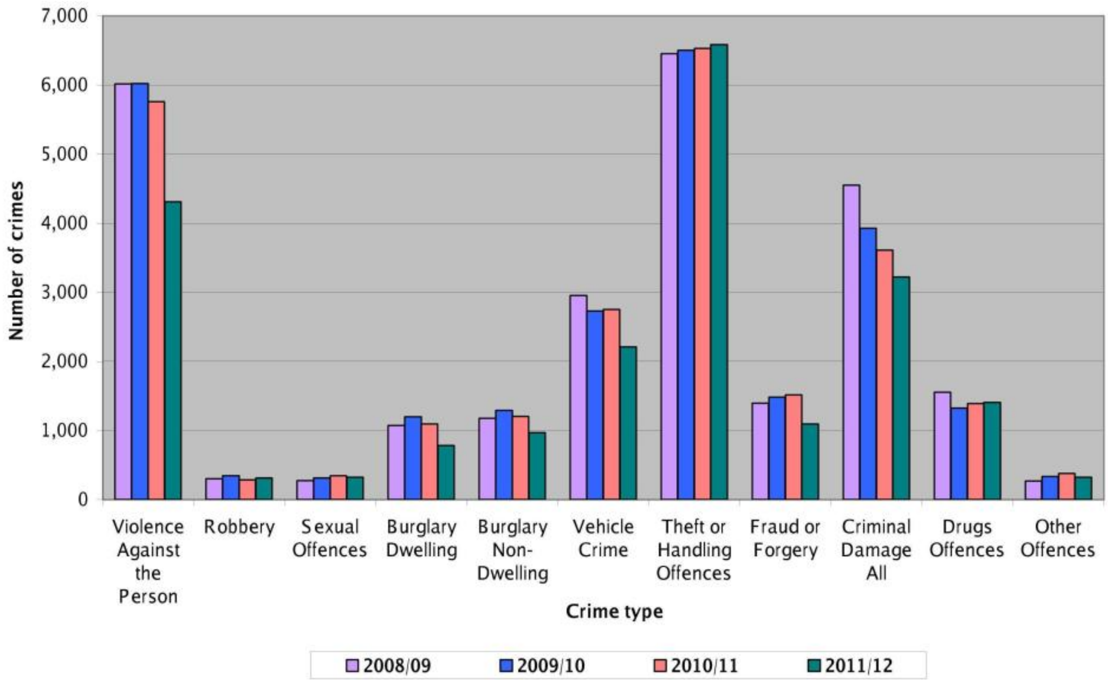
Crime Rates

3.15 Figure 3.4 'Recorded crime rates in Milton Keynes'[18] shows that there has been a fall in crime rates in a number of categories, including burglaries, vehicle crime, fraud and criminal damage, and there has been a significant reduction in 'violence against the person'. There have been no significant increases, but the upward trend in theft and handling offences has continued this year. The total number of crimes fell from 24,878 in 2010/11 to 21,553 in 2011/12.

17 Source: 2011/12 Citizens Survey http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/document.aspx?id=9984&siteID=1026

18 Source: 2012 Social Atlas http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/Download/Public/1026/DOCUMENT/10168/SocialAtlas2012.pdf

Figure 3.4 Recorded crime rates in Milton Keynes



Summary

- The population of Milton Keynes is 248,800, almost 3,000 higher than the projected figure of 245,750
- The population of Milton Keynes is getting older, but remains young relative to the South East and England
- The proportion of people from black and minority ethnic groups has increased from 13.2% in 2001 to 26% in 2011
- Life Expectancy in Milton Keynes is lower than in the South East and England
- There are 7 lower super output areas in Milton Keynes that are in the 10% most deprived in England
- 85.9% of people are satisfied with their local area as a place to live, up from 80.8% in 2010/11
- The total number of crimes fell from 24,878 in 2010/11 to 21,553 in 2011/12

4 Development Management

Development Management

Planning Applications

4.1 Table 4.1 'Applications Decided in Milton Keynes (only applications counted in Govt Stats)' shows that the number of planning applications decided by Milton Keynes Council increased from 1,202 in 2009/10 to 1,316 in 2010/11 and slightly decreased to 1,314 in the current monitoring period. In the three year period shown there was a continuous and significant increase in the group of major applications (46.6%) and minor applications (26.1%) and a slight drop in the group of other applications in 2011/12 but an overall slight increase of 2.7% in the three year period. The table also shows that since 2009 good progress was made in ensuring that the majority of minor and other applications are being decided within the 8 week period[19]. It is noticeable that the number of major applications determined (within and outside the 13-week target), which are those that require the greatest staff resources from the Development Management Team but also form other teams within the Planning, Economy and Development Directorate, has increased by over 46% since 2009 despite the overall number of officers involved in dealing with applications being reduced in 2011.

Table 4.1 Applications Decided in Milton Keynes (only applications counted in Govt Stats)

	Major applications Govt Target 60% decided within 13 weeks			Minor applications Govt Target 65% decided Within 8 weeks			Other applications Govt Target 80% decided within 8 weeks			All
	%	Total	In Time	%	Total	In Time	%	Total	In Time	Grand Total
2009/10	66.66	30	20	57.04	284	162	76.23	888	677	1202
2010/11	73.68	38	28	69.90	309	216	83.90	969	813	1316
2011/12	54.54	44	24	66.75	358	239	81.35	912	742	1314

Planning Appeals

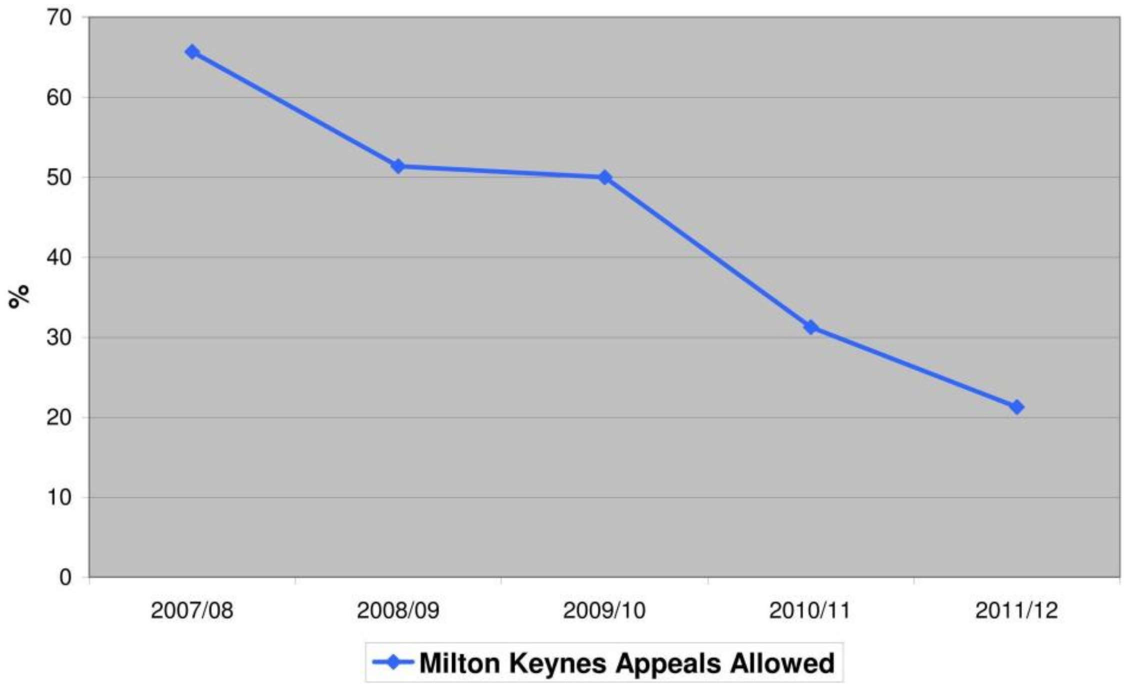
4.2 Picture 4.1 'Planning Appeals Allowed 2007 - 2011/12' shows that there has been a significant improvement in the proportion of appeals allowed, down from 65.7% in 2007/08 to 21.3% in 2011/12. Only planning appeals against which the Council's performance is measured (BVP indicator 204) are included in this year's analysis. [20]This only counts appeals that resulting from appeals against refusal of planning permission and does not count appeals

19 Source - Development Management Team http://cmis.milton-keynes.gov.uk/CmisWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=36812

20 Please note that these figures are based on the dates the Council made decisions and not the dates the Inspectorate issued their appeal decisions

against Non Determination, refusal of Listed Building Consent or Advert Consent, refusal to Discharge Conditions, Enforcement. It should be noted that whilst the figure of allowed appeals was relatively high during the first three years of that monitoring period it dropped significantly in the last two years[(21)]

Picture 4.1 Planning Appeals Allowed 2007 - 2011/12



4.3 Table 4.2 shows in more detail the council's performance in defending planning appeals. Between 2009/10 and 2011/12, on average 41% of planning appeals were allowed for planning applications decided by Development Control Committee in line with the officer recommendation; this figure raises almost to 78% of allowed appeals for decisions made against the officer recommendation. It is worth noting that an average figure of allowed appeals drops significantly (26%) for planning applications determined by officer under delegated powers. There are a number of factors that influence a higher success rate for appeals on planning applications determined under delegated powers with the main one being that these applications are less complex and controversial than those decided by Development Control Committee.

Table 4.2 Planning Appeals Performance 2009/10 - 2011/12

	Committee				Delegated	
	With Recommendation		Against Recommendation			
	Total	% Won	Total	% Won	Total	% Won
2009/10	3	66.66	17	17.64	26	65.38
2010/11	5	0	4	50	23	86.95
2011/12	4	75	5	20	24	70.83

21 Development Management Team http://cmis.milton-keynes.gov.uk/CmisWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=36812

	Committee				Delegated	
	With Recommendation		Against Recommendation			
3 Year average	4	58.33	8.6	22.5	24.3	74.07

4.4 In order to maintain and possibly improve the Council's success rate in defending appeal decisions, a planning appeal officer post was created in 2012. It is believed that having a dedicated planning officer dealing with appeals will enable a better handling of the appeal process but also a closer analysis and evaluation of planning policies that are currently being used in determining planning applications. Finally, this should help to ensure that planning policies formed through the production of the new Local Plan are effective, and can be successfully defended at appeal.

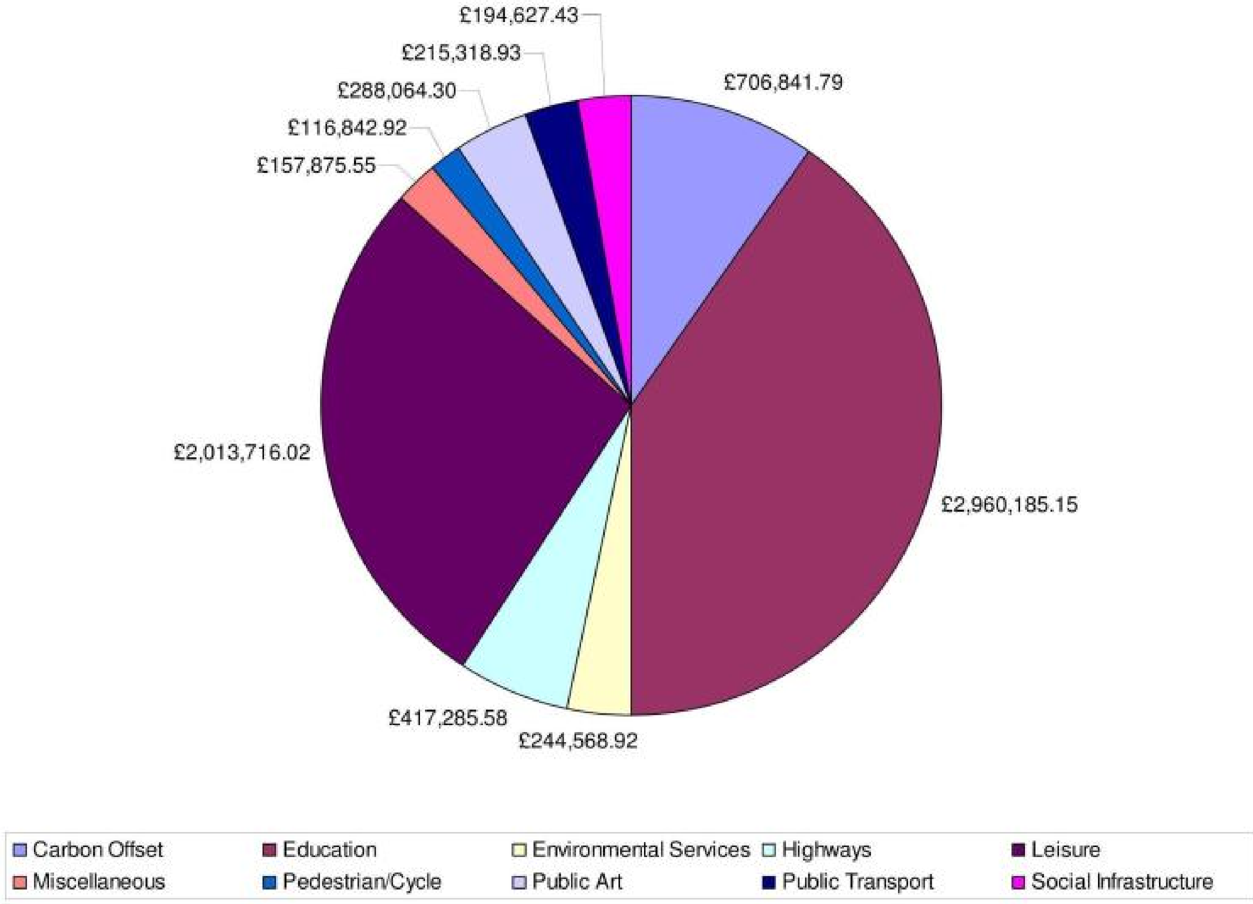
Planning Obligations

4.5 Planning obligations (also known as 'Section 106 Agreements') are financial contributions that are necessary in order to make a development acceptable in planning terms. They are generally used to support the provision of infrastructure and services, such as highways, recreational facilities, education, health and affordable housing. The negotiation of planning obligations begins by applying the Council's Supplementary Planning Documents and then working with the developer, service departments and local groups to bring forward a viable and sustainable development.

4.6 Picture 4.2 'S 106 Expenditure 2011/12'[(22)] shows that £7,315,326 of committed funds was spent on a range of environmental improvements, highway schemes, social infrastructure, public transport, leisure, affordable housing, carbon offset and other community benefits. This figure is significantly higher than last year's £3,987,540.

22 Source - Infrastructure Co-ordination & Delivery Team

Picture 4.2 S 106 Expenditure 2011/12



4.7 Table 4.3 ' Planning Obligations Secured in 2011/12' shows that in 2011/12 the Council received £8,439,957 in S106 contributions, which is nearly £1.3m more when compared to last year's figure. The largest contribution of £2.8m was made towards the miscellaneous group of commitments which included a payment of over £2.6m from the Stantonbury Park development towards various commitments resulting from that specific development. Other large S106 contributions were made last year towards education, carbon offsetting, public transport schemes, environmental services and social infrastructure.

Table 4.3 Planning Obligations Secured in 2011/12

Budget Areas	Funds
Carbon Offset	1,073,508
Education	1,367,268
Environmental Services	569,983
Highways	372,931
Leisure	410,140
Public Art	229,946
Public Transport	972,970
Social Infrastructure	578,214
Miscellaneous	2,864,997
Total	**8,439,957**

Summary

4.8 This year's monitoring figures show that the number of planning applications submitted to the Council has decreased by two when compared to last year. However, the figures also show that in the last three years there was a continuous and significant increase in the group of major applications (46.6%) and minor applications (26.1%). This section also highlights that there has been a continuing improvement in the Council's appeal record, with the percentage of appeals allowed falling significantly since 2007/08. Planning Obligations monitoring shows that in 2010/11 S106 expenditure stood at £7,315,326 and receipts totalled £8,439,957.

Actions

- Continue monitoring the Council's success rate at defending planning decisions on appeals.
- Continue monitoring the number of planning applications determined by Development Control Committee and Panel against officer recommendation and consider whether additional training is required.
- Analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of existing planning policies in order to inform the production of policies in the new Local Plan.
- Continue to work on the production of a single Planning Obligations SPD and a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).
- Ensure that the release of planning obligations funds is not unnecessarily delayed and that infrastructure projects are being implemented in a timely manner.

5 Housing

Housing Targets

5.1 The Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy (Oct 2010) contains a housing target of 28,000 new home completions over the period from 2010 to 2026, an average of 1,750 new homes per year.

5.2 This target can be broken down into two distinct parts:

- 26,240 homes in and around the urban area (1,640 per year)
- 1,760 homes in the rest of the Borough (the rural area) (110 per year)

5.3 The Core Strategy, and the target housing figure contained within it, was formally examined in July 2012 and it is hoped, will be formally adopted in early 2013. This AMR covers the second year of the plan period (1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012), so is able to assess performance against the rate of completions anticipated when the Core Strategy target was set.

5.4 A housing trajectory was included in the Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy (Oct 2010) which set out the anticipated rate of housing completions over the 16 year plan period. The monitoring section of the Core Strategy sets out the aim to stay within 20% of the target (cumulatively), with the expectation that straying outside of the 20% range, without optimism of improvement, will necessitate action being taken to improve performance.

5.5 The Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy trajectory Figure 5.1 'Core Strategy Housing Trajectory 2010-2026' forecast 1,694 total completions for the 2010/11 monitoring period.

Dwelling Completions

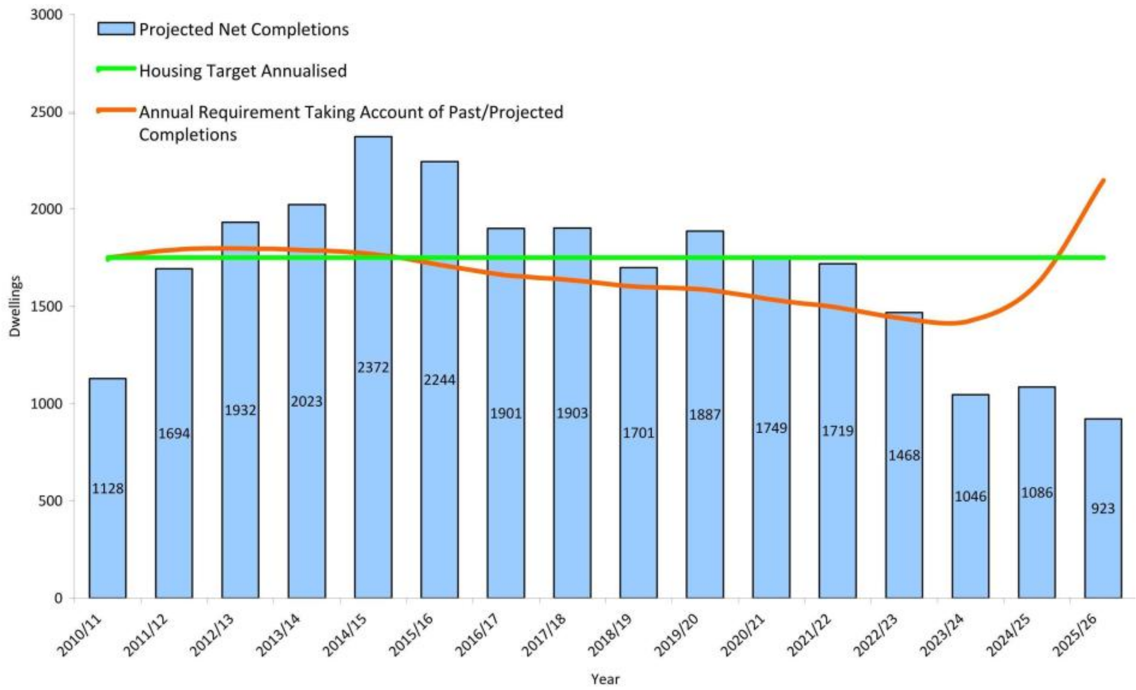
Table 5.1 Net Housing Completions 2003-2012

2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
1,183	1,133	1,360	1,795	1,660	2,301	1,841	1,413	1,295	1,580

5.6 Table 5.1 'Net Housing Completions 2003-2012' shows that the actual net figure for housing completions was 1,580 in 2011/12. This is a shortfall of 114 dwellings (7%) below the forecast level in the Core Strategy housing trajectory (Figure 5.1 'Core Strategy Housing Trajectory 2010-2026'). This figure is still an increase of 285 dwellings on last years reported completions and when calculated cumulatively with the dwelling completions from the first year of the plan period (2010/11), completions remain 2% above the target, this is in line with the Core Strategy aim of staying within 20% of the Housing Trajectory forecast (cumulatively).

