

Bromsgrove District Council



Annual Monitoring Report

December 2010



Bromsgrove
District Council

www.bromsgrove.gov.uk





Index

CONTENTS		pages
Executive Summary		2
Chapter 1	Introduction	3 >>> 4
Chapter 2	Monitoring Local Development Framework Preparation	5 >>> 7
Chapter 3	Context	8 >>> 12
Chapter 4	Monitoring the Bromsgrove District Local Plan 2004-2011	13 >>> 14
Chapter 5	Business Development and Town Centres	15 >>> 19
Chapter 6	Housing	20 >>> 26
Chapter 7	Transport, Local Services and the Built Environment	27 >>> 29
Chapter 8	Environmental Quality	30 >>> 33
APPENDICES		
Appendix 1	Glossary	34 >>> 35
Appendix 2	Demography	36 >>> 39
Appendix 3	Economy	40 >>> 45

Please Note

Whilst as much care as possible has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, it is not a definitive list of planning applications determined by the Council.



Executive Summary

The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is prepared by Bromsgrove District Council each year in accordance with the requirements of the new development plan system. It aims to monitor the policies and proposals that have been adopted and determine the effects they are having and then modify or replace the policies and proposals deemed necessary. Over the last three years the AMR has had to take into account the new government advice; Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework: Core Output Indicators - Update 2/2008.

Below is a summary of the key findings for the 2009-2010 AMR.

▶▶▶ LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME:

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) has been revised and adopted in July 2010. Due to uncertainties around the change of Government and the anticipated publication of the Localism Bill in January 2011, not all the LDS milestones were met. However, as the delays are only expected to be two to three months and are in the best interest of the Council, there are not any proposed changes to the LDS.

▶▶▶ BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOWN CENTRES:

In total, 13,832m² of employment land floorspace was developed during the monitoring period. This brings the total amount of employment land completed from 2006 (the beginning of the plan period) to 82,859.37m². The District has a stable and strong business sector with the registration of businesses significantly higher than de-registrations. The continued development of high-technology firms at locations such as Bromsgrove Technology Park is likely to promote employment growth. The former MG Rover plant is also expected to see more regeneration commence throughout the next AMR period since the AAPs adoption in April 2009.

▶▶▶ HOUSING:

There were a total of 72 new dwellings built in the District over the monitoring period, with 55% of homes built at a density greater than 30 dwellings per hectare, the minimum recommendation from PPS3. The regional target for future housing provision being on previously developed land (PDL) is 76% and 68% for Worcestershire. Although there has been a

decrease since last years AMR, Bromsgrove has still successfully achieved a relatively high figure with 73.17% of this AMR's housing being on PDL. Of these completions, there were 61 affordable housing units, which although was a decrease on last years figure (98), it is still higher than previous years.

▶▶▶ TRANSPORT, LOCAL SERVICES AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT:

Bromsgrove District is predominantly rural leading to an over reliance on private transport. However, the majority of new development, whether commercial or residential, has been located either in or around Bromsgrove Town, or other large villages - which are the most sustainable locations in regards to public transport. All non-residential development has complied with car parking standards set out in the Local Plan. Future retail development will be focused in Bromsgrove Town centre through the Area Action Plan, which is expected to go to consultation in January 2011. Regarding the built environment, there are currently 467 listed buildings and 11 Conservation Areas within the District, as Hewell Grange was added during this AMR period. Across Bromsgrove, two listed buildings, six scheduled monuments, the registered historic park at Hewell Grange and Bromsgrove Town Centre Conservation Area are included on the 2010 'Heritage at Risk' Register.

▶▶▶ ENVIRONMENT:

No planning applications were granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency to ensure developments are not taking place in locations where there is the greatest risk of flooding. There was no notable renewable energy capacity provided in the District in 2009 to 2010. However, on a small scale, there were domestic solar panel installations in 16 properties across the District from November 2009 to April 2010. This resulted in a total of 0.04mW of energy. The conditions of Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within the District are still below government targets, which aim to be rectified over the next few years. The Council has monitored planning applications where it was considered that there would be a significant impact on biodiversity. In all granted permissions, biodiversity implications were considered fully and conditions established to reduce the risk of any harm.



Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

The Government introduced a new system of development planning with its release of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act in September 2004. Under the new system the Local Development Framework (LDF) has replaced Structure Plans and Local Plans. The LDF contains a series of Local Development Documents (LDDs) that collectively delivers the spatial planning strategy for Bromsgrove District.

