

Fylde Council Local Plan to 2032

FYLDE BOROUGH COUNCIL STATEMENT

MATTER 10

MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Stage 2 Hearing Sessions

June 2017



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Matter 10 – Monitoring Framework

Issue – Is the Plan deliverable and capable of being effectively monitored?

x.i The Council considers that the Local Plan sets out a clear and robust framework for delivery and monitoring.

80. Will the proposed monitoring framework set out in Appendix 8 of the Plan be effective to ensure delivery of the proposals during the Plan period? Does its location within the appendices to the Plan give due weight and effectiveness to the monitoring framework?

80.1 The Council considers that the performance monitoring framework provides a comprehensive, effective and sound basis for monitoring the implementation and delivery of the proposals during the Plan period. The indicators as listed in Appendix 8 sets out a detailed set of indicators and targets for monitoring the policies of the Plan together with key delivery partners. These have been carefully chosen for their relevance and measurability and the Council considers that they are sufficiently precise and targeted to provide for the effective monitoring of the Plan. The indicators were chosen according to: their relevance; the availability of data; likely significant effects identified in the sustainability appraisal and policy target timescales.

80.2 The performance monitoring framework does not contain a monitoring indicator for every policy as this is neither necessary nor desirable. The effectiveness of some policies, such as those relating to quality of design are not easy to monitor through indicators or targets, whilst for other policies it would become repetitive to include indicators under each one. Rigid targets viewed in isolation may lead to an overly strict application of policies which may inadvertently prohibit the development of an adaptable and successful local economy. The Council have included appropriate indicators that cover multiple policies. In order to gain an understanding of the effectiveness of the policies in the Local Plan it is important to capture what is happening in the area. Some of the indicators in the plan are therefore more general. .

80.3 When choosing appropriate indicators, there is a balance to be struck between considering detailed and quantifiable targets and the monitoring of effective policy performance. The effectiveness of some policies/subsections is best captured by studying trends, whilst others may be better judged according to quantifiable targets. Either way, the effectiveness of policies, must be considered in the context of more general trends regarding the wider picture of what is happening locally, sub-regionally and nationally. The failure to reach a target may be due to circumstances beyond the control of the planning department, and indeed the Council as a whole. When considered in this wider context, failure to reach a target may not be an indication of the failure of the plan to be effective. Rather it may reflect a change in circumstances.

80.4 The performance monitoring framework reflects existing monitoring practices which have been reviewed and revised over a number of years. The targets have been set to be realistic rather than aspirational, although on closer inspection a number will be slightly amended to be more measurable and SMART. This allows the Council to assess the performance of policies, including any unintended consequences, and identify the need for the review of a policy if it is performing poorly against targets.

80.5 In accordance with the Town and Country Planning Regulations, the Council publishes its Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (Ref: ED008) each year showing how the implementation of emerging planning policies is progressing, providing updates on plan preparation and reporting on activity relating to the duty to cooperate.

80.6 The Council is satisfied that the indicators identified in Appendix 8 are both reasonable and specific and can be practically used to measure the implementation of policies in the Local Plan. However, the Council is prepared to review the indicators and targets should the Inspector consider this to be necessary.

80.7 With respect to the delivery of proposals, in particular housing, the Monitoring Framework enables monitoring which allows criterion b of Policy H1 to be implemented. This is also referred to in the response to Question 9.

80.8 In response to the second part of Question 80 the Council considers that the Monitoring Framework should be moved forward to become Appendix 1, in order to give due weight to its effectiveness.

81. Are the proposed targets appropriate?

a. Is Indicator 1's reference to a 'target requirement' appropriate?

81a.1 In respect to Indicator 1, the Inspector's question is noted and as a consequence, the Council wish to amend the wording, therefore the amended Target/ Policy Outcome will read 'Annual homes completions against the ~~target~~ minimum requirement of 415 homes per annum.

b. Is the proposed target for Indicator 13 measurable?

81b.1 The Council accept that Indicator 13 as set out is not measurable. The Council does keep a record of developer contributions collected each year, which demonstrates that Policy INF2 is effective. The Council considers that the text be amended in the Performance Monitoring Indicator(s) column of Indicator 13 as follows:

'Number, Type and Location of Infrastructure Projects delivered. Value of developer contributions collected.'

81b.2 Thereby ensuring the Indicator is better measurable, than simply stating how much contributions had been collected.

c. As per the Council's comments on page 185 of SD011 have appropriate indicators, targets and timescales for Indicators 19a-d been discussed with Historic England?

81c.1 Yes the Council has sought advice from Historic England, who have provided additional information regarding amendments and criteria based indicators, which should be incorporated to ensure the indicators for the Historic Environment are measurable and SMART.

81c.2 The following textual minor modifications are therefore being suggested by the Council, including the deletion of indicator 19d:

No.	Local Plan Policies - Publication version		Performance Monitoring Indicator(s)	Target / Policy Outcome	Key Delivery Partners
19a	ENV5	Historic Environment	Number of Heritage Assets on Historic England's 'At Risk' register and Fylde's Local List of Heritage Assets.	To reduce the number of heritage assets on the Historic England's 'At Risk' register. Periodic review of the local list of heritage assets once established.	Fylde Council, Historic England, developers and architects.
19b	ENV5	Historic Environment	Number of development schemes refused planning permission on the grounds of impact to a heritage asset.	To ensure there is no loss, substantial loss or less than substantial loss, of listed buildings and buildings in conservation areas lost through the development management process.	Fylde Council, Historic England, developers and architects.
19c	ENV5	Historic Environment	Conservation Area Appraisals and management plans.	Maintain up-to date Conservation Area Appraisals and management plans.	Fylde Council

82. Is it clear when a review of policies or the Plan may be necessary?

82.1 The Local Plan does not set out what the triggers for a review of the Plan are, as there may be circumstances that the Council cannot predict which may trigger a review, some of which have been referred to in other sections of the Plan

82.2 It would seem reasonable that a review of the Local Plan would be triggered by a major change in Government policy, for example the requirement to review Local Plans every 5 years, which seems to be suggested in the Housing White Paper “Fixing our broken housing market”, the re-introduction of strategic planning authorities or a need to examine the issue of Wyre’s unmet housing need, working with other authorities adjoining Wyre, under the Duty to Cooperate, once Wyre’s plan is adopted.

82.3 The penultimate paragraph on page 227 states that:

‘Monitoring will help identify how well the policies are working and also identify how well the policies are working and also identify any adverse effects. If any adverse effects arise, this will trigger a review’.

If none of the above occur, the Local Plan will be reviewed within the plan period in order to ensure an up to date Local Plan is in place post 2032.