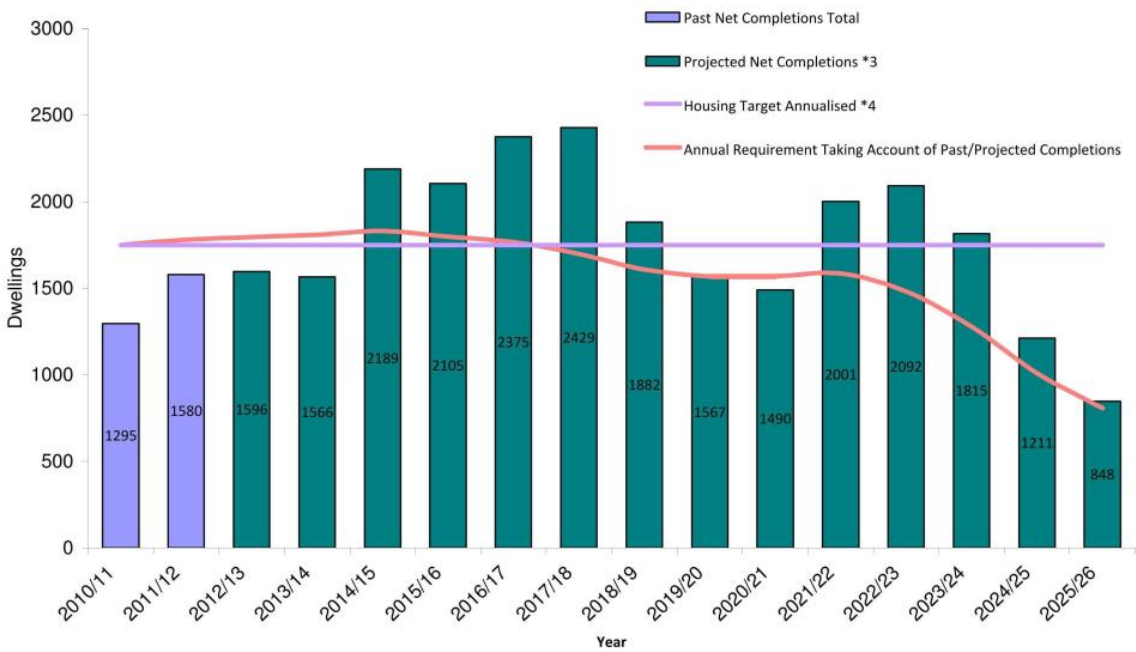
5.7 Figure 5.1 'Core Strategy Housing Trajectory 2010-2026' shows that completions were forecast to rise above the annualised average in the current year and continue to rise for the next couple of years, reaching a peak in 2014/15.

Figure 5.1 Core Strategy Housing Trajectory 2010-2026



5.8 Progress against this target will be kept under review. As such, a new housing trajectory based on up-to-date information (including progress on sites and new planning permissions) has been prepared for this AMR. This revised trajectory has informed the five year land supply figure which is summarised later in this report.

Figure 5.2 Revised Housing Trajectory



5.9 Figure 5.2 'Revised Housing Trajectory' shows a relatively significant dip in the forecast rate of completions for both 2012/13 and 2013/14 , with the completion rate only forecast to rise above the annualised average in 2014/15, two years later than was forecast in Figure 5.1 'Core Strategy Housing Trajectory 2010-2026'.

5.10 This dip is due to a number of large development sites, including the Western Expansion Area, Kingsmead South and Tattenhoe Park coming forward later than originally expected. These sites are however due to begin showing completions over the next two monitoring periods.

5.11 Forecasts show that by the end of the 2012/13 monitoring period completions will be at a total of 4,471 dwellings. This is 94% of the original Core Strategy forecast for the end of 2012/13 of 4,754 dwellings and therefore within the 20% tolerance set out in the Core Strategy.

Nature of Completions

5.12 Of total completions in the 2011/12 monitoring period, 1,479 completions were in the urban area and 107 were in the rest of the borough. This is broadly in line with expectations; rural completions continuing at a steady rate and urban completions, whilst increasing, remaining below the annualised housing target due to the depressed housing market.

5.13 Table 5.2 'Percentage of Housing Completions by Bedrooms' sets out completions by size (bedrooms) during 2011/12. The table shows that there was an increase, compared to the previous monitoring period, in the number of flats (both 1 and 2 bed) for the first time in 2 years which has resulted in a higher number of completions than both 2009/10 and 2010/11. However, there has been a decrease in the 2011/12 period in the supply of 3, 4 and 5 bedroom houses, bucking a trend that saw an increase in these houses in each of the past 3 monitoring periods.

Table 5.2 Percentage of Housing Completions by Bedrooms

Year	1 bed flat	2 bed flat	3+ bed flat	1 bed house	2 bed house	3 bed house	4 bed house	5 bed house	Unknown
2009/10	13	32	1	2	11	15	20	5	2
2010/11	7	29	1	0	7	23	26	8	0
2011/12	18.5	34	0.2	0.3	8	16	19	4	0

Land Supply

5.14 Broken link - possible circular reference Developable sites at October 2012 show that there was land to accommodate 25,531 homes across the Borough. This covers a range of sites from large scale expansion areas to small infill developments, and includes permitted sites and identified brownfield opportunities.

Table 5.3 Developable sites at October 2012

Permissions	**Full/REM**	**3,140**
Outline	**12,004**	
Local Plan allocations and deliverable brownfield sites		**10,387**
Total		**25,531**

5.15 As a Local Planning Authority, the Council is required to maintain a rolling five year supply of deliverable housing land, to ensure the continued supply of homes in the area. The requirement for the next full five years (from April 2013) is set out in Table 5.4 'Five year land supply requirement'. The requirement is determined by:

- Calculating the remainder of the housing target to be delivered between 2013 and 2026, taking into account completions during the period from 2010/11 to 2011/12 and the forecast completions from 2012/13.
- Dividing by the remaining years of the plan (13) to get a revised annualised requirement.
- Multiplying the new requirement by 5 to get the five year requirement.

Table 5.4 Five year land supply requirement

(a) Housing target	28,000
(b) Completions 2010 - 2012	2,875
(c) Forecast completions 2012-13	1,596
(d) Remaining requirement (a-b-c)	23,529
(e) Annualised over remaining 13 years (e x 13)	1,810
Five year requirement (e x 5)	**9,050**

5.16 The supply of land over this period is set out in Figure 5.2 'Revised Housing Trajectory'. This trajectory has been developed from last year's trajectory by:

- Taking account of actual completions in 2010/11 and 2011/12
- Adjusting the remaining capacity of sites to take into account over/under completions against the original forecast
- Adding new windfall planning permissions and identifies brownfield sites not included previously
- Adjusting forecasts in light of information from developers and landowners through the ongoing Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

5.17 At October 2012, there was land from developable sites to accommodate 25,531 homes across the Borough. Following government guidance on assessing deliverability of land, as outlined in the NPPF[(23)], Figure 5.2 'Revised Housing Trajectory' shows that over the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2018, 10,664 of the 25,531 dwellings are expected to be completed. This is equivalent to 5.88 years' supply.

5.18 A full list of sites which make up the Five Year Land Supply is available in a separate statement accompanying the AMR.

5.19 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has introduced a requirement for council's to plan for an additional allowance of 5% or 20% of land within the five year period to provide 'choice and competition in the market for land'.

23 NPPF definition of deliverable - *'To be considered deliverable, sites should be available now, offer a suitable location for development now, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within five years and in particular that development of the site is viable. Sites with planning permission should be considered deliverable until permission expires, unless there is clear evidence that schemes will not be implemented within five years, for example they will not be viable, there is no longer a demand for the type of units or sites have long term phasing plans'*

5.20 This part of the report summarises performance against the requirement to show a 20% buffer on the urban housing target and a 5% buffer on the rural housing target.

5.21 Over the period 2013-2018, the urban area currently has 5.94 years worth of land supply, which equates to an 18.8% buffer over the 5 year land supply requirement. This is 109 homes short of being able to fully demonstrate the deliverability of the 20% buffer. This is felt to be a very healthy position given the requirement to demonstrate a 20% buffer was only introduced this year.

5.22 The rural area over the same five year period has 5.22 years worth of land supply which equates to a 4.3% buffer on the 5 year land supply requirement. The current deliverable supply of 579 homes is just four short of being able to demonstrate the full 5% buffer; this is not felt to be significant.

5.23 Further information on the 5/20% additional allowance is available in the separate 'Assessment of 5 year land supply' statement, accompanying the AMR.

Affordable Housing Completions

5.24 During 2011/12, there were 467 affordable housing completions. This is 29.5% of all completions, just 0.5% below the 30% policy target. This is an improvement on last year in terms of the number of completions; 2010/11 reported 389 affordable housing completions, but as a percentage of overall housing completions it remains relatively identical (29.8% of all completions in 2010/11).

5.25 In terms of split of affordable housing tenures, the policy requirement outlined in the Affordable Housing SPD (2007) is for 25% social rent, 5% shared ownership. In 2011/12 there were approximately 20% Social Rent and 9.5% shared ownership. Whilst this deviates from the policy requirement, this is a continued improvement on the previous two years when just 11% in 2009/10 and 17% in 2010/11 of affordable home completion was social rent.

5.26 It is expected that in future years, the Affordable Rent tenure introduced by the government is likely to have an impact on the mix of affordable housing completions. Decisions were made at Milton Keynes Council Cabinet meetings in both November 2011 and June 2012 to accept Affordable Rent in developments where viability concerns would make Social Rent undeliverable, however no applications to date have been granted planning permission on this basis.

5.27 Milton Keynes Council is currently out on public consultation on an updated draft Affordable Housing SPD, which provides a continuation of the decisions made at the November 2011 and June 2012 Cabinet meetings. The table below summarises the Council's standard affordable housing requirements under the updated draft Affordable Housing SPD.

30% of units on residential developments of 15 units or more, consisting of:
25% of units for rent at a range of rental levels up to 80% of market rents, under the Affordable Rent model, including approximately 5% at a level broadly equivalent to Social Rent (at the time an application is considered)
5% Shared Ownership/Newbuild Homebuy (minimum 25%-50% equity range)

5.28 As these requirements are a continuation of those accepted at the previous Cabinet meetings, it is intended that the tenure mix set out in the table above be used as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications from now on as an emerging SPD, and when adopted, as a SPD. Affordable housing completions will therefore be monitored and reported under these new requirements in next year's AMR.

Housing Completions on Previously Developed Land

5.29 Figure 5.3 'Number of dwellings on previously developed land' and Figure 5.4 'Proportion of dwelling completions on previously developed land' show that both the number and proportion of dwelling completions on previously developed/brownfield land rose in the 2011/12 monitoring period. Whilst not a dramatic increase, the proportion rose by 4% from 32% to 36%, exceeding the Local Plan target figure of 20% by 16%.

5.30 The highest proportion of dwelling completions on previously developed land in recent monitoring years came in 2009/10, where the re-development of Wolverton Park and its associated train sheds significantly boosted the number of brownfield completions.

5.31 This was however something of a one-off in Milton Keynes. Due to the nature of Milton Keynes as a New Town, there are likely to be less redevelopment opportunities compared with other towns and cities and it is therefore always likely to have a lower proportion of completions on previously developed land. Also, Milton Keynes has more growth than many other towns and cities, meaning more development land is required.

Figure 5.3 Number of dwellings on previously developed land

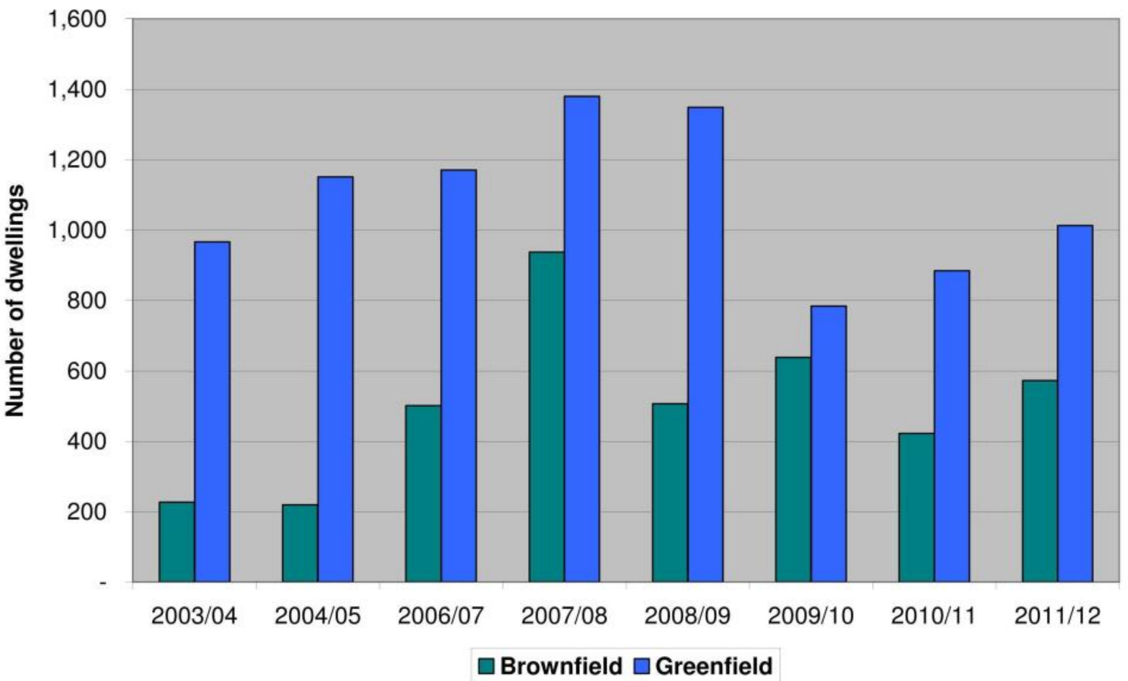
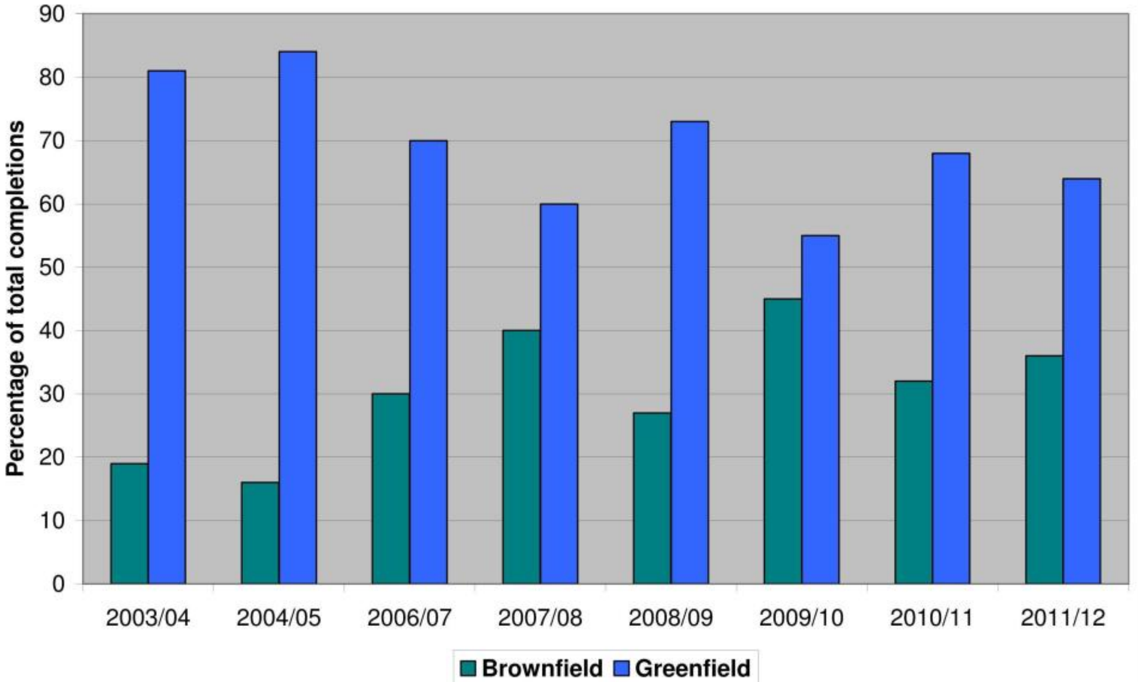
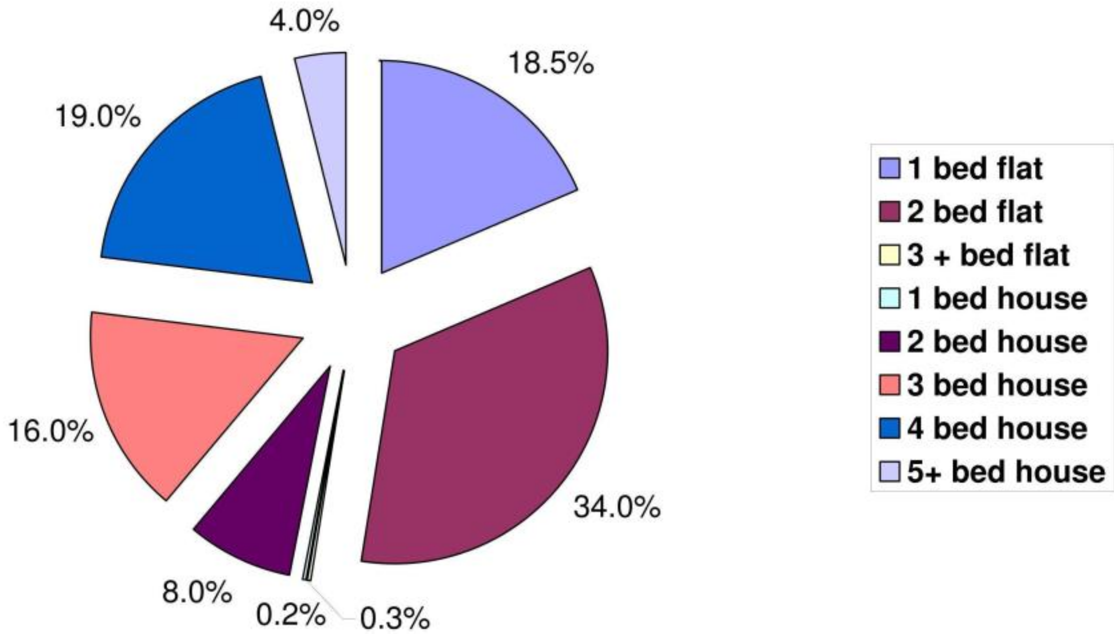


Figure 5.4 Proportion of dwelling completions on previously developed land



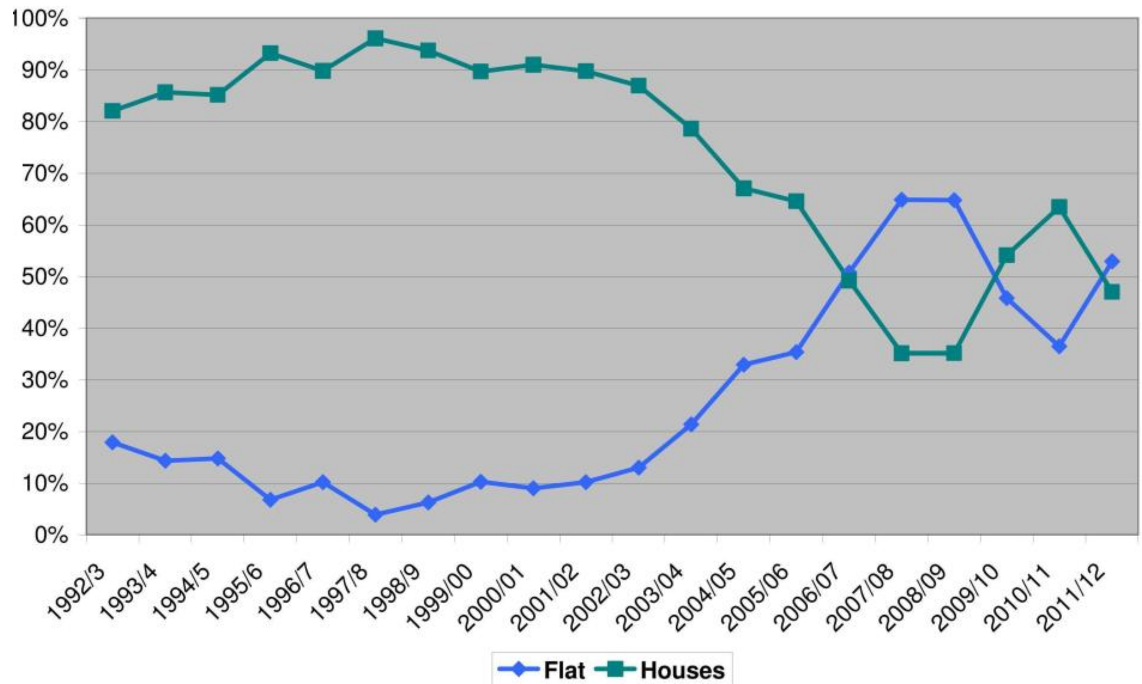
Housing Completions by Type

Picture 5.1 Dwelling Completions by Type



5.32 Picture 5.1 'Dwelling Completions by Type' shows a trend towards the development of more flats over the 2011/12 monitoring period, with 1 and 2 bedroom flats accounting for 52.5% of overall dwelling completions. This is a significant increase compared to the 36% reported in last years monitoring period. Meanwhile the proportion of 3 and 4 bedroom houses has dropped from 49% of overall completions in the 2010/11 monitoring period to 35% in the 2011/12 period. The proportion of 1 and 2 bedroom houses has remained relatively the same as in the 2010/11 monitoring period, whilst the percentage of 5+ bedroom houses has also dropped by 4% in the 2011/12 monitoring period.