Review and monitoring are key aspects of the Governments 'plan, monitor and manage' approach to the planning system. They are seen as crucial to the successful delivery of the spatial vision and objectives of the LDF. The process of reviewing and monitoring will enable a comprehensive evidence base to be built against which Local Development Document policies and implementation can be assessed. It will also enable trends to be identified to which the Council can respond by producing Development Plan Documents (DPDs) or Supplementary Plan Documents (SPDs). These documents form part of the portfolio of Local Development Documents contained within the LDF.

Monitoring plays a role at the examination into DPDs. During examinations, DPDs are tested thoroughly in order to consider whether they are justified, effective and consistent with National Policy. To be justified a DPD must be founded on a robust and credible evidence base and to be considered effective a document must be able to be monitored.

1.2 What is the Annual Monitoring Report?

This document is the sixth successive Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) produced by Bromsgrove District Council since the introduction of the new planning system in September 2004. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires Bromsgrove District Council to produce an AMR and submit the report to Government Office in December on an annual basis. The AMR is a Local Development Document and forms part of the Local Development Framework. The AMR must assess:

- i) implementation of the Local Development Scheme; and
- ii) the extent to which policies in the Local Development Documents are being achieved.

As required by Planning Act and associated regulators, Bromsgrove District Council must undertake the following five key monitoring tasks:

- i) review actual progress in terms of local development document preparation against the timetable and milestones in the local development scheme;
- ii) assess the extent to which policies in the Local Development Document preparation against the timetable and milestones in the Local Development Scheme;
- iii) where policies are not being implemented, explain why and set out what steps are to be taken to ensure that the policy is implemented; or whether the policy is to be amended or replaced;
- iv) identify the significant effects of implementing policies in Local Development Documents and whether they are intended; and
- v) set out whether policies are to be amended or replaced.

Source: Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide, ODPM (2005, Pg.9).

This AMR covers the period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010. However, in some cases the timeframe has been extended to beyond March 2010 where it was considered necessary to record such information, for example, when discussing LDS timetable milestones.

1.3 Transition between the Local Plan and the LDF

Under the new planning system Local Authorities must now produce a Local Development Framework. Bromsgrove District Council is therefore in a state of transition, moving from its old style Local Plan to the new Local Development Framework. Over the past six years since the Act was introduced (Sept. 2004) work has begun producing a number of documents that will comprise the LDF.

Bromsgrove District Council's Local Plan was adopted in January 2004. The LDF will eventually replace these documents and will contain the spatial vision and objectives for the District. However, until policies are replaced, Bromsgrove District Council will continue to use the Local Plan. As a consequence, part of this AMR will focus on policies detailed in the Bromsgrove District Council Local Plan (Jan. 2004).



Chapter 1

1.4 Monitoring of Sustainability Effects

Sustainable Development is a key theme in the new planning system. At the heart of sustainable development is the idea of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and in the future. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act contains a statutory requirement that Local Authorities have a duty to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. As such, the Council must produce an integrated and comprehensive sustainability appraisal covering economic, environmental and social impacts of the DPD policies contained in the LDF.

The monitoring process will be used to assess the effects of DPD policies on sustainable development. It will enable the Council to identify any unforeseen adverse effects so the appropriate mitigation measures can be implemented to alleviate any negative impacts. As we progress further with the LDF, these SA effects will be reported each year in the Annual Monitoring Report.

1.5 Methodology

The structure of this Annual Monitoring Report is as follows:

Chapter 2 Monitoring Local Development Framework Preparation

This chapter will monitor the progress in meeting the targets and milestones established in the Local Development Scheme and the need for any new documents to be introduced. It also gives an indication of any adjustments that will be required to the LDS timetable since its adoption in July 2010.

Chapter 3 Context

This chapter sets out the social, environmental and economic characteristics, as well as the key issues in respect of the Local Authority area. It also sets out the objectives of the Local Development Framework.

Chapter 4 Monitoring the Bromsgrove District Local Plan 2004-2011

This chapter sets the framework for the monitoring process and specifies the Core Output Indicators and Local Indicators used to monitor the Bromsgrove District Local Plan.

Chapters 5-8 Local Development Framework Indicators

These four chapters of the AMR will set out the Core Output Indicators recognised by Government Office, as well as the local indicators used by Bromsgrove District Council.

