

REPORT TO: Environment and Regeneration Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 18th June 2025

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director Environment and Regeneration

PORTFOLIO: Environment and Urban Renewal

SUBJECT: Authority Monitoring Report's (AMRs) – Housing & Employment

WARD(S) Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Local planning authorities are required to publish information at least annually that shows progress with local plan preparation, reports any activity relating to the duty to cooperate, any information collected which relates to indicators in the plan, and any policies which are not being implemented.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board endorse the draft AMRs so that the documents can be made publicly available and published on the Councils website.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Housing and Employment AMR's provide greater detail and analysis for each topic area covering the period 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024, with background information back to 2014.
- 3.2 This document must be updated annually in order to provide up to date information. The AMR monitors the performance of the adopted Local Plan (March 2022), reviewing the success of planning policies using various indicators, including Housing and Employment numbers.
- 3.3 Regulation 34 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out what information the reports must contain. Appendix F (Monitoring Framework) of the DALP set out the targets that have been developed to measure the direct effects of the policies on achieving the targets.
- 3.4 The Delivery and Allocations Local Plan sets out housing supply and locational priorities for the borough. The adopted plan states that there will be a minimum of 8,050 net additional homes to be provided

between 2014 and 2037 at an average rate of 350 dwellings per annum. The Housing report shows that in the period 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024 362 net houses were completed, with 126 of these being affordable. There are also 111 units currently under construction. `

- 3.5 The DALP also allocates land for business and industry to support Halton's economy. The DALP states that over the lifetime of the Local Plan, 2014 to 2037, the council will provide approximately 180 ha of land for employment purposes. In the period 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024 Employment land completions monitoring recorded the take up of 5.75 ha of employment land and 0 ha of SG all of which was taken up in Key/ Urban Regeneration Areas in Widnes.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Members wish to ensure that Housing and Employment policies are performing effectively and the DALP strategies are being met.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Annual Monitoring Reports will need to be updated annually, which will impact on staff resources.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S

6.1 Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence

The Employment and Housing AMR's support the above by providing additional information to support Children, Young people and Families by its policies and strategies to encourage affordable quality housing and strong job prospects and opportunities for young people.

6.2 Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy

The Employment and Housing AMR's support the above by providing additional information to develop a suitable housing market and sustainable local economy.

6.3 Supporting Children, Young People and Families

The Employment and Housing AMR's are a statutory document that helps review the policies in the local plan. This is intended to assist in the delivery of the Local Plan.

6.4 Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need

The Employment and Housing AMR's supports the above by providing additional information to the local plan to ensure the next local plan has all of the information to best protect the environment and mitigate climate change.

6.5 Working Towards a Greener Future

The Employment and Housing AMR supports the above by providing additional information to monitor whether the council is hitting their requirements for employment and housing, and therefore addressing the inequalities outlined in the local plan.

6.6 Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community

The Employment and Housing AMR helps monitor the delivery of affordable homes and the enhancement of the communities in which we will live and work.

7.0 Risk Analysis

7.1 There are no legal or financial risks arising from this report.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Promotes sustainable development.

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

‘None under the meaning of the Act.’