Figure 5.5 Completions - Flats and Houses



5.33 Figure 5.5 'Completions - Flats and Houses' shows that over the past monitoring period there has been an increase in the number of flats completed, whilst the number of housing completions has decreased. This is opposite to the trend that was reported in the last monitoring period, whereby the proportion of new houses was around 30% higher than the proportion of flats. This was a trend which was expected to continue.

5.34 There are a number of possible reasons for the high proportion of flats completed and the change in trend noted over the 2011/12 monitoring period.

5.35 The 2011/12 monitoring report has seen a high number of completions of flats with specialist care for the elderly, including 200, 1 and 2 bedroom flats at the new Shenley Wood Retirement Village and a smaller facility in Newport Pagnell.

5.36 Furthermore there is a high demand for affordable 2 bed properties and developers are currently building these out as flats rather than houses. This has included the development of large numbers of flats at sites in Broughton and Atterbury and in Bletchley, including the former Reckitt and Coleman Site and at Bletchley Park.

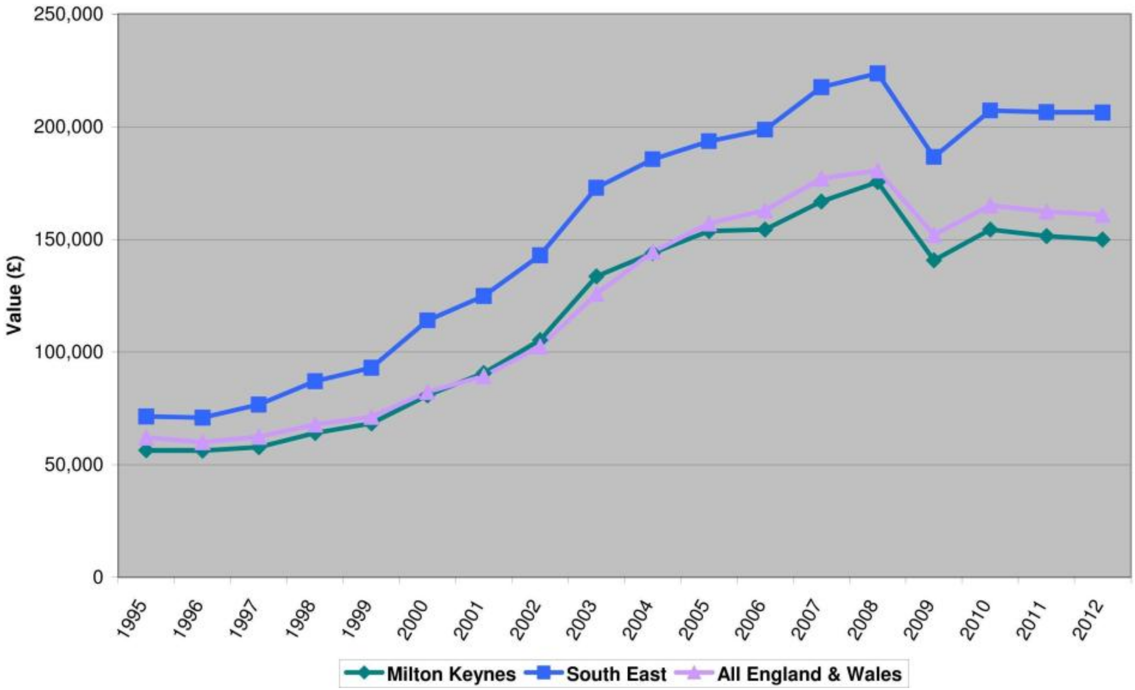
5.37 Further research into housing completions, over the last three monitoring periods, across newer development areas, where larger, new communities are being formed shows a significant difference and suggests that in the longer term this year's figures are likely to be an annual fluctuation.

5.38 As the examples below show, between 2009 and 2012 completions across newer development areas are more balanced in terms of type and are in keeping with the trend of more houses being developed than flats:

- Of 171 completions in Newton Leys, 1 & 2 bed flats accounted for 20.5%, whilst 3 & 4 bed houses accounted for 73%.
- Of 759 completions across Brooklands and Broughton, 1 & 2 bed flats accounted for 20.5%, whilst 3, 4 & 5 bed houses accounted for 69.9%.
- Of 344 completions at Oakridge Park, 1 & 2 bed flats accounted for 9.3%, whilst 3 & 4 bed houses accounted for 65.4%.

House Prices

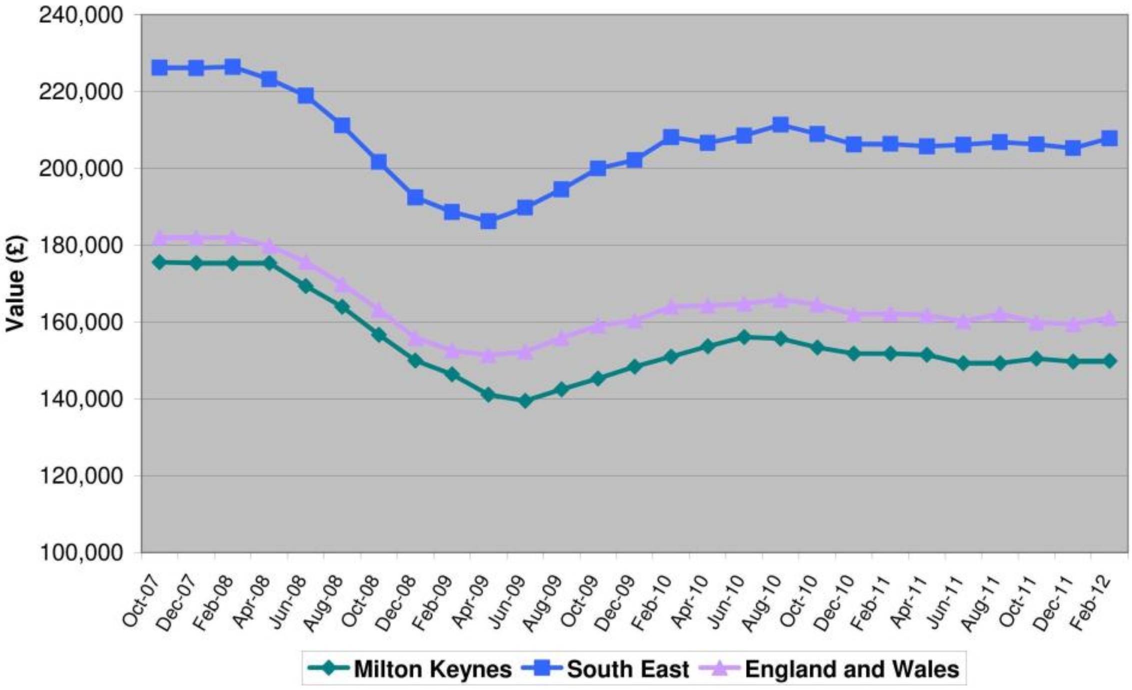
Figure 5.6 Annual Average House Prices



5.39 Figure 5.6 'Annual Average House Prices' shows average house prices for April of each year from 1995. The 2011/12 monitoring period shows little change when compared with the 2010/11 period, with only a minor decrease in house prices in both Milton Keynes and England and Wales as a whole.

5.40 Overall trends noted over the last few monitoring periods have continued. House prices in the South East continue to be significantly higher than house prices in Milton Keynes and in all of England and Wales. Since 2007, house prices in the South East have consistently remained around £50,000 higher than house prices in Milton Keynes. From 2006 onwards, the gap between house prices in England and Wales and Milton Keynes has widened, with Milton Keynes prices around £10,000 less. Finally the graph shows that all areas have seen the same trends in rising and falling house prices over the 18 years shown.

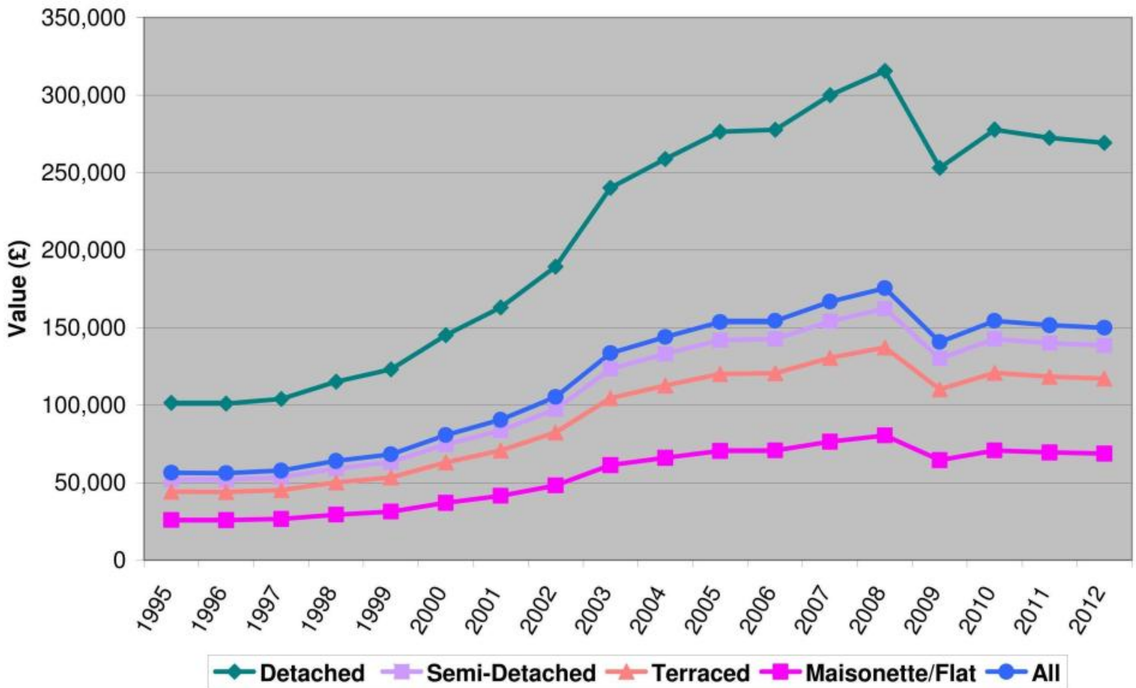
Figure 5.7 Monthly Average House Prices



5.41 Figure 5.7 'Monthly Average House Prices' shows that house prices have remained fairly steady over past year, with the South East and all of England and Wales, showing a minimal rise in prices, not seen in Milton Keynes, between December 2011 and the end of the 2011/12 monitoring period.

5.42 Overall house prices peaked at the end of 2007, in all three area. In the South east, house prices were at their lowest in Spring 2009. For Milton Keynes and all of England and Wales house prices did not reach their lowest until Summer 2009. Since Summer 2010, house prices in all three areas have levelled out and have remained at a relatively steady rate since.

Picture 5.2 Average House Prices by Type in Milton Keynes



5.43 Picture 5.2 'Average House Prices by Type in Milton Keynes' shows that there has been little variation in house prices since the 2010/11 monitoring report. As is expected the prices of detached properties are considerably higher than for other types of property. All properties have continued to follow the same trends in prices over time, although the pattern for detached properties is slightly more exaggerated, with sharper increases and decreases in price.

Gypsy and Traveller Pitches

5.44 In 2006, Milton Keynes Council carried out a joint Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment with other local authorities in the Thames Valley Region. This identified that Milton Keynes needed to provide 27 additional pitches up to 2011.

5.45 Milton Keynes has 18 existing pitches on two sites at Willen and Calverton. Three further sites are allocated in the Adopted Local Plan; these have the capacity to accommodate the additional 27 pitches required.

5.46 One of these sites, Fenny Lock, was granted planning permission for the development of 10 sites in 2010. However, the project was the subject of a value for money review and was cancelled by Cabinet in February 2012, as it was felt it did not represent value for money and that the level of need was extremely low.

5.47 The decision was made that the level of need identified could instead be accommodated by a refurbishment/extension of the Willen Road site and a bid was submitted to the Homes and Communities Agency for funding for redevelopment and it is anticipated that the outcome of this bid should be known by the end of 2012.

Building for Life

5.48 Building for Life is the national standard for well-designed homes and neighbourhoods. Good quality housing design can improve social wellbeing and quality of life by creating homes and places that function well and that are attractive. Building for life promotes design excellence and celebrates best practice in the house building industry. New housing developments are scored against 20 criteria to assess the quality of their design. The following sites were assessed during this monitoring period.

- Westcroft 16 - Score = 14.5 (Good)
- Oakgrove Phase 1 - Score = 16.5 (Very Good)
- Oxley Park Sites 2&3 - Score = 14 (Good) (reported in last year's AMR, but falls into this year's monitoring period)
- Reserve Site 84 (East Side), Hawkshead Drive, Emerson Valley - Score = 13.5 (Average)

Summary

5.49 The housing completions figure for 2011/12, despite being below the forecast target, has still shown a rise in completions since last year and still remains cumulatively above the Core Strategy target for the first two years of the plan. Whilst annual forecast completions are expected to remain approximately the same for the next two years, a significant increase is expected by 2014/15 as a number of larger sites begin to show completions.

5.50 Meanwhile, Milton Keynes continues to be in a good position to support a housing market recovery, with the land supply figures showing that there is a 5.88 year supply of deliverable and developable land.

5.51 Affordable housing completions were again slightly higher than in the previous monitoring period, with a further positive increase in the proportion of social rent provision. In future, however, the Council's new affordable housing requirements, in response to the government's introduction of the new Affordable Rent tenure, is likely to have an impact on the mix, and possibly the amount, of affordable housing completions.

Actions

- To continue supporting the development of major housing sites such as the Western Expansion Area through working with landowners and developers.
- Begin work on producing a site allocations plan to support the continuation of a five year land supply.
- Closely monitor affordable housing completions, and negotiate with developers, to ensure that the introduction of new affordable housing requirements does not negatively impact upon affordable housing provision.

6 Economy

Jobs to Dwellings Ratio

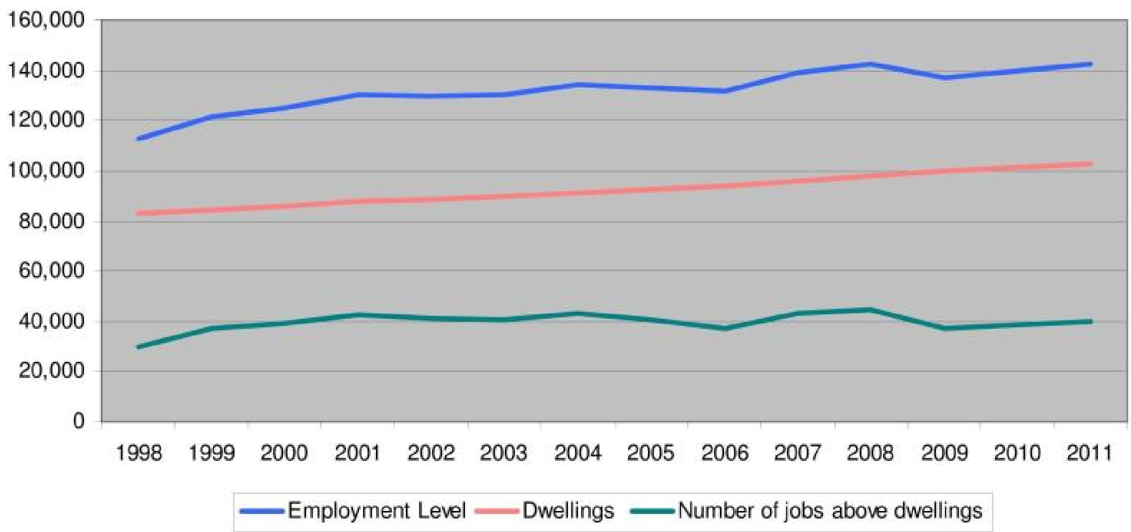
6.1 Milton Keynes does not grow at the rate of one job per dwelling; the number of jobs in Milton Keynes usually exceeds the number of new dwellings completed in the same year. In the period 1998-2011/12 the number of jobs generated in Milton Keynes (over 29,300) exceeded the number of new dwellings completed in the same period (about 16,900).

6.2 In line with this data and a strategy selected from the Milton Keynes Employment Land Study [24], the 2010 Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy contains a target dwellings to jobs ratio of 1:1.5, meaning for every home that is built, the Council anticipates 1.5 new jobs.

6.3 In the event that monitoring figures show that new jobs are being created faster than new homes, the Council would seek ways to increase the rate of housing construction rather than restricting employment growth. Conversely, if housing development is running ahead of job growth, the Council will reinforce measures to encourage job growth among local businesses, or create incentives for businesses to relocate to Milton Keynes.

6.4 Figure 6.1 Figure 6.1 'Number of jobs in comparison to dwellings'[25] shows that since 1999 there is on average a 40,000 gap between the number of jobs and dwellings in the Borough. Whilst there were some minor annual fluctuations this figure has remained fairly constant in the past 13 years.