The chapter headings used are:

- ▶▶▶ Business Development and Town Centres
- ▶▶▶ Housing
- ▶▶▶ Transport, Local Services and the Built Environment
- ▶▶▶ Environmental Quality

In October 2010, the Coalition government announced the replacement of the National Indicator set with a single comprehensive list of all data that local government are expected to provide to central government. Although this is the case, Bromsgrove District Council will continue to produce an AMR until further guidance is published, using the Core Output Indicators, which were considered to provide the basis for all policy monitoring. These chapters will also incorporate the local indicators to provide greater policy coverage and will reflect local circumstances. These include policy targets set out in the adopted Bromsgrove District Local Plan. It will not be possible to include an indicator for every policy in the Local Plan, as this would be impractical. Instead, policies that have data sources available for the AMR period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010 have been selected for monitoring purposes.

1.6 Further Information

The AMR is available for public inspection at the Council House, Customer Service Centre, and all public libraries within Bromsgrove District. It can also be viewed and downloaded on the Council's website - www.bromsgrove.gov.uk.

Further information about the LDF process and the preparation of the AMR is available in a number of Government publications. These publications are as follows:

- ▶▶▶ Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning (PPS12) (ODPM, 2008)
- ▶▶▶ Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework: Core Output Indicators - Update 2/2008 (ODPM, 2008)
- ▶▶▶ Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide (ODPM, 2005)

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Chapter 2

Monitoring Local Development Framework Preparation

2.1 Introduction

As stated in the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, Bromsgrove District Council is required to set out in its Annual Monitoring Report how the planning department is performing in relation to the milestones recognised in the Local Development Scheme (LDS). This chapter will set out the Council's performance and progress. It will also give an indication of any adjustments that will be required since the adoption of the LDS.

2.2 Local Development Scheme

The LDS is a vital component to the successful management of the LDF, as it sets out Bromsgrove District Council's three-year project plan. The latest version was submitted to Government office and formally adopted in July 2010. One of the roles of the Annual Monitoring Report is to assess the progress made on the LDS and, where there has been some slippage, explain why this has occurred and how the Council intends to respond.

Although the AMR is only required to cover the 12-month period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010, Bromsgrove District Council have also assessed the period up to December 2010 for the purposes of monitoring the targets and milestones set out in the LDS. The table below indicates the targets the Council intends to achieve within its LDF by the end of 2010. It records what was actually achieved and highlights, where necessary, where revisions will be needed to the LDS. The performance of each milestone has been rated as follows:



Excellent -

Indicates that the milestone has been reached, or that slippage has not been by more than three months



Fair -

Indicates that the milestone was not met, and slippage has been by more than three but not more than six months.







Poor -

Indicates that the milestone was not met, and slippage has been by more than six months.



Chapter 2

LDS Target: By December 2010	What was achieved By December 2010	Delay	Rating
Annual Monitoring Report Completion	Completed	None	
Core Strategy Pre-publication consultation period	Consultation on the Draft Core Strategy was originally planned for November 2010 but has been delayed until January 2011 due to the change of Government and clarification on the Localism Bill expected in January 2011.	2-3 months	
Proposals Map Pre-publication consultation periods	Consultation on the Proposals Map was originally planned for November 2010 alongside the Draft Core Strategy but has been delayed until January 2011 due to the change of Government and clarification on the Localism Bill expected in January 2011.	2-3 months	
Town Centre AAP Pre-publication consultation periods	Consultation on the Town Centre AAP was originally planned for November 2010 alongside the Draft Core Strategy but has been delayed until January 2011 due to the change of Government and clarification on the Localism Bill expected in January 2011.	2-3 months	



Chapter 2

Annual Monitoring Report

Bromsgrove District Council completed the Annual Monitoring Report for the period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010 in December 2010. The Council therefore considers performance against this milestone to be **excellent**.

Core Strategy and Proposals Map

Following on from an Issues and Options consultation in 2007 and the production of a Draft Core Strategy in 2008, there was the intention to produce another, more up to date, Draft Core Strategy along with a Proposals Map in November in line with the adopted LDS. However, due to uncertainty arising from the change of Government during this AMR period and the publishing of a Localism Bill in December 2010, the consultation on the Draft Core Strategy has been postponed. A High Court Ruling in November 2010 also deemed the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) as unlawful, and Bromsgrove District Council think it is appropriate to wait for the publishing of the Localism Bill before progress is made on the Core Strategy.

During this AMR period, there have been various forms of technical work conducted in order to support the Core Strategy. A revised Water Cycle Study and a Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment have been commissioned; a Housing Viability Assessment has also been undertaken, as well as ongoing meetings with a wide range of key stakeholders. Due to the uncertainty of the RSS and the recent Government changes, the slippage in the LDS timetable has been less than three months and therefore the Council deem performance against this milestone as **excellent**.

