

Annual Monitoring Report 2010 - 2011

Broads Local Development Framework

December 2011



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Draft Broads LDF Annual Monitoring Report 2010-2011

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Executive Summary

- **Local Development Framework preparation generally:** Significant progress continues to be made on completing a full suite of development plan documents (DPDs) to replace the Local Plan, but due to issues arising in the preparation of documents, and staff shortages the key dates identified programme in the Local Development Scheme have generally been delayed by up to three months.
 - **Core Strategy DPD:** Already adopted. No milestones in year for proposed Core Strategy Review.
 - **Development Management Policies DPD preparation:** Significant progress has been made, albeit around three months behind schedule. (Later reduced to two months.)
 - **Site Specific Policies DPD preparation:** Early stage delayed by around three months.
 - **Annual Monitoring Report:** Delivered on time.
 - **Local Development Scheme:** Would benefit from updating, but this probably best now left until changes in legislation and national policy become clear.
- **Monitoring Policies and Plans:** No reporting is done in this Annual Monitoring Report on current policies and plans. This is primarily because of the need to concentrate the limited planning policy resources on DPD preparation, but also because of the subsequent expiry of most of the Local Plan policies in force during the period under review, and the Government's decision to abandon collecting the Core Output Indicators previously reported.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 This Annual Monitoring Report assesses the progress of the Broads Local Development Framework during the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. There is a statutory requirement for the Broads Authority, as local planning authority for the area, to produce such a report to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. (Though note that *the Government has signalled its intention to abolish this obligation as part of the Localism Bill currently progressing through parliament.) In particular the Report reviews actual progress during the period in terms of local development document preparation against the timetable and milestones in the most recent Local Development Scheme.

1.2 The requirements for the contents of Annual Monitoring Reports have been considerably reduced by Government's withdrawal of earlier policy and best practice guidance on the matter, and its decision to no longer collect the former 'National Core Output Indicators'.

1.3 At the same time the monitoring of the development plan for the Broads is in a state of flux as the many of the remaining policies in the Local Plan will cease to have effect in December 2011 upon the adoption of the Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD).

Chapter 2: Local Development Framework Preparation

5.1 Like most local planning authorities the Broads Authority is part way through developing a new set of policies under the new plan making system introduced in 2004. Some policies are contained in 'new style' local development documents, while some policies from the 'old style' local, structure, minerals and waste plans remain in force under transitional arrangements until they are superseded by 'new style' documents.

5.2 At the end of the year under review (March 2011) the Broads Local Development Framework comprised the following:

1. Local Development Documents

- Development Plan Documents -
 - i. **Core Strategy** (adopted Sept 2007)
- Supplementary Planning Documents –
 - i. **Development and Flood Risk Supplementary Planning Document** (adopted Sept 2008)

2. Other Framework Documents

- **Statement of Community Involvement** (revision adopted March 2008)
- **Local Development Scheme** (revised Mar 2010)
- **Annual Monitoring Report 2009 – 2010** (Autumn 2010)

The only change from the beginning of the year under review was the publication of a new Annual Monitoring Report.

Other Development Plan changes

5.7 Suffolk County Council adopted a Waste Core Strategy in March 2011 and this includes coverage of the Suffolk part of the Broads

Local Development Scheme Progress

5.9 The Local Development Scheme for the Broads sets out a 3 year programme for the preparation of new local development documents. The current Local Development Scheme was adopted in March 2010.

5.10 During the year under review only some of the anticipated progress on local development document was achieved.

5.11 The following compares the progress planned for the year in the Local Development Scheme and that actually achieved in the year for each of the documents programmed.

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Core Strategy DPD

CORE STRATEGY REVIEW DPD		
Key Milestone	Notes	Planned Date
Consulting statutory bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal	In tandem with Broads Plan Review 2010	January 2010
Draft DPD	Follows adoption of revised Broads (Management) Plan	May 2012
Pre-Submission Publication		November 2012
Submission of the DPD		March 2013
Adoption of the DPD	Subject to Planning Inspectorate	November 2013

A Core Strategy DPD is already adopted. A Review of the Core Strategy was included in the Local Development Scheme, but there are no key milestones for the Core Strategy Review during the year under review.

Development Management Policies DPD

DEVELOPMENT MANAGAMENT POLICIES DPD			
Key Milestone	Notes	Planned Date	Achieved – (Anticipated)
Consulting statutory bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal	Already completed	2006	√
Revised Proposals Consultation	Revised Proposals required to ensure conformity and soundness	June – July 2010	June – July 2010
Publication of the DPD		September 2010	Dec 2011
Submission of the DPD		December 2010	Mar 2011
Adoption of the DPD	Subject to Planning Inspectorate	September 2011	(Nov 2011)

The Revised Proposals for the Development Management Policies DPD took place on time. Due to the issues arising from this and the resources available, the Publication and Submission each were delayed by about 3 months (and the subsequent adoption by two months).

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Site Specific Policies DPD

SITE SPECIFIC POLICIES DPD			
Key Milestone	Notes	Planned Date	Achieved – (Anticipated)
Consulting statutory bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal		December 2010	Mar 2011
Publication of the DPD		January 2012	(July 2012)
Submission of the DPD		May 2012	(Nov 2012)
Adoption of the DPD	Subject to Planning Inspectorate	February 2013	(June 2013)

Consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Site Specific Policies DPD preparation scoping report was delayed by three months due to staff sickness and the unexpected need to prepare the draft SA Scoping Report in-house. There will be a corresponding delay to the remainder of the programme, which has in any case been revised since the publication of the Local Development Scheme.

Proposals Map

The Proposals Map is to be prepared alongside the Site Specific Policies DPD, and no key milestones were planned for the year under review.

Statement of Community Involvement (Review)

This apparently appears in error in the Local Development Scheme table showing the timetable for LDF preparation, as it is not mentioned elsewhere in the Scheme. (There are also no key dates indicated during the period under review.)

Combined Results

These combined results for the year are shown graphically in the context of the Local Development Scheme's 3 year programme by Figure 1 (next page).

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Local Development Scheme

It is clear from the above that the programme for development plan document preparation has slipped slightly. It would be desirable to update the Local Development Scheme before too long to ensure it accurately reflects the current situation and future plans. However, the government is in the process of changing and simplifying the process for producing local development schemes, and delaying until it is in place will reduce the amount of work involved in that update. More especially, the anticipated Localism Act, revised plan-making regulations and National Planning Policy Framework may well have significant effects on the priorities and timescales for future plan-making work, and it would be wise to wait until these have become clearer (probably early 2012) before embarking on a revision.

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Chapter 3: Monitoring of Policies and Plans

Annual Monitoring Reports usually include the monitoring of the use and effectiveness of policies and plans. It has been decided not to undertake this in this year's Broads AMR. This is principally because of the limited planning policy resources available and the need to concentrate these on the preparation of the Site Specific Policies DPD and adoption of the Development Management Policies DPD. However, the Government's abandonment of collecting the former 'National Core Output Indicators', the imminent replacement of most of the saved Local Plan policies by the Development Management Policies, and the Government's proposed changes to Annual Monitoring Reports also render the usual monitoring less relevant at this time.