Figure 6.1 Number of jobs in comparison to dwellings



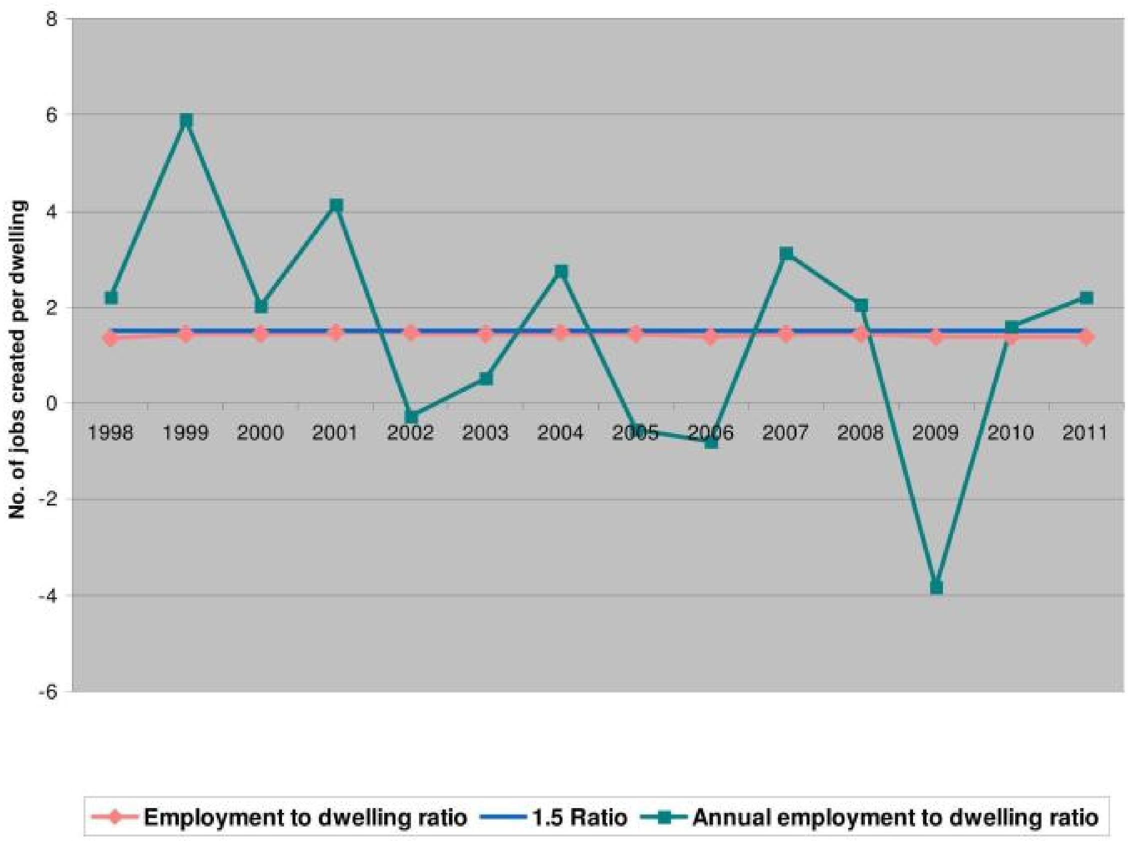
6.5 It is important to note that jobs to dwellings ratios are best used as generalised indicators and the delivery of the two are not intrinsically linked. Figure 6.2 'Employment to dwellings ratio'[26] demonstrates that this is the case, showing that the ratio fluctuates dramatically on an annual basis. The Council will not, therefore, seek to suppress either residential or employment development in order to achieve the target.

6.6 Figure 6.2 'Employment to dwellings ratio' shows that there were significant annual peaks and troughs in the ratio over the last fourteen year period. This reiterates the point that there is very little relationship between annual change in the number of jobs and dwellings which is based on a comparison of a net increase/decrease in the number of jobs to the number of new dwellings.

24 Milton Keynes Employment Land Study
25 Source - The Council's Economic Research team
26 Source - The Council's Economic Research team

6.7 Due to the anticipated fluctuations, the Core Strategy jobs to dwellings target ratio is the overall target for the plan period, rather than a target for each year. The average ratio achieved for the period shown lies around the target ratio of 1.5 jobs to every dwelling.

Figure 6.2 Employment to dwellings ratio



Total amount of additional employment space - by type

6.8 Table 6.1 'Total amount of additional employment floorspace' shows the amount and type of completed employment floorspace in the Borough over the 2011/12 monitoring period. The table shows that overall there was a loss of 12,599m² of employment floorspace. Most of this loss was due to the conversion of two Grade II listed former railway works buildings (B2 general industry and B8 storage and distribution use) at Wolverton Park (06/00022/FUL). In total, the scheme provided 300 dwellings and 2,695m² of commercial floorspace. There was also a loss in office (B1a use class) floorspace which mainly can be attributed to two developments in CMK resulting in a change of use to education and training centres (D1 use class).

Table 6.1 Total amount of additional employment floorspace

Use Class	Gross Internal Floorspace Loss (m²)	Gross Internal Floorspace Gain (m²)	Net Internal Floorspace Gain (m²)
B1a - Offices	6,019	4,542	-1,478
B1b - Research and Development	230	0	-230
B1c - Light Industry	55	623	568
B2 - General Industry	14,170	2,381	-11,789

Use Class	Gross Internal Floorspace Loss (m^2)	Gross Internal Floorspace Gain (m^2)	Net Internal Floorspace Gain (m^2)
B8 - Storage and Distribution	9,182	9,512	330
Total	**29,656**	**17,058**	**-12,599**

Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land - by type

6.9 Table 6.2 'Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land' shows the amount and type of completed floorspace (gross) coming forward on previously developed land (PDL) in the Borough. The table shows that 99% of employment floorspace came forward on previously developed land. This represents a significant improvement on the previous year when only 23% of employment floorspace was developed on brownfield land (figure was so low largely due to the completion of substantial developments on greenfield land at Magna Park, Brooklands). However, the figure is also considerably higher than the average figure for 2004 - 2010 of 72% which demonstrates that a higher proportion of employment floorspace comes forward as a result of redevelopments of existing employment sites.

Table 6.2 Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land

Use Class	Area of Floorspace completed on PDL (M2)	Percentage of all Employment Floorspace completed on PDL
B1 (a) - Offices	4,422	96%
B1 (b) - Research and Development	0	0%
B1 (c) - Light Industry	623	100%
B2 - General Industry	2,381	100%
B8 - Storage and Distribution	9,512	100%
Total	**16,938**	**99%**

Employment land available - by type

6.10 Table 6.3 'Employment Land Allocations in Milton Keynes' shows the amount and type of employment land available for development in the Borough. The information is mainly taken from land allocated for employment in the Local Plan and the 2010 Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy, excluding sites that have subsequently been completed. This year's figure is higher than last year's (195.6ha) but significantly lower than 2008/09 figure (276.9ha). The latter figure included potential employment land in the former Strategic Development Areas which was removed from the Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy and replaced with the Strategic Land Allocation. The Strategic Land Allocation occupies a significantly smaller area and would have a smaller employment land designation. The Development Plans team is working as part of a wider team to produce a development framework for development of the Strategic Land Allocation to the south east of the city.

Table 6.3 Employment Land Allocations in Milton Keynes

Grid Square/Area	Vacant Land (in hectares)	Use Classes
Bletchley (Brickfields)	5.9	B1/B2/B8

Grid Square/Area	Vacant Land (in hectares)	Use Classes
Broughton /Atterbury	4.8	B1/B2/B8/C2
Caldecotte	2.5	B1/B8/C2
Crownhill	1.2	B1/B2/B8
Eastern Expansion Area	71.6	B2/B8
Eagle Farm (SRA1)	28.3	B1c/B2/B8
Fox Milne	1.0	B1/B2/B8
Kents Hill	5.2	B1/B2/B8
Knowlhill	7.4	B1/B2/B8
Linford Wood	5.1	B1
Mount Farm	1.9	B1/B2/B8
Northern Expansion Area	3.1	B1/B2/B8
Old Wolverton	1.0	B2/B8
Redmoor	1.7	B2/B8
Rooksley	1.3	B1/B2/B8
Shenley Wood	17.8	B1/B2/B8/C2/D1
Snelshall East	4.7	B1/B2/B8
Snelshall West	5.1	B1/B2/B8/C1
Tower Gate	7.1	B1/C2/D1
Walton	9.5	B1/B2/B8
West Ashland	4.7	B1/B2/B8
Western Expansion Area	17.0	B1/B2
Willen Lake	1.1	B1
Wolverton	2.6	B1/B2/B8
Wolverton Mill	8.2	B1/B2/B8
Woburn Sands	1.3	B1
Wymbush	1.2	B1/B2/B8
Total	**222.3 ha**	

Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'

6.11 Table 6.4 'Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'' shows that the largest gains were recorded in D1 and D2 use classes. This can mainly be attributed to: the developments of large training facility in Kingston (11/01910/FUL) and a number of smaller training and education centres in CMK. The Table also shows that there was a substantial loss in B1a (offices) floorspace and some loss in A1 retail floorspace within town centres.

6.12 Table 6.4 'Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'' also shows that 2011/12 town centre completions were significantly lower than in the 2008 - 2010 monitoring periods and even lower than in last monitoring period. Whilst the recession and a general slowdown in economic activity have had detrimental impact on this year's negative figures for shops and offices in town centres, it is more significant that the results from 2008-2010 were unusually high due to the completion of two major developments in CMK (Site B3.2 North and the Sainsburys development). These cycles of ups and downs in developing 'town centre' schemes within town centres is likely to reverse from a current downward trend next year due to the completion of a large office development in CMK (Network Rail planning ref 09/01941/FUL). Additionally, the table shows a significant gain in D1 and D2 completions outside of town centres. This can be explained by the development of a number of educational institutions, sport and community facilities outside of town centres e.g. the development of an 18 hole adventure golf course in Abbey Hill Golf Centre (11/00385/FUL).

Table 6.4 Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'

Use Class	Gross Internal Area completed within Town Centres (m2)	Net Internal Area completed within Town Centres (m2)	Gross Internal Area completed in MK borough (m2)	Net Internal Area completed in MK borough (m2)
A1 - shops	470	-426	3,056	1,845
A2 - financial and professional services	330	-228	414	258
B1a - offices	0	-2,479	4,542	-1,478
D1 - none residential institutions	3,003	3,003	9,621	8,285
D2 - assembly and leisure	0	0	8,121	7,309
D1/D2 - non-residential institutions / assembly and leisure	0	0	0	0
Total	**3,803**	**130**	**25,754**	**16,219**

Contextual Indicators

Employment Occupations

6.13 Table 6.5 'Employment by occupation (April 2011 - March 2012)'[(27)] shows that overall Milton Keynes has a slightly lower proportion of managers, directors and senior officials (Major group 1) in comparison to the South East region. When compared to last year's figures there was a marginal decrease in major group 1 (managers, directors and senior officials) but there was also a noticeable increase in major group 2 and 3 (professional

27 Source http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx#tabjobsshows

occupations and associate professional and technical occupations). Compared to the last monitoring period there was an increase in the proportion of residents involved in elementary occupations (Major group 9), up from 12,800 (10.6%) to 15,400 (12.6%). It should be noted that the current figure in this group still shows an improvement in comparison to 2008 - 2010 statistics. It is important to note that these are the occupational groups of residents of Milton Keynes, not the occupational groups of people that work in Milton Keynes. The figures for specific professions presented this year may vary quite significantly from the figures included in previous years due to a new occupational classification (SOC2010 instead of SOC2000) being used by the Office for National Statistics.

Table 6.5 Employment by occupation (April 2011 - March 2012)

	Milton Keynes (number)	Milton Keynes (%)	South East Region (%)	Great Britain (%)
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	11,700	9.2	11.4	10.0
2. Professional occupations	27,000	21.2	21.2	19.2
3. Associate professional and technical occupations	20,300	16.0	15.3	13.9
4. Administrative & secretarial	16,500	13.0	11.6	11.1
5. Skilled trades occupations	10,100	7.9	9.9	10.8
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	10,400	8.2	9.2	9.1
7. Sales and customer service occupations	9,600	7.5	7.4	8.1
8. Process plant & machine operatives	5,800	4.6	4.6	6.4
9. Elementary occupations	15,400	12.1	9.3	10.9
Total employed working population	**126,800**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Qualifications

6.14 Table 6.6 'Qualifications (Jan 2011 - Dec 2011)'[(28)] shows no change in the proportion of residents with no qualifications, and a decrease in the proportion with NVQ3 and higher qualifications (down from 53.6% in 2010). However, when analysed more closely these figures show that whilst there was a drop in the numbers of residents with the highest qualifications (NVQ4 and above) there was a rise in the numbers of those with NVQ3 qualifications (34,000 in 2011 compared to 32,600 in 2010).

Table 6.6 Qualifications (Jan 2011 - Dec 2011)

	Milton Keynes (number)		Milton Keynes (%)		South East Region (%)		Great Britain (%)	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
NVQ4 and above	**50,200**	53,500	**30.9**	33.3	**36.2**	33.9	**32.9**	31.3

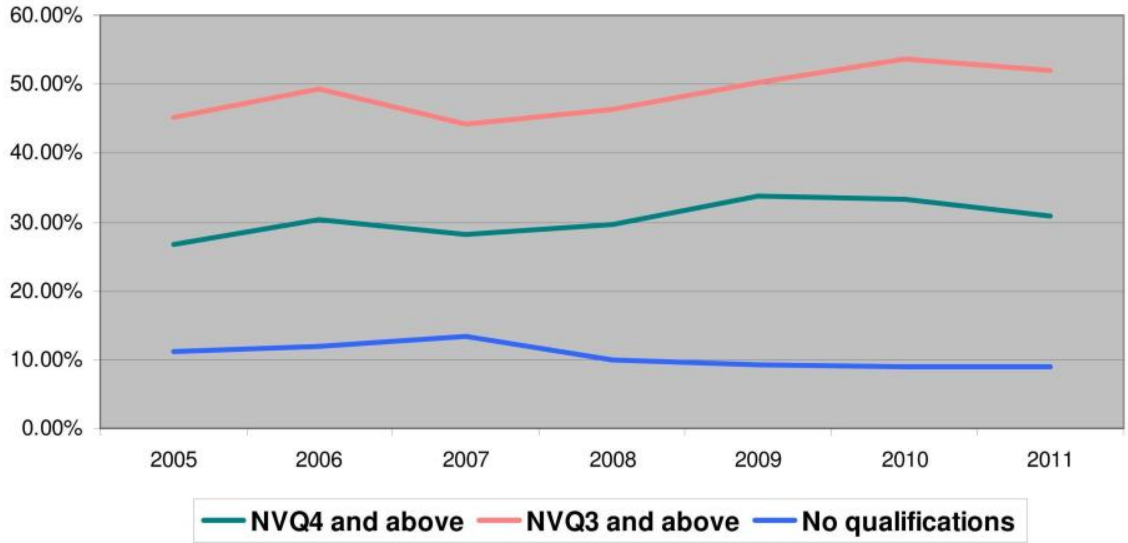
28 Source: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx#tabjobs

	Milton Keynes (number)		Milton Keynes (%)		South East Region (%)		Great Britain (%)	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
NVQ3 and above	**84,200**	86,100	**51.9**	53.6	**56.7**	53.8	**52.7**	51.0
NVQ2 and above	**111,600**	109,600	**68.8**	68.2	**73.3**	70.8	**69.7**	67.3
NVQ1 and above	**136,800**	131,100	**84.3**	81.5	**86.6**	84.1	**82.7**	80.2
Other qualifications	**11,100**	15,400	**6.9**	9.6	**5.5**	7.5	**6.7**	8.5
No qualifications	**14,400**	14,300	**8.9**	8.9	**7.9**	8.5	**10.6**	11.3

6.15 Figure 6.3 'Qualifications 2005 - 2011'[(29)] shows that although the proportion of residents with the highest level qualifications slightly decreased last year, overall the figure of 30.9% is 4.5% higher than in 2005. The graph also shows a stable level of residents with no qualifications at 8.9% in 2010. The figure is marginally higher than the regional figure of 7.9% and is below the national figure of 10.6%.

29 http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx#tabjobs

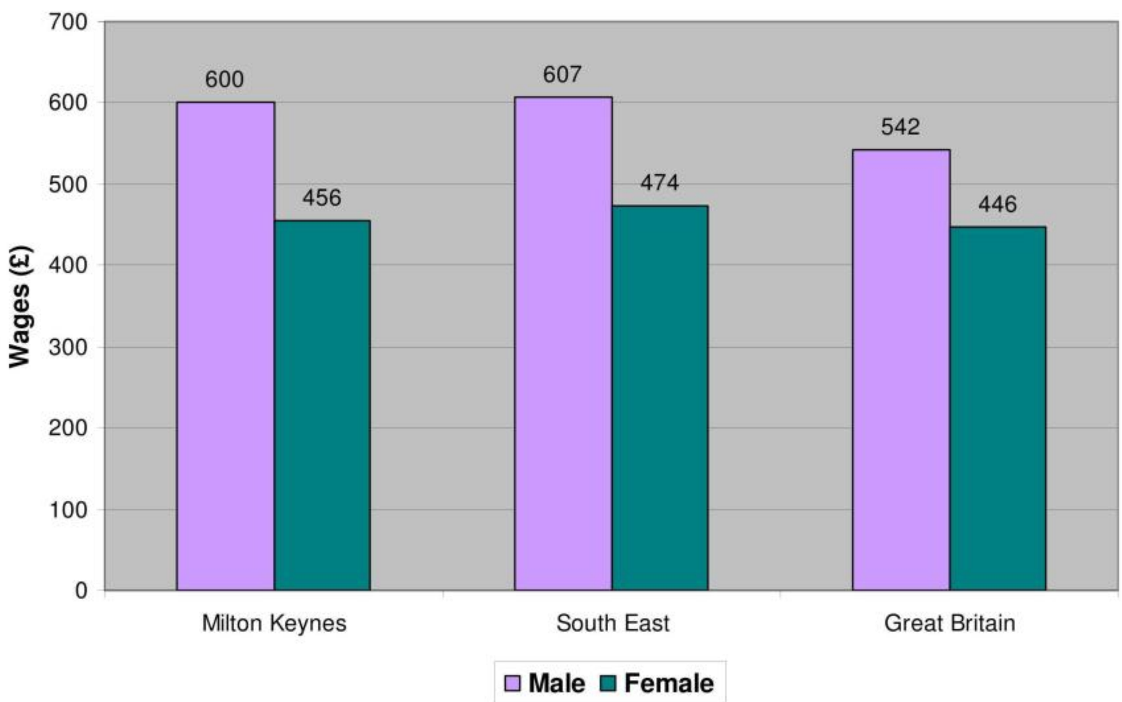
Figure 6.3 Qualifications 2005 - 2011



Wages

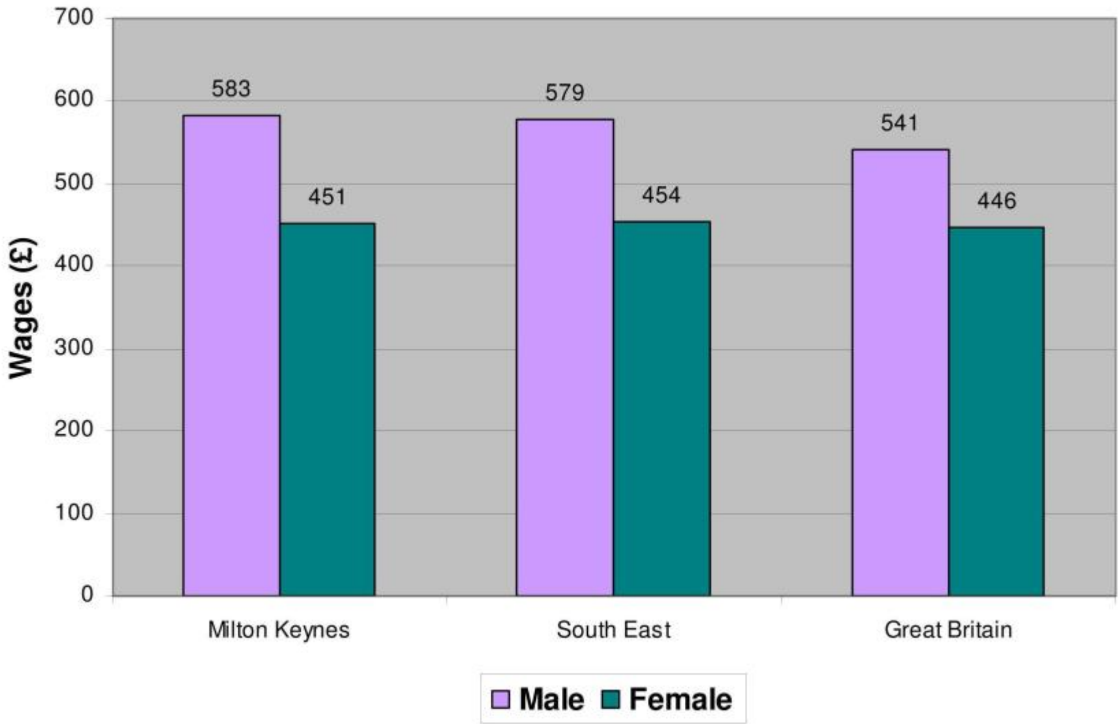
6.16 Figure 6.4 'Gross weekly average wage of Milton Keynes residents in 2011'[30] shows the average weekly wages of people living in Milton Keynes and Figure 6.5 'Gross weekly average wage of Milton Keynes workers in 2011'[31] shows the weekly wages of people who work in Milton Keynes, a significant proportion of whom do not live in Milton Keynes.