Town Centre AAP

Bromsgrove District Council is committed to regenerating the Town Centre, in order to do this it is preparing an Area Action Plan to help guide the process. This AMR period was expecting the completion of consultation document in November 2010 but this has been put on hold due to the same reasons detailed in the Core Strategy. As this slippage has not been more than three months, the Council deems performance against this milestone as **excellent**.

2.3 Adjustments to the Local Development Scheme Timetable

The LDS was adopted fairly recently (July 2010) and although not all milestones were met, the anticipated delay is only expected to be two to three months. Bromsgrove District Council believes these delays are in the best interest of the Council and could not be avoided. The LDS stipulated a consultation period from November 2010 and February 2011 and as these delays do not expect to fall outside of this timeframe, there are no proposed changes to the LDS.



Chapter 3

Context

The monitoring process involves assessing the extent to which planning policies are being achieved. In order to develop an understanding of how successful planning policies have been, it is first necessary to develop an understanding of the key characteristics, issues, challenges and opportunities of the area. In July 2005 Bromsgrove District Council published its Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which has since been updated. The Scoping Report involved survey and evidence gathering to develop a sound understanding of current and future local issues and needs in order to prepare robust and effective plans. The information collected was used to decide on the spatial vision and spatial objectives for the District. The original SA has been continuously updated to accurately reflect the District and provide a basis for the Draft Core Strategy II. This chapter will use the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report combined with more recent data to provide contextual information for the Bromsgrove District.

3.1 District Profile

Bromsgrove District is situated in north Worcestershire lying to the south west of the West Midlands conurbation. The District is bounded by Birmingham, Dudley, Solihull, Redditch, Wyre Forest, and the largely rural districts of Wychavon and Stratford-on-Avon. The District covers approximately 21,714 hectares. Although located only 22km (14 miles) from the centre of Birmingham, the District is predominately rural with approximately 91% of the land designated Green Belt.

The area is well served by motorways, with the M5 running north to south and the M42 from east to west. The M5 and M42 connect with the M6 to the north of Birmingham and the M40 to the east. The District also benefits from train and bus connections into Birmingham City Centre and the wider region.

The main centre of population in Bromsgrove District is Bromsgrove Town, with other centres being Wythall, Hagley, Rubery and Catshill and a series of smaller rural villages spread throughout the District. Development pressures are high due to the District's proximity to the Birmingham conurbation and the motorway and railway connections. This adversely puts pressure on the Green Belt.

3.2 Characteristics of the District

This section will outline the main characteristics of Bromsgrove District that have been identified in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. Following the detailed approach identified in the Scoping Report, the District's characteristics are divided into social, environmental and economic issues.

3.3 Social Characteristics

In 2010 Bromsgrove District has a projected resident population of 93,400, which is fairly balanced between men (49.5%) and women (50.5%). At the time of the 2001 Census Bromsgrove District had a population of 87,837, indicating that Bromsgrove's population has increased by approximately 5,563 over the last nine years. Projections for the District anticipate the total population will reduce slightly to 91,400 by 2016 and 89,600 by 2026. The average age of residents is 40.7 years, which is slightly higher than the national average of 38.8 years (*National Statistics mid-2007*). As of 2010, 22% of Bromsgrove residents are 65 years old and over compared to 19% nationally. This proportion is set to rise to around 30% by 2026 and this trend is likely to be caused by both increased life expectancy and the improved health of older people in the District. This likely to an impact on service delivery, including, accessible transport options for the less mobile and suitable housing needs for the elderly.

The majority of Bromsgrove's population are white Caucasian (94.1%) compared to 88.2% across England (*National Statistics mid-2007*). When compared to the rest of Worcestershire, Bromsgrove District has the lowest instances of deprivation, and ranks in the bottom fifth of most deprived local authorities across England (299th out of 354 authorities). However, there are small pockets of deprivation that need to be tackled. The most deprived area in the District is the northern part of Sidemoor, which is ranked, 8,558th out of 32,482 most deprived areas nationally (*DCLG Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007*).



Chapter 3

Bromsgrove District is considered to be a safe place to live, with levels of crime being lower than the regional and national figures. Vehicle crime and criminal damage are the most common offences, illustrating there is still a fear of crime that needs to be addressed.

The demand for property within the District has had significant implications on property prices. Between April and June 2010 the average house price was £237,536, up 11.4% from the previous year. This is a lot higher compared with neighbouring Birmingham at £156,874 and Redditch at £164,270; as well as higher than the West Midlands average at £174,123 (*Land Registry, 2010*). Affordability is a major problem across the District, particularly in the smaller rural settlements where property prices are generally even higher, meaning that young people are often unable to find a home in the community where they grew up.

At the time of the 2001 Census there were 35,168 dwellings in the District. From this total, 29,136 were owned, 2,178 privately rented or people living rent free, 138 shared ownership, and 3,716 were social rented. The majority of people in the District live in households (98%), while the remainder of people (2%) live in communal establishments. Household tenure is dominated by the owner-occupied sector with a total of 83% of the properties in the District being owner-occupied. This figure is significantly higher than Worcestershire (75%) and across England (68%) (*2001 Census*). The Council's social rented housing stock has been transferred to Bromsgrove District Housing Trust, which is a Registered Social Landlord (RSL). Social housing now accounts for 11% of the District's housing stock, which is below the national average of 19%.

Education in Bromsgrove is administered by Worcestershire County Council, which controls 27 schools in the District. Over the last decade, demand for school places has increased by 18.75%, due to the considerable development in the area created by Bromsgrove's convenient location on the M5 corridor and its boundary with the major Birmingham conurbation. Local schools continue to perform well with 76.7% of pupils at the end of key stage 4 in the period September 2008 to August 2009 achieving 5+ A*-C grades, compared to 70.1% in the West Midlands and 69.8% nationally.

3.4 Environmental characteristics

The District is an area with rich biodiversity, geodiversity and attractive landscape. The District contains 13 Sites of Special Scientific Importance, 81 Special Wildlife Sites and 5 Regionally Important Geological and/or Geomorphologic Sites. These sites are varied in their nature ranging from whole valleys and hills to canals, ponds and rock exposures. The District contains the headwaters of three main rivers; the River Salwarpe, the Gallows Brook and the River Arrow. All three rivers can be traced back to their sources within the Clent and Lickey Hills. The rest of the District is drained by numerous ordinary watercourses all of which have their sources located within the District's boundaries, most notably to the north on the Birmingham plateau, which is an area of relatively high ground ranging from 150- 300m above sea level. It is marked by a fairly steep incline which is indicated by the Tardebigge lock flight on the Worcester and Birmingham canal and the Lickey Incline on the Bromsgrove to Birmingham railway.

The District contains 2 canals and numerous pools and reservoirs. Bromsgrove falls within the Severn Water Resource Zone (WRZ) which is already experiencing shortfalls in water supply and previous/existing abstraction has caused unacceptable environmental impacts in several areas. In terms of biodiversity the habitats and species that are of particular relevance to Bromsgrove are water voles, bats, hay meadows, acid grassland veteran trees and canals.

The natural and rural nature of the District provides ample opportunity for outdoor leisure activities in the District. Tourism destinations at Bromsgrove are varied and include for example the Lickey, Clent and Waseley Hills Country parks, Avoncroft museum and the Birmingham and Worcester canal, with the Tardebigge Locks being the longest navigable flight of locks in country, with 30 locks climbing 217 feet (66m)

The District has over 467 Listed Buildings and 839 known Sites of Archaeology Interest, 13 of which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments. There are also 11 Conservation Areas that are designated as being areas of special architectural or historic interest and 2 registered historic parks and gardens. Conservation Areas vary greatly in their character across the District and range from a chartist settlement to a stretch of the Worcester and Birmingham canal.



Chapter 3

The District has a high dependence on car ownership compared to national statistics. The number of people travelling to work by car (68%) is higher than the national average (55%). The District's excellent motorway and 'A' road network together with the poor access to public transport in the rural parts of the District contribute to this high dependency on car use. Due to the District's close proximity to the West Midlands conurbation, many inhabitants in Bromsgrove commute to work in Birmingham.

Although the District benefits from excellent strategic road connections, it does experience localised environmental problems caused by high traffic volumes. The District has three Air Quality Management Areas, at Redditch Road Stoke Heath, Kidderminster Road Hagley, and Lickey End adjacent to Junction 1 of the M42 in addition a further AQMA will be declared at Worcester Road Bromsgrove near the Town Centre. High carbon emissions are predominantly located around the motorways. Furthermore if there is a problem with traffic flows on the motorway(s) in the vicinity of Bromsgrove, traffic tends to divert through Bromsgrove, causing localised congestion and air quality issues at certain times. These main traffic routes also pose problems with noise pollution for local residents. Localised pollution is also caused by closed landfill sites.