Figure 6.4 Gross weekly average wage of Milton Keynes residents in 2011



30 Source: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx#tabearn
31 Source: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx#tabearn

Figure 6.5 Gross weekly average wage of Milton Keynes workers in 2011

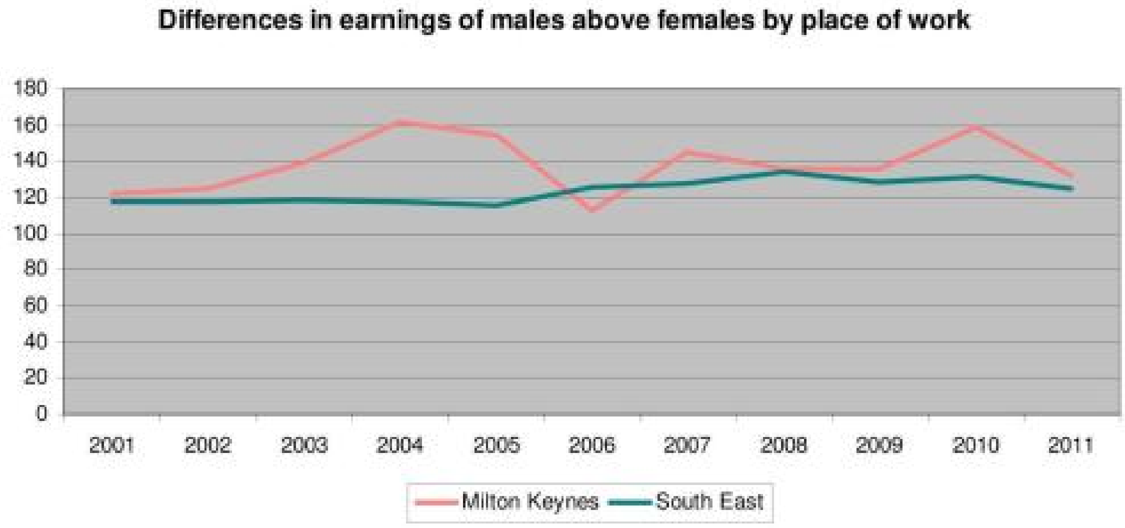


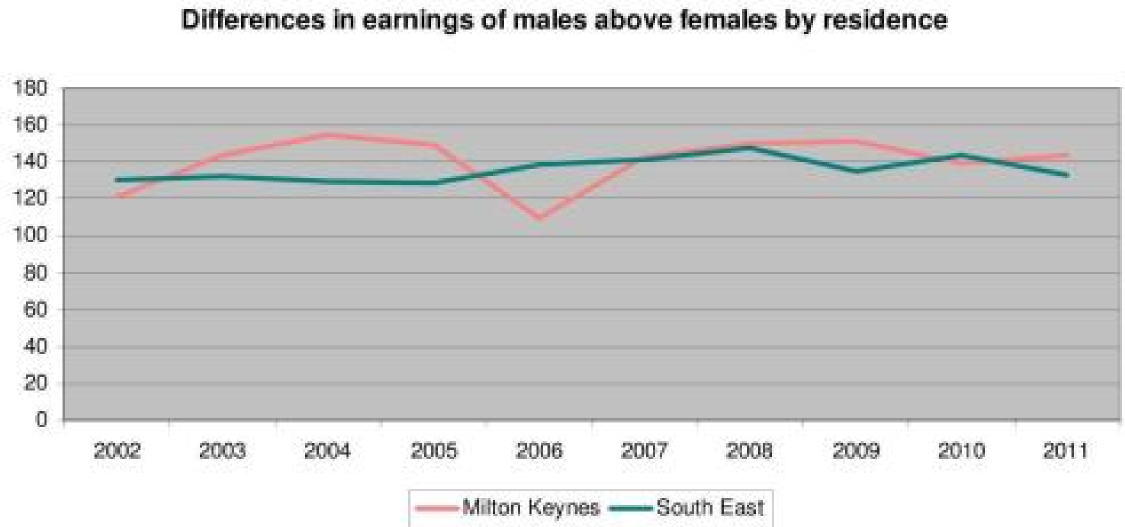
6.17 The graphs show that, in 2011 monitoring period, male residents earned more than male workers and female residents earned slightly more than female workers.

6.18 Male workers in Milton Keynes earned slightly more than workers in the South East but considerably more than workers in Great Britain. Male residents earned similarly to male residents in the South East. This situation has not change since the last monitoring period.

6.19 Figure 6.6 'Differences in earnings of males above females' shows that the average wage for females in Milton Keynes for both residents and workers remains significantly lower than for males. The graphs also show that earning inequalities between males and females in Milton Keynes are on average higher than in the South East.

Figure 6.6 Differences in earnings of males above females





Job Density

6.20 The job density figure is calculated by dividing the number of filled jobs by the total working age population (age 16-64) in a given area. Table 6.7 'Job Density (2010)'[(32)] shows that in Milton Keynes there are slightly fewer jobs than there are working population. However, there are more jobs for the working population in Milton Keynes than there are for the working population in the South East and Great Britain. Analysis of the last ten years of job density figures in Milton Keynes shows that the ratio varied between 1 and 0.94, and has been continuously higher than the job density ratio for the South East and Great Britain.

32 Source: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx?#ld

Table 6.7 Job Density (2010)

Milton Keynes (jobs)	Milton Keynes (Density)	South East (Density)	Great Britain (Density)
156,000	0.97	0.80	0.77

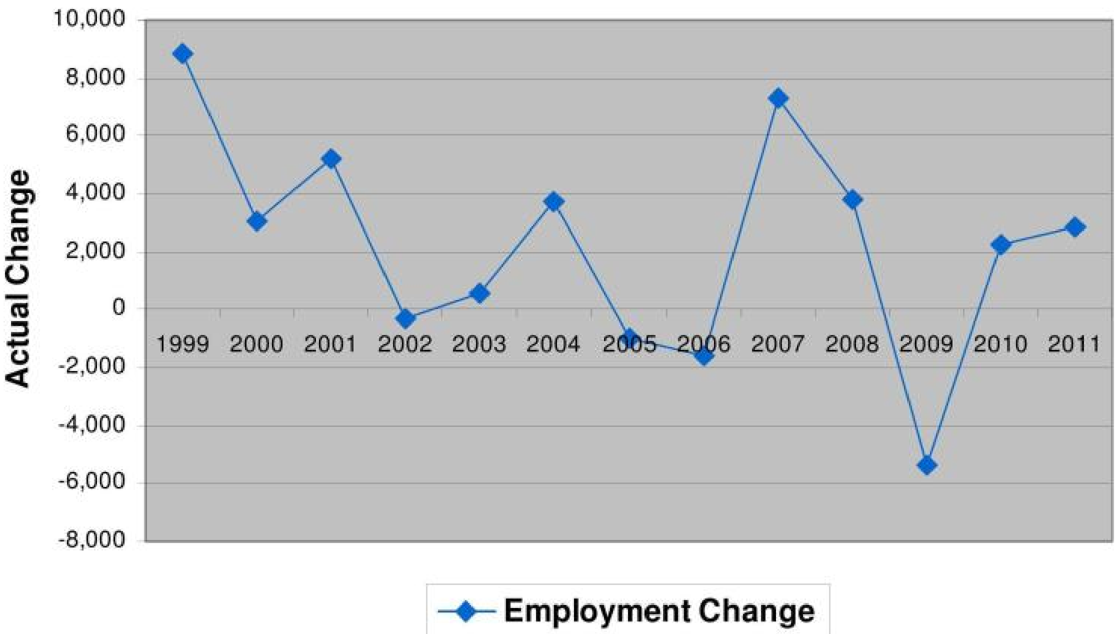
Working Age Population

6.21 The total working age population (16-64) in Milton Keynes in 2011 was 166,400 (4,900 people more than in 2010) which equates to 66.6% of the total population[(33)]. A total of 133,400, or 81.1%, of the total working population were economically active in 2011-12 (up from 80% in 2010) [(34)].

Net Additional Jobs

6.22 Figure 6.7 'Net additional jobs in Milton Keynes 1999 - 2011' shows year on year employment change since 1998 when there were 112,003 jobs in the Borough. The graph shows that there were some job losses in 2005-2006 and a significant loss of jobs in 2009 (5,380). The total number of jobs in the Borough in 2011 exceeded 142,381.

Figure 6.7 Net additional jobs in Milton Keynes 1999 - 2011



Unemployment Claimant Rate

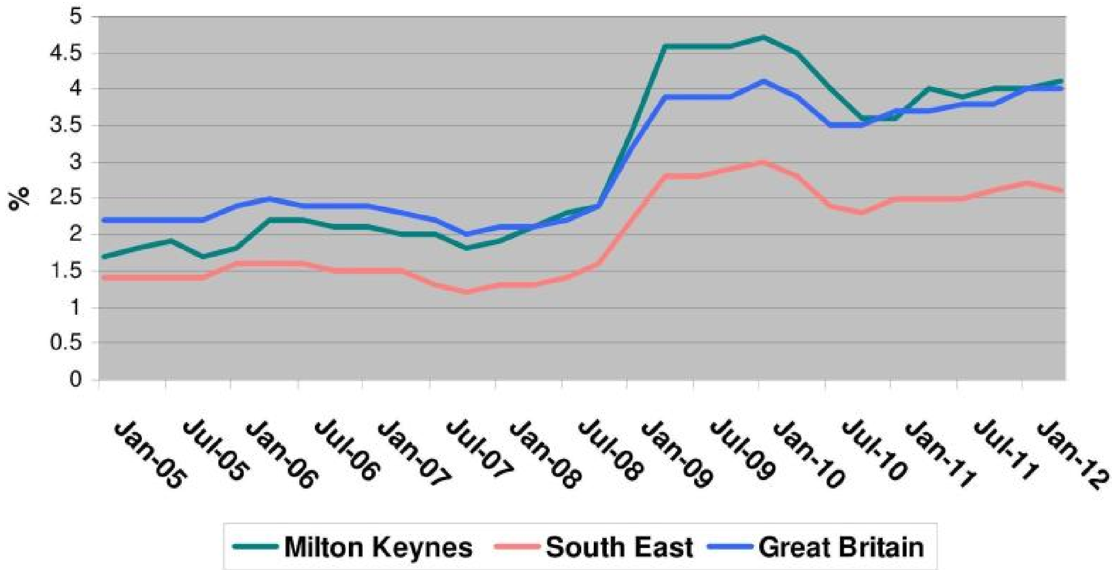
6.23 Figure 6.8 'Unemployment Claimant Rate 2005 -2012'[(35)] shows that the claimants rate in the Borough reached a high level of 4.6% in April 2009 and since then mainly remained above the national level. During the same period of 2009 - 2011, youth unemployment rate (18 to 24 years old) also remained above the regional and national levels. This is partly explained by the age structure of the population in Milton Keynes. In January 2011

33 Source - http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/subreports/ea_time_series/report.aspx
34 Source - analysis.mkiobservatory.org.uk
35 Source - https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431757/report.aspx?town=milton%20keynes#tabwab

the rate of unemployment in the Borough for a short period fell below the national level. The graph shows that the claimants rate remained above the national and regional levels for the most of the current monitoring period (Apr 2011 - March 2012).

6.24 Given the recent downturn of the UK economy (two consecutive quarters of contraction in the GDP in 2011/12), it is difficult to predict whether the current trend of stable levels of unemployment in Milton Keynes will continue. More information and analysis of the issue of unemployment can be seen in the Council's Economic Development Strategy 2011 - 2016 [36] or the Quarterly Unemployment Updates available on the MKi Observatory[37].

Figure 6.8 Unemployment Claimant Rate 2005 -2012



Not in Education, Employment or Training

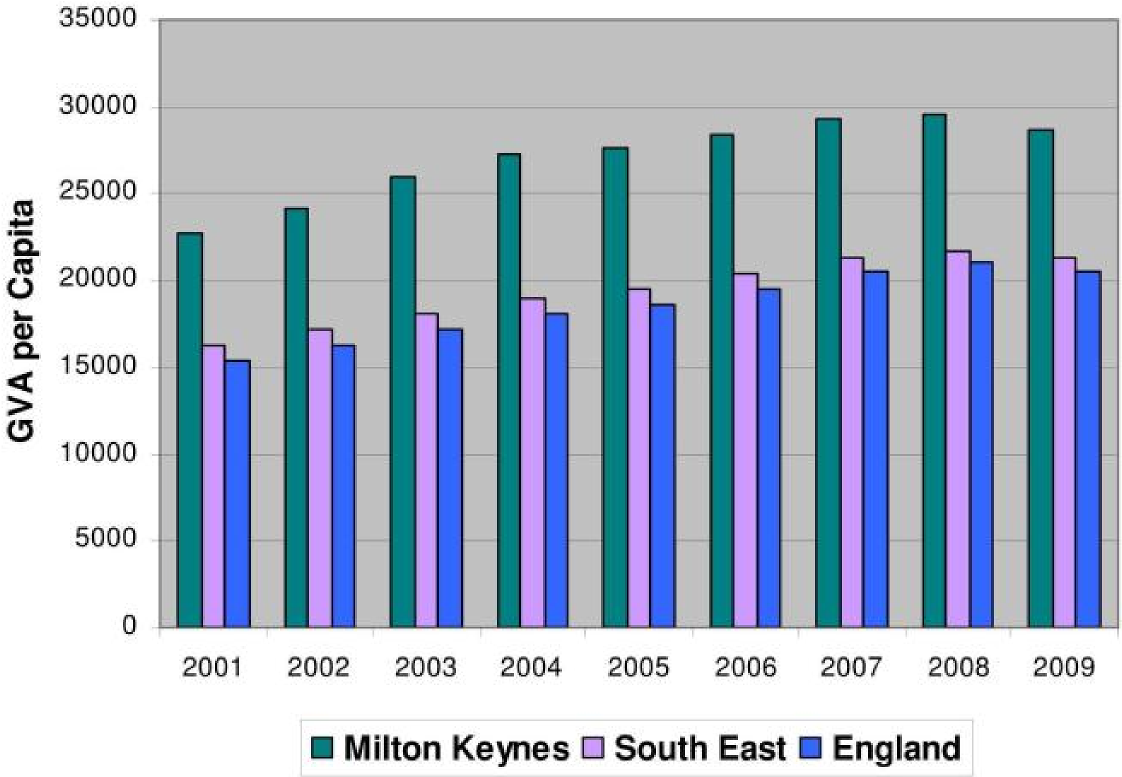
6.25 The percentage of young people (16-18 year olds) not in education, employment or training (NEET) in the Borough was 5.8% in December 2011[38], which is marginally above the target in the Local Area Agreement target of 5.9% for 2010/11, and up from 4.6% in 2010. Although being NEET between the ages of 16 and 18 may suggest an increased likelihood of later unemployment, low income, teenage motherhood, depression and poor health, for most young people in this group it is a temporary outcome as they move between different education and training options.

Economic Productivity

6.26 Gross Value Added (GVA) is a measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy. Figure 6.9 'Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita 2001-2009'shows that the figure for Milton Keynes is far higher than the figure for the South East and for England. GVA per Capita in the Milton Keynes economy increased from £22,720 in 2001 to £29,619 in 2008 and fell to £28,688 in 2009[39]. It is worth noting that in 2009 both in the South East and in England a proportional decrease in GVA was experienced; the first decrease since 1995.

36 www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/council-business
37 http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/page.aspx?id=1618&siteID=1026#quarterly-unemployment-update
38 Source - analysis.mkiobservatory.org.uk
39 There is a time lag on the data available for this indicator, 2009 being the most recent figure available analysis.mkiobservatory.org.uk

Figure 6.9 Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita 2001-2009

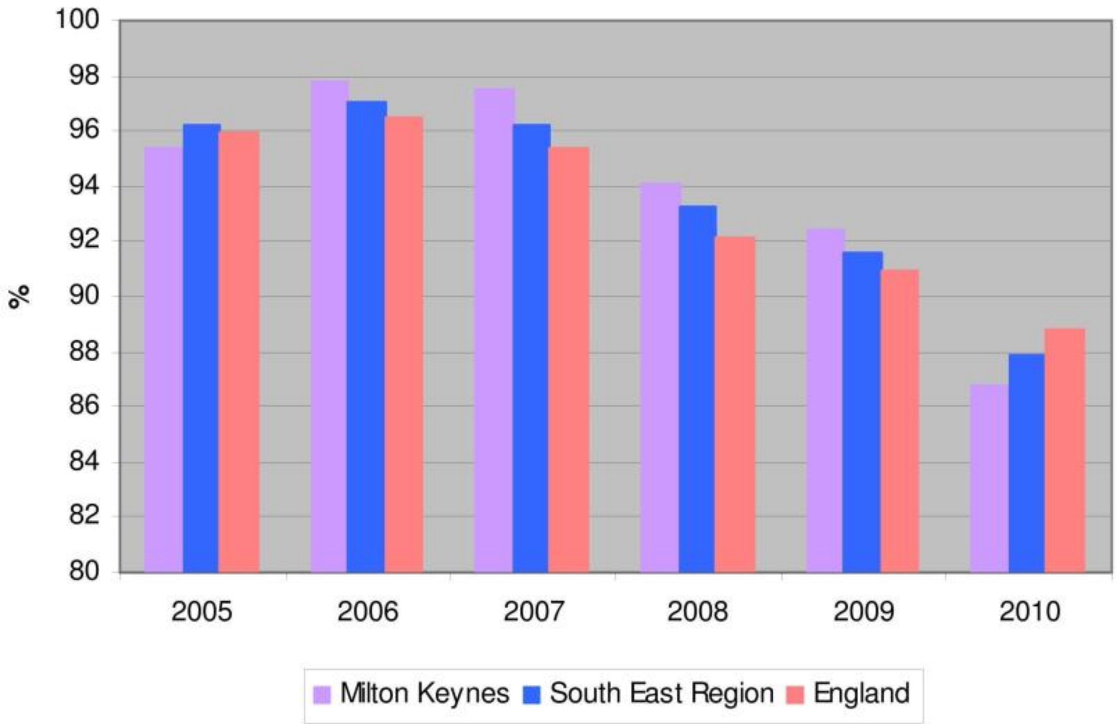


Business Survival Rate

6.27 Figure 6.10 'Business Survival Rates 2005 - 2010'[40] shows that since 2007 there was a continuous decline in the business survival rate (the first year of a business) in England, the South East and Milton Keynes. For the first time since 2006 the figure for Milton Keynes dropped below the business survival rate for the South East and England [41]

40 Source - analysis.mkiobservatory.org.uk
41 There is a time lag on the data available for this indicator, 2010 being the most recent figure available. The figures published in last years AMR differ slightly due to ONS adjustments to the deaths figures to allow for business reactivations

Figure 6.10 Business Survival Rates 2005 - 2010

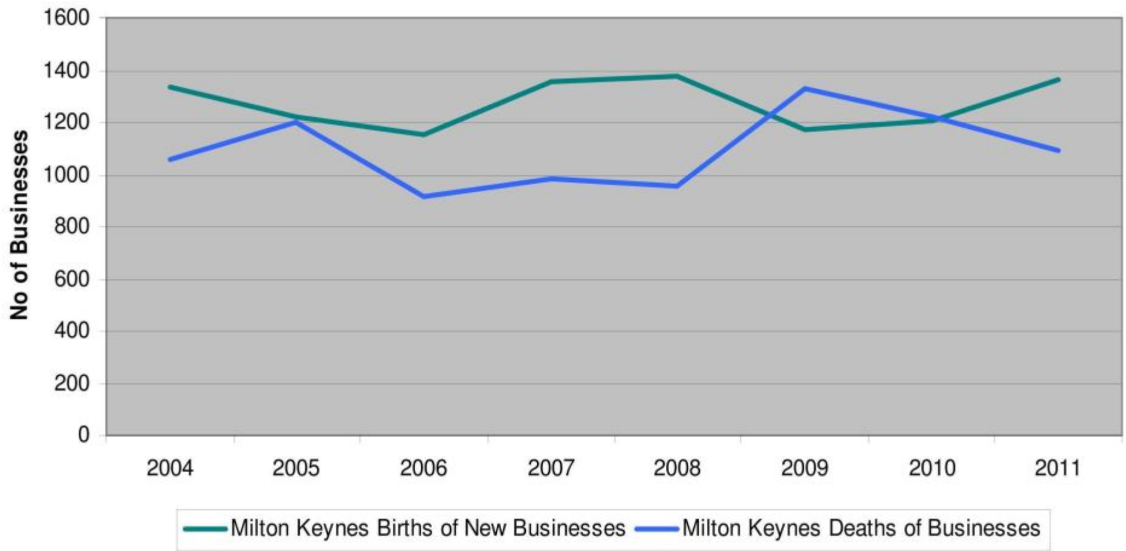


6.28 Table 6.8 'Births and Deaths of Enterprises' shows that deaths of businesses in Milton Keynes was greater in 2009 than at any time since 2004 and would appear to be a turning point for the number of deaths and births of new businesses. Since 2009 the number of deaths of businesses started to decrease and fell below the number of births of businesses in 2011. It should be noted that the figures of deaths of businesses for 2009 and 2010 were corrected this year due to lags in the administrative sources (VAT/PAYE), which means it is possible that a business that is continuing to trade can appear to cease on the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR). Therefore the last two years in the publication are considered to be provisional and subject to revision.