The District is also served by train connections with a number of commuter routes passing through the District into Birmingham. Over the last ten years the number of people who use Bromsgrove station has increased by 400%. Despite this heavy usage the existing station and its facilities are extremely basic and the platform lengths prohibit larger trains from stopping. The station presents a poor image as the gateway to Bromsgrove. The District is served by 4 other stations at Alvechurch, Barnt Green, Hagley and Wythall.

3.5 Economic Characteristics

Once a prosperous hub for the woollen trade Bromsgrove became the world centre for nailmaking in the 19th century and more recently won prominence for engineering and the motor industry. Bromsgrove Town Centre itself is an historic market town which was mentioned in the Domesday Book, and was the centre for the medieval wool trade. Whilst performing the role and function of a non strategic centre, the Town centre has the potential for enhancement and regeneration to enable it to better perform this function for the greater benefit and inclusion of local residents and visitors.

The District has an economically active workforce of 50000 of which 3300 are unemployed. The unemployment rate is 6.4% compared with 9.3% in the West Midlands and 7.9% nationally (ONS, 2010). The dominant industry in Bromsgrove District, in terms of the percentage of employees, is the Public Administration, Education and Health sector. 33700 jobs are provided for in the District. Tourism related jobs provide employment for 3500 people (10.4 %) compared with 8.2% nationally. 5000 people are employed in 'elementary' occupations, (as classified in the Standard Occupational Classification 2000) and this category includes farm workers, forestry workers and fishing and agriculture related occupations.

The average annual earnings of people who work within the District is £20,399, which is lower than the West Midlands average £24,586 and the national average £26,470 (ASHE, 2009). Conversely, the average annual earnings for residents in Bromsgrove District is £27,339, which is considerably higher than the West Midlands average £22,961 and the national average £26,470 (ASHE, 2009). This would suggest that the District's population earn higher salaries than average, but they earn them in employment locations outside the District. Therefore, it appears that there is an imbalance between the types of jobs and pay available within Bromsgrove compared with the average wages of the population. Industries with higher paid jobs need to be encouraged to stay or locate in the District so as to correct this imbalance and reduce the daily flow of the population to other employment centres which is unsustainable. It would appear that further development in high tech manufacturing and knowledge based industries is required to redress the imbalance. The Bromsgrove Technology Park has been established but is not yet operating at full capacity.

There are two major areas of economic concern within the District - the redevelopment of Longbridge and Bromsgrove Town centre. Both areas are subject to Area Action Plans in order to stimulate the growth of the areas.

In Longbridge, the MG Rover car plant closed in April 2005. Approximately 5,850 jobs were lost and an estimated £410 million was lost to firms based in the West Midlands as part of the supply chain. The Longbridge Area Action Plan (AAP) intends for 10,000 jobs, over 1,450 new homes, built to high environmental standards, a new local centre to provide a wide range of retail, leisure, commercial and community facilities and a series of public transport and highway improvements.



Chapter 3

The overall aim of the plan is to create a truly sustainable and well designed community. The Longbridge AAP was adopted in 2009 and this AMR has seen development begin at a number of locations.

The District's retail activity is focused on Bromsgrove Town centre, which currently has approximately 370 different businesses operating in a variety of different sectors. There are a number of alternative shopping centres relatively close to Bromsgrove with a wider range of shops and facilities, including Redditch (8 miles), Birmingham (16 miles), Worcester (14 miles) and Merry Hill (14 miles). While Bromsgrove has its own attractions, trade is lost to such centres in neighbouring areas. Bromsgrove District Council is committed to regenerating the Town Centre, and has prepared an AAP in order to do this. It is hoped the plan will progress significantly next year.

3.6 Key Issues

The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report identified a number of environmental and sustainability issues from its baseline study and assessment of national, regional, and local plans and strategies. The key issues that need to be tackled by the LDF are detailed below:

- ▶▶▶ **Rising older population**
- ▶▶▶ **Meeting the government targets for new housing and employment land**
- ▶▶▶ **Barriers to housing and services in rural areas**
- ▶▶▶ **Large identified Greenfield sites for future development needs**
- ▶▶▶ **An increase in young residents leaving in search of work and housing**
- ▶▶▶ **Reducing fear of crime**
- ▶▶▶ **Under-provision of affordable housing**
- ▶▶▶ **Implications of redeveloping brownfield sites**
- ▶▶▶ **High car usage and congestion**
- ▶▶▶ **Local public transport needs improvement**
- ▶▶▶ **Commuting out of the district**
- ▶▶▶ **Local facilities to meet the needs of the population**
- ▶▶▶ **Responding to climate change**
- ▶▶▶ **Air quality**