Table 6.8 Births and Deaths of Enterprises

	Milton Keynes		South East		England	
	Births	Deaths	Births	Deaths	Births	Deaths
2004	1,335	1,055	44,345	39,280	248,450	215,995
2005	1,220	1,200	42,555	36,345	241,410	202,210
2006	1,155	915	39,195	32,660	225,120	182,800
2007	1,355	980	42,320	35,090	246,700	199,300
2008	1,375	955	40,365	33,790	236,345	196,695
2009	1,175	1,330*	36,320	42,550*	209,035	247,150*
2010	1,210	1,220*	36,910	38,345*	207,520	219,920*
2011	1,360	1,090	40,775	35,915	232,460	202,365

Figure 6.11 Births and deaths of businesses in Milton Keynes 2004 - 2011



Impact of Economic Investment

6.29 In 2011/12 Invest MK has recorded 111 businesses, of which 18 were international and 70 were from target sectors (high growth, high value, knowledge-based businesses) that have either been retained in Milton Keynes or have relocated to the area creating and retaining jobs. This helped alleviate some of the negative impacts of the current difficult economic climate, and increased confidence in Milton Keynes as a location. The number of jobs retained in the monitoring period as a result of this investment was 1,459 and the number created was 665[42].

6.30 Invest MK offers a range of services and support to businesses including:

- Online site and premises search through the Invest MK website;
- Location and market information;
- Assistance with relocating staff and families;
- Lists of local suppliers;
- City tours for management, staff and families; and
- Ongoing support, or aftercare, following business set-up in Milton Keynes.

6.31 They also implement a wide-ranging marketing programme to raise the city's business profile and to promote IMK services locally, nationally and internationally. This also covers support for partner organisations such as Destination Milton Keynes and the Zero Carbon Hub, whose work supports Invest MK's inward investment activity.

Vacant Employment Space

6.32 The average amount of vacant office space over the monitoring period was 19.75% at March 2012 (20.9% last year). The amount of vacant industrial space was 12.54% at March 2012 (9.8% last year)[43].

Summary

6.33 The information in this section indicates that the Borough's economy was performing reasonably well despite some indicators clearly indicating the difficult economic conditions. Between April 2011 and March 2012 the unemployment claimant rate has fluctuated between 3.8% and 4.2%. Whilst this rate was similar to the one

42 Source - Invest MK
43 Source - Invest MK

experienced at a national level it was at a significantly higher level than before the recession (1.9% in January 2008). The proportion of people with the highest qualifications (NVQ3, 4 and above) has slightly decreased last year but overall it was higher than in 2005. The proportion of residents with the lowest and no qualifications continued to fall. Compared to the last monitoring period there was an increase in the proportion of residents involved in elementary occupations (Major group 9), up from 12,800 (10.6%) to 15,400 (12.6%).

6.34 A significantly lower amount of development has been completed this year compared to last three years, although the 2009/10 figures were well above the long term average, as they were affected by the completion of two large developments in CMK. The figures also show that since 2007 there was a continuous decline in the business survival rate (of the first year) in Milton Keynes with the figure for 2010 being below regional and national rates. However, as mentioned in paragraph 6.12 new developments such as the Network Rail HQ (and possibly other new retail developments) to be reported in next years AMR will show additional signs of economic growth.

Actions

- Continue work by the Council's Economic Development section including Invest MK to help ensure that Milton Keynes' economy remains strong and continues to grow.
- Continue to protect small business units through planning policy to ensure there is a plentiful supply for new enterprises.
- Consider if any changes to existing employment policies are required through production of the new Local Plan, in order to facilitate economic growth.
- Consider if town centre policies which support the sustainability of town centres across the Borough are up-to-date and help mitigate the negative impact of the subdued economic climate.
- Actively support infrastructure projects that help increase the city's accessibility and connectivity (e.g Bletchley-Oxford rail link or super-fast broadband).
- Provide a sufficient supply of employment land through the new Local Plan to ensure that unemployment is kept to a minimum and job density at an optimum.

7 Transport

Introduction

7.1 Milton Keynes was designed as a multi-centred settlement, built around an efficient grid road framework. This network provides a choice of routes through the city, which can be crossed from the two furthest points in approximately 15 minutes. The grid system is still one of the strengths of the city, but is beginning to experience peak hour congestion at certain junctions.

7.2 As an expanding city, Milton Keynes aspires to become one of the UK's top cities. This includes the development of a transport network that will support the local economy, create greater access to a wide range of services, and help to tackle climate change.

7.3 The overall transport strategy for Milton Keynes is set out in the Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3) (2011) which, along with the 2012 Transport Strategy Review, outlines the policies and programmes for the Milton Keynes Borough from 2011 to 2031.

7.4 The 2012 Transport Strategy Review, amongst updating other elements of LTP3, sets out the updated, main transport performance indicators to be monitored for LTP3. As these performance indicators were set out in the review, a year after LTP3 was adopted, there is a gap in transport monitoring data for the 2011/12 period.

7.5 Therefore, this years AMR will only report on the progress of delivery of transport projects in the 2011/12 monitoring period. The next AMR will however be able to report on the new LTP3 performance indicators as set out in the 2012 Transport Strategy Review.

Progress on Delivery of Transport Projects

The Coachway

7.6 In its first full year since opening in December 2010 the new £2.6 million coachway has had almost 500,000 people using the facility.

Better Bus Area Fund Project

7.7 In March 2012, Milton Keynes Council was awarded £2.23 million from the Department for Transport's Better Bus Areas Fund to fund a project that will develop Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) and marketing initiatives for public transport in Milton Keynes. In addition to these funds, local sources will add another £1.086 million.

7.8 The project is to be delivered by March 2014 and the bid was split into six areas, with indicative funding amounts from the grant set out as follows:

- **Develop/expand RTPI in** Milton Keynes (£875,000)
- **Develop smart ticketing** (£100,000)
- **Bus service enhancements** by local contribution from Arriva
- **Smarter Choices** - delivering bus based personalised travel planning (PTP) packs delivered to all 63,000 households within 400 metres of the 2, 4, 5 and 8 services and to 16,400 employees (accessing 2, 4, 5 and 8 service corridors) (£475,000); and improving roadside publicity for bus services (£100,000).
- **Interchange improvements** with 4 new 'virtual interchange' locations installed offering high quality and simple bus-bus interchange environments (via improved on street promotion etc) (£340,000).

- **Wayfinding** - Targeted improvements to the walk connections from three inward facing residential areas to 4 major bus routes (running along grid squares) with wayfinding routes developed and implemented in partnership with local residents.
- Delivery of "AccessAdvisr", a web-site and mobile phone application that aims to 'make difficult journeys easier'. The core focus of AccessAdvisr is on improving the quality and user-focus of accessibility information for people with limited mobility. (£340,000).

The PlatinumMK 300 Bus Service

7.9 The service launched in April 2009 has now seen over 500,000 passenger journeys, with weekly patronage rising to over 8,500 passengers at present (peaking at nearly 10,000 in December 2011).

The A5130 Busways

7.10 This £5.2m government funded project was completed in April 2010. The main objective was to facilitate improved bus movement in the Eastern Area of Milton Keynes, including the provision of bus lanes to and from the new Coachway, Brooklands City street and Northfield roundabout.

Granby Roundabout

7.11 The works at Granby Roundabout comprised a realignment of the main carriageway (Watling Street and Bletcham Way) and the construction of a new 4th arm onto the nearby Denbigh Road in order to provide an alternative and safer access onto the Denbigh Road and thereby reduce traffic activity at the nearby B&Q intersection. The project was completed in March 2011 with the roundabout fully operational.

Public Transport

7.12 The Council have maintained improvements to public transport which has seen year on year growth of over 900,000 in bus patronage (an annual figure of 9.68m to 31 December 2011) and have seen an increase in overall satisfaction from 51% to 62% as reported by the Arriva Customer Satisfaction survey.

7.13 The All-in-1 MK card was launched this year which provides a proof of age for under 19s in fulltime education, retailer discounts as well as the junior concessionary travel scheme.

7.14 In the 2011/12 monitoring year the Council have upgraded 22 bus stops and shelters from capital funding, and there are plans for new bus shelters as part of the Station Square project.

7.15 The MKube Travel Centre was opened in May 2011, an Arriva initiative in partnership with the Council which has improved availability of public transport information.

7.16 The Council have signed a revised Bus Punctuality Improvement Partnership agreement with Arriva with better joint monitoring of services.

7.17 Two major projects have been started which support the Council's priorities and contributes to the improvement of the public transport environment. These are the Station Square Improvements and the Wolverton Station Building.

7.18 However, there are challenges for 2012/13 and future years to maintain and improve service achievements against the backdrop of further potential budget reductions.

Electric Bus Contract

7.19 Milton Keynes is to lead the way with wirelessly charged electric buses. Wireless charging technology allows electric buses to run all day and will save 500 tonnes of CO2 per year, as well as potentially reducing bus running costs by between £12-15k per annum.

7.20 An innovative approach to charging electric buses is to enable the quieter, cleaner future of public transport in Milton Keynes. On Tuesday 25th September 2012 six organisations led by a subsidiary of Mitsui & Co Europe signed a five year collaboration agreement committing to the replacement of seven diesel buses with their all-electric counterparts on one of the main bus routes in the city by June 2013.

7.21 Uniquely, the new buses will be able to recharge their batteries wirelessly through the day which means that for the first time, electric buses will be capable of the equivalent load of a diesel bus.

7.22 The number 7 route in Milton Keynes will replace seven diesel buses with eight electric buses that will run 7 days a week; removing approximately 500 tonnes of tailpipe CO2 emissions per year as well as 45 tonnes of other tailpipe emissions. The route currently transports over 775,000 passengers a year over a total of 450,000 miles.

7.23 The trial is a partnership between:

- The Mitsui subsidiary eFleet Integrated Service Ltd,
- Milton Keynes Council,
- Bus operator Arriva,
- Manufacturer Wrightbus Limited,
- Technology supplier Conductix-Wampfler, and
- Western Power Distribution.

7.24 The trial will be managed by Mitsui-Arup joint venture MBK Arup Sustainable Projects (MASP).

Small Vehicle Transport System (SVT)

7.25 The Council have been discussing with several private sector partners an innovative approach to transport in Milton Keynes. The system will utilise the latest advances in smartphone, internet and cashless technologies to enable easy and efficient vehicle booking and sharing. This system is ideally suited to Milton Keynes where small numbers of trips are made to a very large number of destinations. The Council and its partners are now developing this idea further and testing its potential implementation within Milton Keynes.

Street Lighting Innovations

7.26 Following capital investment into street lighting in this monitoring year the Council have tested lighting columns for their structural integrity. This resulted in having to replace 200 street lighting columns.

7.27 The Council have also invested in new lighting technology that will help to lower the energy consumption and reduce carbon emissions contributing to the Council's programme of "Low Carbon Living".

7.28 The Council have rolled out a programme of converting the lighting source on street lights to White light, reducing the wattage and dimming the lights at hours of low usage on the Industrial estate roads and grid roads. This also includes currently converting CMK Parking area lights to White light.

7.29 This initiative does not compromise safety, however in the long term it saves money and is good for the environment.

Station Square

7.30 The major works started on this project have now been completed with an opening ceremony held by the mayor in October 2012. The objective of the project was the reduction of conflicts arising from the competing transport demands in Station Square and to provide a safer and more welcoming access for pedestrians and cyclists travelling to and from the station.

Wolverton Station

7.31 Work began in June 2011 with the initial building works being completed and the station opening in June 2012. The second phase of works to complete the station will commence in January 2013 and should take approximately 10 weeks. Once finished, the attractive new station building will be in keeping with Wolverton's Victorian architectural and rail heritage and will provide rail passengers with significantly improved facilities.

7.32 The building incorporates some specialist timber-framed construction and includes a new ticket office and booking hall, a seated waiting area, and toilet facilities for rail users.

7.33 The total budget for the project from design through to building construction, ancillary car park and roadworks, and fitting out the new building is £2.2m. This has been provided from two separate government grants: the Communities Infrastructure Fund (£400,000) and the Growth Area Fund (£1.8m).

Milton Keynes Council Travel Plan

7.34 Very good progress has been made in implementing the Travel Plan for Milton Keynes Council launched in February 2012. This will enable the employees of the council to work towards a reduction in car journeys. By promoting travel choice, this initiative will help reduce carbon footprint across the authority through the introduction of an effective behaviour change programme.

East West Rail

7.35 - In November 2011, the Chancellor announced that the western section of East West Rail (EWR) project is now part of the National Infrastructure Plan.

7.36 The EWR Consortium, made up of local authorities and interested private sector businesses will now work with Network Rail and the rail industry, along with the Department for Transport.

7.37 The Government see EWR as an innovative and leading edge collaborative approach to promoting and delivering key infrastructure to help unlock economic growth, jobs, and new homes – 'localism in action'.

7.38 EWR is important as it will connect businesses, people, and markets, providing a strategic corridor that helps businesses to grow, develop and compete in local and global markets. It will create 12,000 new jobs and support up to 70,000 new homes in addition to reducing journey times to major centres.

7.39 Work could begin in 2015 with train operations beginning during 2017.

Summary

7.40 There are many challenges that continue to face the transport network and the continuing growth of Milton Keynes will further increase pressure on the existing network. Progress on the delivery of transport projects as reported in this AMR, shows that many projects that contribute to achieving the aims of LTP3 are progressing well, however until monitoring data for the LTP3 performance indicators becomes available it will be hard to tell how much progress has been made against other targets such as Area Traffic Flows, Peak Traffic Flows and Bus Patronage. Data regarding these performance indicators will be reported in the next AMR.

Actions

- To continue implementing LTP3 to help improve transport monitoring in future years, whilst helping the transport system of Milton Keynes to continue to improve and support the growth of the city.
- To maintain and improve public transport service achievements against the backdrop of further potential budget reductions.

8 Energy and Climate Change

Energy and Climate Change

8.1 This section details the measures being implemented in Milton Keynes to reduce carbon emissions, promote renewable energy technologies and combat climate change. Milton Keynes has been at the forefront of sustainable construction techniques and technologies throughout its 40 years history, with examples such as the Home World exhibition in 1981 and Future World in 1994.

8.2 This pioneering attitude continued with the introduction of Local Plan Policy D4: Sustainable Construction (adopted 2005) and the Sustainable Construction SPD (adopted 2007). These require new developments to meet high standards of energy efficiency, water efficiency, reduced construction waste and efficient materials. This was one of the earliest planning policies in the country to require renewable energy technologies in new development; it also introduced the first Carbon Offset Fund. The Submission Core Strategy sought to continue these strengths by increasing sustainable construction standards, promoting low carbon technologies and adapting to climate change. The Core Strategy was the subject of five days of hearings in public in July 2012 before an Inspector appointed bythe Secretary of State. The Inspector has provided a working draft of modifications that she considers necessary to make the Core Strategy sound and legally compliant. One of the required changes was to reword Policy CS 14 (Sustainable Construction) and as a consequence it is now proposed to delete the policy and reword preamble in paragraph 12.19 by adding: "The Council will continue to implement Local Plan (2005) policy D4 until a new revised policy can be tested through the preparation of Plan MK. This will look at the technical feasibility of amending current standards and the economic viability of doing so in relation to other council policies and planning obligations."

Renewable Energy Generation

8.3 There is an abundance of evidence that climate change is caused by increasing volumes of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, notably carbon dioxide (CO_2). The main cause of CO_2 emissions is the burning of fossil fuels (oil, natural gas, coal) for transportation, industrial processes, domestic use and electricity generation. Low or zero carbon technologies which produce no CO_2 emissions or are highly efficient, will, therefore, help to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

8.4 The first wind farm in Milton Keynes, at Petsoe Manor, near Olney, became operational in September 2010. The seven turbine wind farm, with an output capacity of between 14 and 21 megawatts, will generate up to 38,000,000 kWh of electricity a year (enough to power 8,085 homes). A further 12 turbine wind farm at Nun Wood, Bozeat, in Northamptonshire, with three turbines within the Milton Keynes borough Boundary, was granted planning permission on appeal, in November 2011. This however, has been quashed by the High Court on the grounds that the Planning Inspector had failed to impose a condition in relation to amplitude modulation noise. This matter will now return to the Secretary of State for a decision.

8.5 Milton Keynes Local Plan Policy D4 'Sustainable Construction' and the Sustainable Construction SPD require that CO_2 emissions from developments over five dwellings or 1,000m^2 should be reduced by 10% through the use of low or zero carbon technologies. The policy also requires new developments to meet high standards in relation to energy efficiency, water, materials and waste. The following large developments, permitted in 2011/12, will include the installation of low or zero carbon technologies[(44)], in some cases the type of technology to be installed was not known at the time when the application was submitted:

- The erection of 8 single storey dwellings at former Stepping Stones Day Nursery in Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK2 2UP (11/00271/FUL). The installation of photo voltaic panels (4m^2 of pv panels per house) should make a total saving of 364 kg/CO2/yr.

44 There may be additional applications where renewable energies will be installed, but where this was not specifically specified in the application

- The erection of a two storey extension to Centre:MK at Silbury Arcade/Field walk to create additional floorspace for existing Next unit and three new retail kiosk units (11/01479/FUL). The required 10% reduction would be achieved thanks to an air source heat pump system.