- ▶▶▶ **Changing economy**
- ▶▶▶ **Degradation of the natural and built environment**
- ▶▶▶ **The revival of the town centre as well as regeneration at Longbridge**
- ▶▶▶ **Keeping the sense of community 'alive'**

3.7 Objectives of the Local Development Framework

The objectives for the Local Development Framework are outlined below. These objectives were developed using evidence from the baseline characterisation study set out in the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report, and an analysis of national, regional, and localised plans and policies.

Social Objectives

- ▶▶▶ Create communities where people want to live, work and socialise
- ▶▶▶ Meet the housing requirements of all members of the community
- ▶▶▶ Ensure the community has accessible healthcare
- ▶▶▶ Provision of leisure and educational facilities to meet the needs of the community
- ▶▶▶ Better quality of life through a safer and better designed urban and rural environment
- ▶▶▶ Promote thriving, balanced, inclusive and sustainable rural communities
- ▶▶▶ Ensure all members of the community have a viable choice of transport options
- ▶▶▶ Seek an improvement in retail opportunities and choices throughout the District.



Chapter 3

Environmental Objectives

- ▶▶▶ Protect our existing special natural environment
- ▶▶▶ Promote biodiversity enhancement
- ▶▶▶ Conserve and enhance the historic environment
- ▶▶▶ Enhance existing conservation areas
- ▶▶▶ Seek to identify and protect further areas of historical and natural importance
- ▶▶▶ Seek to reduce travel and promote an improvement in sustainable transport options
- ▶▶▶ Promote efficient use of the earths resources and promote renewable energy
- ▶▶▶ Maintain the principles of Green Belt designation

Economic Objectives

- ▶▶▶ Maintain a high and stable level of employment by supporting economic modernisation
- ▶▶▶ Improve peoples' access to job opportunities in new technologies
- ▶▶▶ Ensure opportunities for growth are linked to meeting the needs of the community
- ▶▶▶ Enable schemes that promote sustainable tourism
- ▶▶▶ Ensure sufficient sites are provided to ensure sustainable economic growth
- ▶▶▶ Provide positive support towards rural diversification
- ▶▶▶ Encourage cross-border economic linkages



Chapter 4

Monitoring the Bromsgrove District Local Plan 2004-2011

4.1 Introduction

Monitoring of housing and employment development has always been a key feature when monitoring Local Plan performance. However, more recently, councils are expected to undertake monitoring of other key developments that include retail, leisure and transport. The 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires local planning authorities to take a more dynamic approach to monitoring in order to appreciate the wider social, economic and environmental issues affecting their areas. The Act also promoted the effectiveness planning policies has on spatial change, and the monitoring process has adapted to acknowledge this.

This Annual Monitoring Report monitors the Bromsgrove District Local Plan against the Government's Core Output Indicators, the Council's corporate objectives and key targets from planning policy documents. In July 2008, the Government published a new amended set of Core Output Indicators, which are reflected throughout this AMR. Bromsgrove District Council has used these indicators as the basis for monitoring, but will also include a number of local indicators that are relevant to the District. The structure of this AMR was amended slightly in 2008 to reflect the updated Core Output Indicators.

4.2 Core Output Indicators

The Core Output Indicator topics chosen for Bromsgrove District Council's Annual Monitoring Report 2010 are as follows:

- ▶▶▶ Business Development and Town Centres
- ▶▶▶ Housing
- ▶▶▶ Environmental Quality

The Core Output Indicators follow the guidelines set out in the LDF Monitoring: Good Practice Guide (ODPM, 2005). They will also take into account the Regional Spatial Strategy (until it is abolished) and Local Development Framework Core Output Indicators - Update 2/2008. The main purpose of the Core Output Indicators is to measure quantifiable physical activities that are directly related to, and are a consequence of, the implementation of planning policy. For chapters five to eight of the Annual Monitoring Report, these indicators will be used as chapter headings with the relevant data presented under each heading. The Core output indicators used are:

Business Development and Town Centres

- BD1:** Total amount of additional employment floorspace - by type (B1, B2, B8)
- BD2:** Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land - by type (B1, B2, B8)
- BD3:** Employment land available - by type (B1, B2, B8)
- BD4:** Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'