- The conversion of Queensway House in Bletchley from B1 office space to 9 residential apartments (12/00107/FUL), will include 24m^2 of pv panels, which in conjunction with the FGHR systems (flue gas heat recovery system for individual combi boilers), will achieve 10% reduction in CO_2 emissions.

- Partial demolition of St Martin's Hall and erection of 9 x apartments with associated car parking and landscaping (12/00139/FUL). PV panels providing 3.30kw peak, will achieve 10% reduction in CO_2 emission.

- The erection of 10 new dwellings to the rear off 9 Newport Road, Hanslope (12/00186/FUL). The installation of photo voltaic panels (1 kWp per dwelling) will enable a 10% reduction in CO_2 emissions.

- Planning permission was granted for the erection of 74 dwellings at the EEA Tollgate Cottage (11/01760/MKPC). The efficiency measures proposed are, thermally efficient dwellings, Low carbon EUPD compliant boilers with Flue Gas Heat Recovery and Solar Photovoltaics to orientated roofs. The percentage of C02 reduction provided from on-site low carbon technologies and renewables would be 10%. Where possible, PV's would be used on the roofs where orientation and available roof space permit.

- Reserved matters permission was granted for the development of 250 new dwellings and associated works at the Radcliffe School site, Aylesbury Street West, Wolverton (11/00390/REM). The installation of solar thermal panels will enable a 10% reduction in CO_2 emissions.

- Reserved matters permission was granted for the erection of 150 dwellings at the EEA Brooklands Phase 1B (11/01827/MKPCR).The proposal was seeking to achieve EcoHomes 'Excellent' rating.

- Variation to the existing permitted scheme (07/01159/OUT as amended by 09/00485/OUT) to extend the approved amount of retail floor space by an additional 7,875 sq m gross of A1 non-food retail allowing the inclusion of mezzanine floors thereby providing a maximum of 21,813 sq m gross external area (234,793 sq ft) A1 non food of which up to 1,394 sq m may be used for A1 convenience (including food retail) floor space with ancillary A2 financial services and ancillary A3 shoppers cafés (11/00545/FUL). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

- The erection of two detached 4 storey office buildings with undercroft car parking, reconfiguration of existing car parking and landscape and open space to the south of Sunningdale House, Caldecotte Lake Drive, Caldecotte (11/00689/FUL). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

- Reserved matters permission was granted for the development of 61 new dwellings and associated works, at Stantonbury Park Land H7 Site (11/01661/REM). The proposal was seeking to achieve EcoHomes 'Excellent' rating.

- Reserved matters permission was granted for the development of 104 new dwellings and associated works, at Stantonbury Park Land H5 Site (11/00062/REM). The proposal was seeking to achieve EcoHomes 'Excellent' rating.

- Reserved matters permission was granted for the development of 75 new dwellings and associated works, phase 3A at Newton Leys, Bletchley (11/00851/REM). The proposal was seeking to achieve EcoHomes 'Excellent' rating.

- The erection of a community swimming pool, health and fitness accommodation with associated car parking and access road at Aylesbury Street, Wolverton (11/01365/FUL). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

- The erection of a single storey extension (1350m2) to Middleton Primary School (11/02409/MKCOD3). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Very Good' rating.

- The erection of a part two storey, part three storey, 32 bedroom care home and rehabilitation facility at Whaddon Way, Bletchley (11/02627/FUL). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

- Renewal of extant planning permission 08/02057/FUL erection of B2/B8 building with ancillary offices, associated parking, servicing, landscaping, mounding and new access including footpath and cycle links at: Site C, Chalkdell Drive, Shenley Wood, Milton Keynes, 11/02749/FUL. The original proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating; this position has not changed.

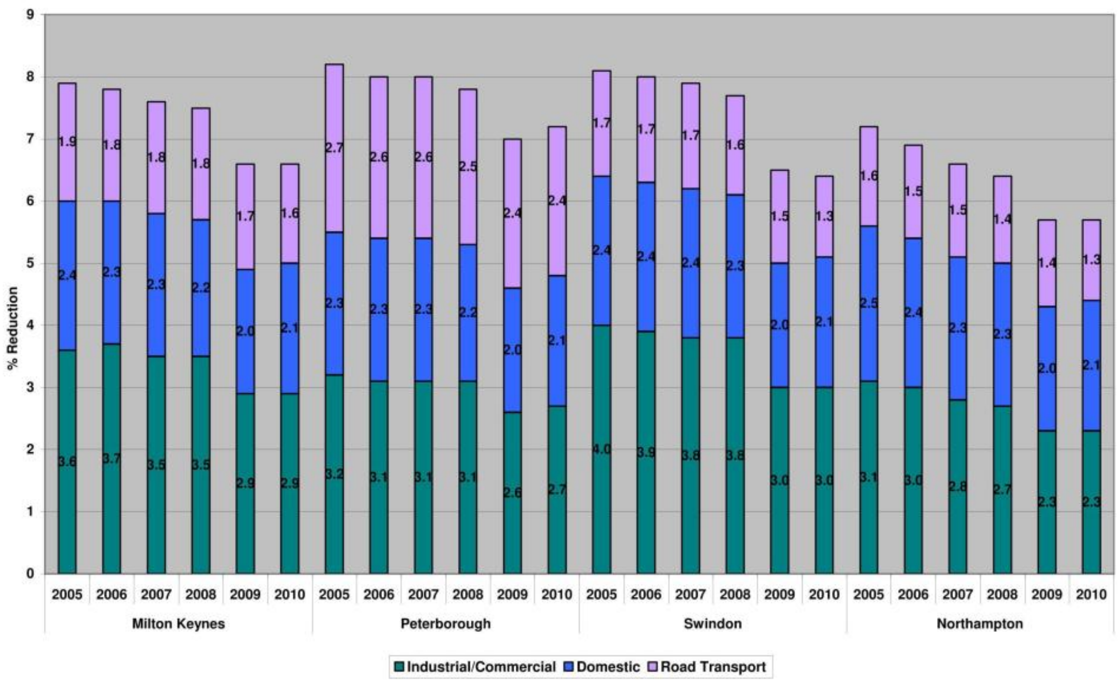
- The erection of 3527 sq.m. foodstore at the former Aston Martin Lagonda Site,Tickford Street, NewportPagnell (10/01916/FUL). The proposal was seeking to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

- Reserved matters permission was granted (11/02404/REM) pursuant of planning permission (09/00618/OUTEIS) for the development of 231 dwellings, 389sqm of A3/A4 (restaurants/cafes and drinking establishments) use, 4,648sqm of A1 (retail) use at Oakgrove Phase 1. The houses will be designed to achieve Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes. The non-domestic buildings will meet BREEAM very good rating and will achieve 10% carbon reduction from renewable energy sources.

8.6 It is noticeable that a number of planning applications using BREEAM or EcoHomes certification to meet the requirements of policy D4 increased significantly since last monitoring period. This increase is even more noticeable in the group of larger schemes, where companies recognise that obtaining a BREEAM certificate may often help meeting their wider corporate objectives.

Per Capita Reduction in CO2 Emissions in Milton Keynes (previously NI 186)

Figure 8.1 Per Capita CO2 emissions in MK and similar authorities 2005 - 2010



8.7 It should be noted that on 14 October 2010, changes to local authority performance arrangements were announced by Local Government Secretary Eric Pickles ahead of the Government's Spending Review. Data collections for some of the remaining National Indicators continued until up to 31st March 2011.

8.8 CO2 emissions of Milton Keynes and similar authorities, 2005 -2010[45] shows that between 2005 and 2010, Milton Keynes achieved a 16% reduction in CO_2 emissions per person.

Milton Keynes Carbon Offset Fund

8.9 Policy D4 states that all new developments in the Borough, over 5 dwellings, or 1,000m^2, must be carbon neutral. This means that new development can produce CO_2 emissions but that these emissions must be offset by the same amount. This can be done on-site or off-site through renewable technologies. This ensures that new development in Milton Keynes does not result in an overall increase in CO_2 emissions.

8.10 If carbon neutrality cannot be achieved by the developer using technical measures, then the developer must contribute to the local Carbon Offset Fund (COF) to compensate for emissions from new developments. This is a one-off payment calculated at £200 per tonne of CO_2 emitted in a single year. It has been calculated that £200 is the cost to offset one tonne of carbon as managed by the United Sustainable Energy Agency. Achieving carbon neutrality by paying into the fund should, therefore, only cost developers a few hundred pounds per household. This is currently a much more cost effective way of achieving carbon neutrality than using technical measures. Milton Keynes was the first authority in the country to introduce such a mechanism. Brighton & Hove and Ashford have followed with similar schemes.

8.11 Until recently the carbon offset fund in conjunction with other available grants have been spent on subsidising cavity wall and loft insulations for properties in the Borough. Residents could improve their insulation from as little as £95. This reduced price has been possible through the monies raised from the offset fund, alongside Carbon Emissions Reduction target (CERT) grant funding. Altogether this scheme allowed to carry out improvements to 14,109 houses for cavity walls insulations and 12,722 houses for loft insulations. In 2012 Milton Keynes Council and United Sustainable Energy Agency launched a new boiler cashback scheme which will be financed by the Carbon Offset Fund. A £150 cashback payment will be available to homeowners in Milton Keynes who replace an old, inefficient gas, oil or LPG boiler for a for a new, energy efficient boiler.

8.12 In total, £706,841 has been transferred to the COF in this financial year. This would save over 3,534 tonnes of CO_2 in one year, based on £200 of COF monies offsetting one tonne of carbon emissions.

8.13 During the almost four years the COF grant has been available, it has contributed to the installation of insulation in 5.2% of all dwellings in Milton Keynes. Whilst the fund is no longer available for wall and loft insulations it will be used to subsidise other schemes that support the local economy, reduce fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions in the area. Further details of the Milton Keynes Carbon Offset Fund and its operation are available at http://www.usea.org.uk/.

Milton Keynes Low Carbon Living Strategy and Action Plan

8.14 In the 2010/11 monitoring period, Milton Keynes Council approved its Low Carbon Living Strategy and Action Plan for the period 2010 to 2020. It focuses on how the community can reduce greenhouse gas emissions locally and, thereby, help to tackle global climate change.

8.15 The Low Carbon Living Strategy[46] aims to place Milton Keynes at the forefront of low carbon living, nationally and internationally. The overall aim of the strategy is to reduce carbon emissions per person in the Milton Keynes area by 40% by 2020, from a 2005 baseline.

45 There is a time lag on this data, 2010 figures are the most recent available. Please note that the estimates are now collated centrally by Department of Energy and Climate Change Statisticians from existing datasets through a modelling process

46 Low Carbon Living Strategy: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mklowcarbonliving/documents/Low_Carbon_Living_Strategy_-_final.pdf

8.16 The details of how this strategy will be achieved is set out in the Low Carbon Action Plan[47]; in summary it will involve:

a) Amending policies, procedures or functions of key organisations

b) Reallocation of existing budgets and new funds sought

c) Specialist support, e.g. the Energy Saving Trust and Carbon Trust

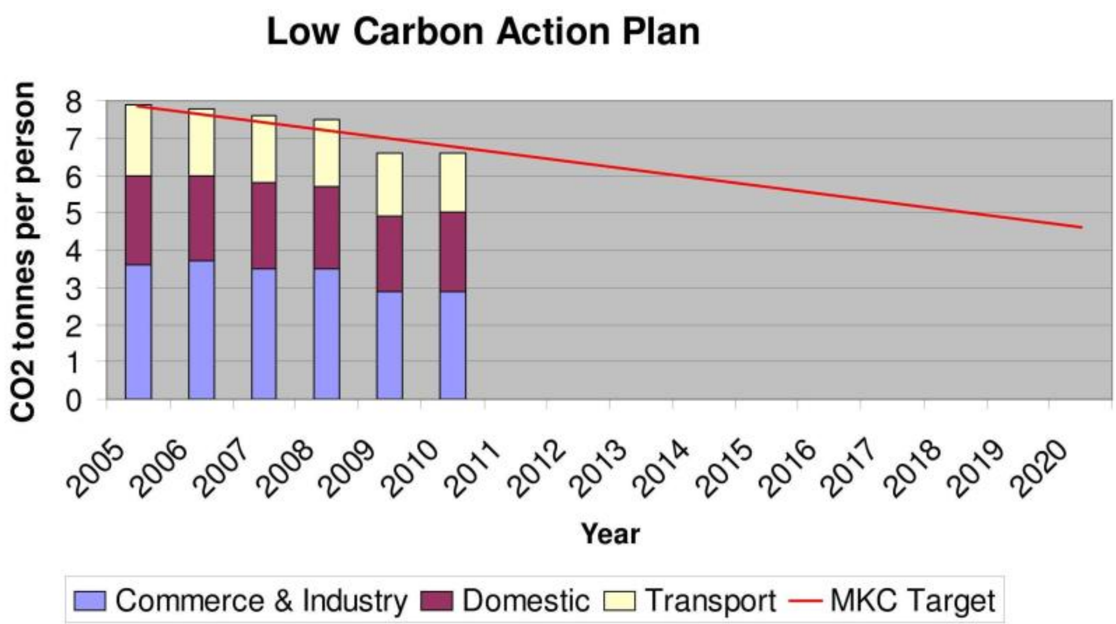
d) Development of a communications and marketing plan

e) Key action areas: private & public sector housing, business support, regeneration schemes, community advice and local transportation.

f) Use of the MK Low Carbon Living Programme as the delivery vehicle.

8.17 Figure 8.2 Low Carbon Action Plan - position in 2010 shows a positive trend, with CO2 emissions per person continuing to fall and remaining below the target line of the Council's Low Carbon Living Strategy.

Figure 8.2 Low Carbon Action Plan - position in 2010



Summary

8.18 Milton Keynes continues to pioneer in the field of sustainable development, with the introduction of the Low Carbon Living Strategy and Action Plan. CO_2 emissions in the Borough are continuing to fall and the authority is on track to achieve the Low Carbon Living Strategy target of reducing carbon emissions per person in the Milton Keynes area by 40% by 2020, from a 2005 baseline. Meanwhile, Local policy D4 and the Carbon Offset Fund continue to help ensure that new development is of a high standard, and significant improvements have been made to the energy efficiency of the older dwelling stock in the Borough.

47 Low Carbon Action Plan: http://www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk/mklowcarbonliving/documents/Low_Carbon_action_plan_-__2011.pdf

Actions

- Continue to require all developments over 5 dwellings, or 1000m^2, to meet the requirements of Policy D4 and the Sustainable Construction SPD. This includes the requirement for 10% of a development's CO_2 emissions to be offset through renewable technologies.
- Continue to require new developments to pay into the Carbon Offset Fund which, through improving the energy efficiency of existing buildings, lowers per capita emissions in the Borough.
- Continue to support projects that reduce carbon emission in Milton Keynes.
- Begin delivering the aims set out in the Low Carbon Living Strategy and Action Plan.

9 Natural and Historic Environment

Biodiversity

Condition of SSSIs

9.1 There are three Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) wholly or partly within Milton Keynes. All of these, in line with Natural England's aim, are in Favourable or Unfavourable Recovering condition. Howe Park Wood and Oxley Mead, which are wholly situated within Milton Keynes, are both in a favourable condition. Yardley Chase SSSI, which is partly situated within Milton Keynes, with the rest in Northamptonshire, is in an Unfavourable Recovering condition.

Sites of Local Biodiversity Significance

9.2 Table 9.1 'Milton Keynes Biodiversity Sites' below sets out information regarding locally significant biodiversity sites.[48]

Table 9.1 Milton Keynes Biodiversity Sites

Type of Site	Area (ha)	% Total of MK Area
Local Wildlife Sites	259	0.83
Biological Notification Sites	1,447	4.68
Local Nature Reserves	33	0.11
Local Geological Sites (LGS)	32	0.10
MK Railway Corridors	712	2.31
MK Road Corridors	988	3.20
MK Wetland Corridors	2,648	8.58
MK Woodland Corridors	362	1.17
Total	**6,481**	**20.98**
Total (excluding Wildlife Corridors)	**1,771**	**5.72**

9.3 The total area of Local Wildlife Sites increased from 254 ha in the 2010/11 monitoring period to 259 ha in the 2011/12 period. This change reflects an increase in the area passing agreed criteria for local wildlife importance, following new survey work. The increase can therefore be attributed to an administrative change, rather than reflecting any 'real' change in biodiversity.

9.4 The figure for Biological Notification Sites decreased from 1,599 ha in the 2010/11 monitoring period to 1,447 ha in the 2011/12 period. This can be attributed to decisions made at Local Wildlife Sites Selection Panel Meetings in 2011/12.

9.5 There is an ongoing project to review all remaining Biological Notification Sites, with the intention of either passing them as Local Wildlife Sites if they meet the selection criteria or archiving them from the system if not. This means the figure for Biological Notification Sites will continue to decrease in future Monitoring Reports.

48 Source: Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre

UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats and Species

9.6 BAP habitats are areas that support biodiversity that are a priority for conservation methods[49]. Table 9.2 'BAP Priority Habitats in Milton Keynes' shows the extents of these habitats within Milton Keynes.

Table 9.2 BAP Priority Habitats in Milton Keynes

Habitat Type	Area (ha)	% Total of MK Area
Floodplain Grazing Marsh	84	0.27
Eutrophic Standing Waters	0	0
Lowland Beach and Yew Woodland	0	0
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	2.8	0.01
Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	2	<0.01
Lowland Fens	4	0.01
Lowland Heathland	0.5	<0.01
Lowland Meadows	10	0.03
Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	258	0.84
Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures	4	0.01
Reedbeds	12	0.04
Rivers	0	0
Traditional Orchards	10	0.03
Wet Woodland	0.81	<0.01
Wood-Pastures and Parkland	121	0.39
Total	509.11	1.6

9.7 The figures for UKBAP in Milton Keynes remain the same as the previous monitoring period. The total area of BAP Priority habitat mapped in Milton Keynes has been calculated as 509 hectares for the 2011/12 monitoring period. Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre has records of 153 UK BAP Priority species in Milton Keynes since the period 1980.

9.8 This year's data again shows that notable amounts of the whole county's resource of Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures (22%), Wood Pasture and Parkland (23%), Reedbeds (48%), and Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh (25%) have been mapped in Milton Keynes.

49 Further information can be found at http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=5155

National Indicator 197 - Proportion of Local Sites where Positive Conservation Management has been or is being Implemented.

9.9 This indicator measures the performance of Local Authorities for biodiversity improvement by assessing the implementation of positive conservation management of Local Sites (LS). The indicator relates to the influence Local Authorities have on LS systems and the measures and procedures involved in ensuring effective conservation management is introduced to, and acted upon, by LS owners and managers.

9.10 Meeting good performance will stimulate positive biodiversity outcomes on the ground. Assessing the extent of positive management will identify sites where positive management is lacking and will help to focus the efforts of Local Sites Partnerships in ensuring LS are managed and their biodiversity value is maintained or enhanced.

9.11 For the purposes of this indicator, LS include both Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) and Local Geological Sites (LGS).

9.12 The findings of the 2011/12 report for Milton Keynes shows that 17 (63%) of the 27 Local Sites are in positive conservation management. The combined figure for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes shows that 240 (51%) of the 467 Local Sites are in positive conservation management. Full figures for Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire and those of other districts are shown in Table 9.3 'Sites in Positive Conservation Management'[(50)].

Table 9.3 Sites in Positive Conservation Management

District/County	Total Number of Local Sites	Total Number of Local Sites in Positive Conservation Management (% of Sites)	Total Number of Local Sites Not in Positive Conservation Management (% of Sites)	Total Number of Local Sites which are Data Deficient (% of sites)
Milton Keynes	27	17 (63)	1 (6.4)	9 (33)
Aylesbury Vale	183	101 (55)	30 (16.3)	52 (28)
Chiltern	75	26 (35)	1 (1.3)	48 (64)
South Bucks	34	17 (50)	2 (5.8)	15 (44)
Wycombe	148	79 (53)	6 (4)	63 (42)
Buckinghamshire (excluding MK)	440	223 (51)	39 (8.8)	178 (40)
Total: Bucks and MK	467	240 (51)	40 (8.5)	187 (40)

Parks

9.13 The Green Flag award is a national benchmark which recognises the best parks and green spaces in the country. Since 2007 Milton Keynes Council has enjoyed continued success in its drive to achieve Green Flag honours in a number of local parks. There are currently three parks, Chepstow Drive Local Park, Eaglestone Local Park and New Bradwell Park, that have all successfully renewed their Green Flag Status in the 2011/12 monitoring period.

50 Source: Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre

During 2012 Milton Keynes Council, as well as nominating the above three parks for renewal, has also nominated Leon Recreation Ground for Green Flag endorsement, therefore committing to increasing the amount of nationally recognised green space available to the residents of Milton Keynes.

Water and Flooding

Planning Applications Granted Contrary to Environment Agency Advice on Flooding and Water Quality Grounds

9.14 There have been no applications within the 2011/12 monitoring year that have had objections from the Environment Agency.

Flood and Water Management

9.15 Milton Keynes has 15 lakes within the city and a further 15 in the rural areas, plus eleven miles of the Grand Union Canal. The main watercourses in the Borough are the Great Ouse and its tributaries; the Calverton and Loughton Brooks; the Tove; the Ouzel and its tributaries; and the Broughton Brook.

9.16 In 2010, the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) implemented a number of recommendations from Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the 2007 floods in the UK. Under the Act, Milton Keynes Council became a 'Lead Local Flood Authority' (LLFA) and was given a series of new responsibilities to coordinate the management of local flood risk from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses.

9.17 The key responsibilities set out in the Act and the Flood Risk regulations (2009) and their current status with regard to Milton Keynes Council are set out in Table 9.4 'Milton Keynes Flood Risk Management Responsibilities/Functions'.

Table 9.4 Milton Keynes Flood Risk Management Responsibilities/Functions

Responsibility	Legislation	Explanation	National Deadline	Current Status
To produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council are required to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management of the area for surface water runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.	Not set	Ongoing
To co-operate and carry out joint working arrangements	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council must co-operate with other authorities and can also delegate functions to each other by local agreement.	Ongoing	Ongoing
To create and maintain an asset register	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council are required to establish and maintain a register of structures, or features, which may significantly affect flood risk in the area.	Not set	Ongoing
To investigate flood incidents	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council are required to investigate flooding incidents where appropriate, to ascertain where responsibility for managing	Ongoing	Ongoing

Responsibility	Legislation	Explanation	National Deadline	Current Status
		the flood risk lies and what is being done about it.		
To designate features	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	This provides the Council with additional legal powers to formally designate assets or features which affect flood risk.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Consenting and enforcing power	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Flood and Water Management Act (2010) has moved the powers relating to consenting and enforcement on ordinary watercourses from the Environment Agency to LLFAs.	6 April 2012	Consenting delegated to the Bedford Groups of IDBs
Establishment of a Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) Approval Body (SAB)	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council must establish a SuDS approval body which has a range of responsibilities relating to the approval, adoption and maintenance of SuDS.	Commencement date to be set by Defra	Commencement date to be set by Defra
Flood Risk Management Works	Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Council have powers to undertake works to manage surface water runoff and groundwater flood risks.	Ongoing	Ongoing
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) Report	Flood Risk Regulations (2009)	The Council must prepare a PFRA for the area of Milton Keynes. A PFRA reports on past floods and the possible harmful consequences of future floods.	22 December 2011	Complete
To identify areas of significant flood risk	Flood Risk regulations (2009)	Ministerial guidance has been published about the criteria for assessing whether a risk of flooding is significant. The EA, using the Flood Map for Surface Water and Defra guidance has produced indicative flood risk areas. No Indicative Flood Risk Areas have been identified in the Borough of Milton Keynes.	22 December 2011	Complete
To produce Flood Hazard Maps and Flood Risk Maps	Flood Risk regulations (2009)	For each indicative flood risk area identified (none within Milton Keynes) a flood hazard map and flood risk map must be prepared.	December 2012	N/A

Responsibility	Legislation	Explanation	National Deadline	Current Status
To produce Flood Risk Management Plans	Flood Risk regulations (2009)	This is a plan for the management of significant flood risk, identified within an indicative flood risk area (none within Milton Keynes).	December 2015	N/A

9.18 The progress of the responsibilities and functions outlined in Table 9.4 'Milton Keynes Flood Risk Management Responsibilities/Functions' will be reported on in future AMR's.

9.19 Of the documents outlined in Table 9.4 'Milton Keynes Flood Risk Management Responsibilities/Functions', the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date strategy, which will incorporate information on all of the Council's flood and water management responsibilities. This will include setting a number of key objectives for dealing with identified flood and water management issues across the Borough and a live action plan outlining projects and actions that will be carried out to achieve these objectives. Following completion of the Strategy, future Annual Monitoring Reports will report on the progress of these actions and their success in achieving the objectives of the Local Flood Risk Management strategy.

Water Quality

9.20 The methods used by the Environment Agency for assessing water quality have now changed and therefore our method of reporting will also differ from recent previous monitoring reports.

9.21 The Environment Agency are now solely using the European Water Framework Directive to measure water quality. This allows a more sophisticated way of assessing the whole water environment with the aim of directing action to where it is most needed.

9.22 Under the Water Framework Directive, water quality assessments are being published using a new, tougher methodology. Water Framework Directive monitoring, known as 'classification' is based on a far wider range of assessments, is risk based and focuses on where there is likely to be a problem.

9.23 For a particular point in time a classification will show where the quality of the water environment in each River Basin District is good and where it may need improvement. The Water Framework Directive looks for all waters to achieve at least good status by 2015 and where this is not possible, good status should be achieved by 2012 or 2027[51].

9.24 Current classification of water bodies in Milton Keynes Borough shows that of the water bodies assessed 21% have a good overall status, 7% have poor overall status and 72% have moderate overall status.

9.25 These classifications are however somewhat misleading. Within Milton Keynes all of the water bodies assessed are designated as either 'artificial' or 'heavily modified'. These are water bodies that have been created or modified for a particular use such as water supply, flood protection, navigation or urban infrastructure.

9.26 The Water Framework Directive recognises that for these water bodies it may be impossible to get near to a natural condition, because of the useful changes that have been made. For these water bodies, the Environment Agency has therefore set a target of 'good ecological potential'. Ecological potential is based on the quality that can be achieved given a water body's changed conditions.

51 Further information on the Water Framework Directive and classification can be found on the Environment Agency's website at: Environment Agency - Water Framework Directive

9.27 Of all the water bodies in Milton Keynes that were assessed has having either moderate or poor status, all had good overall and ecological potential and are therefore in line with expected standards set by the Environment Agency.

Air Quality

9.28 Milton Keynes has set objectives for air quality, covering Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulpher Dioxide, Ozone and Particulate Matter ($PM_{10}S$). In the 2011/12 monitoring year, all of these objectives have again been met in the monitoring locations throughout the Borough with the exception of the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Bridge Street and High Street South, Olney.

9.29 An AQMA has been in force in this location since December 2008, after monitoring data showed that the annual mean nitrogen dioxide figures were exceeding the annual mean acceptable concentration level of 40 micrograms per m^3. Further monitoring has shown no evidence of a downward trend in nitrogen oxide concentration over the last five years.

9.30 In August 2011, Milton Keynes Council produced a draft AQMA Action Plan which provided a list of options, both Olney specific and Borough-wide, with the aim of contributing towards reaching the annual mean nitrogen dioxide level in Olney. As the main source of pollution in Olney is from road traffic emissions, most of the actions were targeted at road traffic. All the actions were considered in terms of practicability, feasibility, cost effectiveness and cost benefit in bringing about improvements.

9.31 This draft was submitted to Defra in January 2012 and the appraisal report was received in March 2012, before a final Olney Action Plan was produced in October 2012, which will be integrated into the Local Transport Plan 3. The plan found that a number of potential measures were not cost-effective or could produce further environmental issues elsewhere or in Olney. However the Plan also concluded that the cost effective measures available are unlikely to enable the annual mean objective to be attained at all locations. The full plan and its recommendations can be viewed at Olney Air Quality Action Plan.

Historic Environment

9.32 Despite the Borough being dominated by the New Town of Milton Keynes, which was designated in 1967, it contains a rich historic environment beyond its New Town History. The city itself incorporates 13 historic villages; many of which are now preserved as conservation areas, in addition to the existing market towns of Bletchley, Stony Stratford and Wolverton. The remaining two thirds of the Borough is rural, comprising a characteristic midlands landscape of small farming villages and historic market towns, such as Olney and Newport Pagnell.

9.33 Milton Keynes is home to the unique Victorian and Edwardian railway town and former works at Wolverton and the internationally-renowned World War Two code-breaking centre at Bletchley Park.

9.34 This varied built environment is complimented by areas of historic landscape comprising significant areas of medieval ridge and furrow and village earthworks and designed landscapes including 3 historic parks and gardens on the national register.

9.35 In the 2011/12 monitoring period, Milton Keynes Council's Conservation and Archaeology Team was reduced by two posts, a Senior Conservation Officer post and an Archaeological Officer post. This has lead to the cancellation of the Conservation Area Review Programme.

9.36 In the 2011/12 period the team received 1077 consultations (applications, pre-applications and discharge of conditions) from Development Management on proposed development/works relating to heritage assets. This shows a 43% increase in the number of consultations compared to the 2010/11 figure of 753 consultations.

9.37 The team has also begun work on planning a 'Local List' for the New Town of Milton Keynes.

9.38 During the monitoring period the Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas (PSICA) for Bletchley, which was set up during the 2010/11 monitoring period, has continued to fund repair works to the World War Two buildings at Bletchley Park. This has primarily targeted the re-roofing of significant buildings.

Archaeology

9.39 Milton Keynes is also rich in archaeological remains, with the earliest records relating to Palaeolithic finds. The New Town area has been subject to numerous archaeological investigations, many of which were carried out by a dedicated archaeology unit between 1971 and 1991. Investigations found that sites spanned from the Neolithic through to the post-medieval period. Of these, key excavated sites include the medieval villages of Tattenhoe and Great Linford, the Roman Villa and mausoleum at Bancroft, Saxon Settlements at Pennyland and Hartigans, and the post-medieval watermill and boat at Caldecotte.

9.40 Elsewhere in the Borough, the sites of the Roman small town of Magiovinium on the line of Watling Street and the Iron Age hill fort of Danesborough can be found. These are just two of the area's 50 scheduled ancient monuments which also include medieval manorial and monastic sites and more recent industrial heritage, such as the 200 year old Iron Bridge at Newport Pagnell.

9.41 In recent years with the continuing expansion of the City of Milton Keynes into the surrounding countryside, extensive programmes of survey and excavation have led to several prehistoric to post-medieval sites being investigated, recorded and published.

Fieldwork Projects

9.42 20 development related fieldwork projects were undertaken in the Milton Keynes area between April 2011 and March 2012. A particular highlight was the recovery of 2 complete Iron Age notched log ladders from continuing excavations on the Western Expansion Area. These substantial (>2m long) worked timbers are believed to be the largest recovered examples in the UK and consequently of national significance. They are now undergoing conservation in York and will be returned for display in due course.

Historic Environment Record (HER)

9.43 The Senior Archaeological Officer completed a review of the 2006 HER audit in May 2011 prior to preparing an action plan for the development of the HER over the next 3 years. A key component of the action plan is the procurement of replacement database software to achieve better compliance with the appropriate national heritage data standards and to provide a more sustainable and accessible platform for the future.

Outreach

9.44 The Senior Archaeological Officer gave talks on recent archaeological work in Milton Keynes to the members of the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society and Olney Archaeological Society in May and September. During August a guided walk to Danesborough Iron Age hill fort was given to members of the Bow Brickhill Society.

9.45 In June a well-attended open day was held with the cooperation of the developer and contracting archaeologists on excavations in Shenley Church End parish in advance of the Western Expansion Area.

9.46 On November 12th 2011 Councillor Alan Richards, the Mayor of Milton Keynes, opened the fifth Milton Keynes Archaeology Day. This event, held across the Central Library was attended by over 400 people of all ages from across the Borough and beyond. The day included a fascinating talk by Helen Geake, from Television's Time Team, on the Staffordshire Hoard, whilst stands from CLASP and the City Discovery Centre also proved popular. The themed story time for under-fives in the Children's Library was complemented on this occasion by an extremely popular mosaic-making workshop led by Melanie Watts which created a piece of permanent art now on display in the Children's Library.

Summary

- There have been 153 BAP Priority Habitats recorded in Milton Keynes since 1980.
- No applications were permitted with outstanding objections from the Environment Agency.
- Under the Water Management Act (2010), Milton Keynes has become a Lead Local Flood Authority, which has given the Council a series of new responsibilities to co-ordinate the management of local flood risk.
- Overall air quality in Milton Keynes has remained good, with the exception of Olney High Street due to heavy traffic.
- Final AQMA Action Plan was completed for Olney.
- The Conservation and Archaeology Team has received 1077 consultations relating to planning applications in 2011/12.
- 20 development related archaeological fieldwork projects were undertaken in the Milton Keynes area in 2011/12.

Actions

- Progress a Milton Keynes Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to adoption.
- To continue work towards carrying out the new responsibilities/functions placed on Milton Keynes Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority.
- Continue work on the Local Heritage at Risk Register.
- Progress the Local List New Town project.
- Procure replacement Historic Environment Record software.

10 Minerals and Waste

Minerals

Production of primary land-won aggregate by Mineral Planning Authority

10.1 Due to the low number of active quarries in the Borough, information relating to the production of primary land-won aggregates cannot be provided for commercial confidentiality reasons.

Production of secondary and recycled aggregates by Mineral Planning Authority

10.2 Due to the low number of active quarries in the Borough, information relating to the production of secondary and recycled aggregates cannot be provided for commercial confidentiality reasons.

Waste

Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority

10.3 There was no increase in the operational capacity of waste management facilities in the monitoring period. Permission was granted for an organic waste treatment facility in the previous monitoring period, with a capacity of 35,000 tonnes per annum, but this facility has not yet become operational.

Amount of municipal waste arising and managed by management type by waste planning authority

10.4 Table 10.1 'Amount of municipal waste arising in Milton Keynes' shows that there was a reduction in the overall level of waste generated in this monitoring period. The amount of waste sent to landfill also dropped significantly, by over 12,000 tonnes,.

Table 10.1 Amount of municipal waste arising in Milton Keynes

	2010/11 Figures		2011/12 Figures	
Management Type	Quantity (tonnes)	% Waste Managed	Quantity (tonnes)	% Waste Managed
Recycled via MRF[52] / other recycling outlet	33,519.82	25.72	32,833.44	27.81
Windrow composted	3,767.29	2.89	3,340.56	2.83
IVC[53] Composted	20,869.72	16.01	22,426.29	18.99
Incinerated with energy recovery	4,133.19	3.17	7,824.19	6.63
Landfill	58,888.73	45.19	46,195.85	39.12
Sent for hardcore	5,914.23	4.54	4,555.22	3.86
Sent for reuse	3,224.85	2.48	905.54	0.77

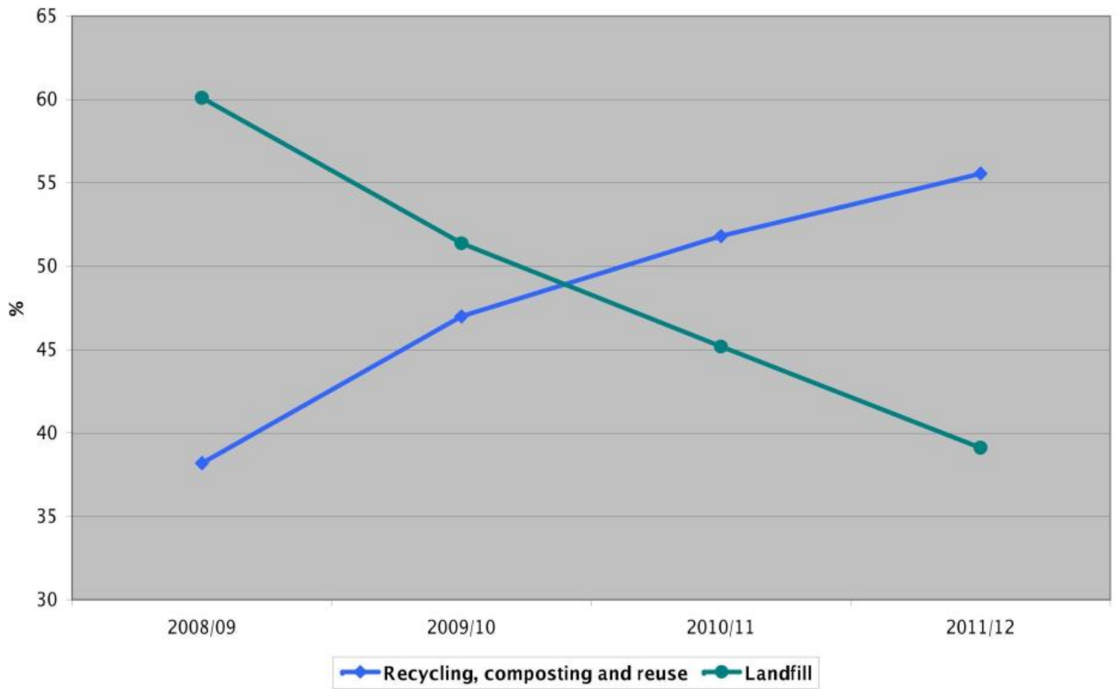
52 MRF - Materials Recovery Facility
53 IVC - In Vessel Composting

	2010/11 Figures		2011/12 Figures	
Management Type	**Quantity (tonnes)**	**% Waste Managed**	**Quantity (tonnes)**	**% Waste Managed**
Total	**130,317.83**	**100**	**118,081.09**	**100**

Recycling, composting and reuse of waste in Milton Keynes

10.5 The recycling, composting and re-use figure for 2011/12 was 55.57%, up from last year's figure of 51.82%. Figure 10.1 'Proportion of waste recycled and the proportion sent to landfill'shows the progress that has been made over the last few years, with an increase in recycling, composting and re-use and the resultant decrease in waste sent to landfill.

Figure 10.1 Proportion of waste recycled and the proportion sent to landfill



10.6 The Council's Municipal Zero Waste Management Strategy was refreshed in 2011 and introduced revised targets for recycling, because the Council was outperforming the targets previously set in the 2005 Strategy.Table 10.2 'Recycling Targets'shows the long term recycling targets for the Borough, as set out in the Strategy.

Table 10.2 Recycling Targets

2014/15	2019/20	2024/25
60%	65%	70%

Mass of waste produced by household

10.7 In the monitoring period 2011/12, the residual waste per household figure was 492.80kg. Once again, this figure represents a significant reduction compared to last year's figure of 553.29kg. However, the figure was slightly above the 485.00kg target for the monitoring period. Figure 10.2 'Mass of Waste per household'shows the progress that has been made in reducing the amount of waste produced per household over the last few years.

Figure 10.2 Mass of Waste per household

Developments using recycled materials

10.8 No figure is available for the proportion of developments which have used recycled materials in construction. However, the Council has a planning policy requirement (Local Plan Policy D4 Sustainable Construction) for all developments exceeding 5 dwellings or 1000sq m to use a minimum of 10% recycled or reused materials (by value).

Summary

10.9 Due to the low number of quarry operators in the Borough, minerals data is not available again this year. In terms of waste, there has been no increase in the capacity of operational waste management facilities.

10.10 This year's monitoring figures show that, despite a growing population, there has been continued improvement in waste figures, with another fall in the amount of waste produced and the quantity and proportion sent to landfill.

Actions

- Continue to promote and support reuse, recycling and composting

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