Housing

- H1:** Plan period and housing targets
- H2 (a):** Net additional dwellings - in previous years
- H2 (b):** Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year
- H2 (c):** Net additional dwellings - in future years
- H2 (d):** Managed delivery target (Housing Trajectory)
- H3:** New converted dwellings - on previously developed land
- H4:** Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)
- H5:** Gross affordable housing completions
- H6:** Housing Quality- building for life assessments



Chapter 4

Environmental Quality

- E1:** Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds
- E2:** Change in areas of biodiversity importance
- E3:** Renewable energy generation

4.3 Local Indicators

These address the outputs of policies not covered by the Core Output Indicators. Local Plan policies are implemented through the Development Control process. In measuring the extent to which objectives are being met, these sets of indicators will serve to identify where policies need to be strengthened, maintained, changed, or, if necessary, removed from the plan. The majority of the local indicators will be incorporated as a supplement to the Core Output Indicators. The Local Indicators used are:

- L1:** Total amount of additional employment floorspace in development and/or regeneration areas defined by LDF - by type (B1, B2, B8)
- L2:** Losses of employment land in:
 - (a) development/regeneration area
 - (b) local authority area
- L3:** Amount of employment land lost to residential development
- L4:** VAT Registered businesses - registrations/deregistrations
- L5:** Percentage of new dwellings completed at:
 - (a) less than 30 dwellings per hectare
 - (b) between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare
 - (c) above 50 dwellings per hectare
- L6:** Number of bedrooms for completed dwellings
- L7:** Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards set out in the Local Development Framework
- L8:** Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development respectively
- L9:** Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development respectively in town centres
- L10:** Amount of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standard
- L11:** Number of listed buildings and archaeological sites on English Heritage's register of buildings/sites 'at risk'
- L12:** Number of listed buildings (all grades)
- L13:** Number of registered Parks, Gardens and Scheduled Monuments
- L14:** Number of Conservation Areas
- L15:** Number of Conservation Areas in Bromsgrove with an up to date Character Appraisal and Management Plan



Chapter 5

Business Development and Town Centres

For the purposes of this Annual Monitoring Report, employment land relates to business, industrial, storage and distribution uses only, as defined by classes B1, B2 and B8 of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987. The Council’s methodology for employment monitoring only includes sites over 2,000sqm.

BD1: Total amount of additional employment floorspace – by type (B1, B2, B8)

Use Class Orders	Amount (m ²)
B1	0
B8	0
B1, B8 (Permission granted for both uses)	0
B1, B2, B8 (Permission granted for all three uses)	13,832
Total:	13,832

Applications for B1, B2 and B8 uses (Offices, General Industrial and Warehouses)

Application	Description	Site Area (m ²)
1999/1159	Saxon Business Park - Phase 4	11,000
2007/0411	Saxon Business Park - Plot 8	2,832
	Total:	13,832

L1: Total amount of additional employment floorspace in development and/or regeneration areas defined by LDF – by type (B1, B2, B8)

Applications for B1, B2 and B8 uses (Offices, General Industrial and Warehouses)

Application	Description	Site Area (m ²)
1999/1159	Saxon Business Park - Phase 4	11,000
2007/0411	Saxon Business Park - Plot 8	2,832
	Total:	13,832

There was a total of **13,832m² (1.38ha)** of land which significant employment development has taken place on sites designated in the Local Plan for new employment development, or sites where an existing employment use is present. This was **100%** of all employment development for this AMR period.



Chapter 5

Figure 1: Annual employment land completions 1st April 2006 - 1st April 2010
(Excluding land allocated at Ravensbank Business Park and Longbridge)

Year	Commitments (m ²)	Windfalls (m ²)	Total Completions (m ²)
April 2006 – March 2007	22,060.97	3,754.6	25,815.57
April 2007 – March 2008	16,915.33	9,509.21	26,424.54
April 2008 - March 2009	16,787.26	0	16,787.26
April 2009 - March 2010		13,832 0	13,832
TOTAL:	69,595.56	13,263.81	82,859.37

The revision of the RSS Phase 2 indicates through Policy PA6A that Bromsgrove District should make provision for a rolling five year supply of 7ha of readily available employment land with an indicative longer term requirement of 28ha employment land up until 2026.

Figure 1 shows that the 28ha required as an indicative long-term requirement of readily available employment land from 2006 until 2026, development has already been completed on 8.29ha of land since 2006. This is 29.6% of the District's total employment land requirement.

BD2: Total amount of employment floorspace on previously developed land – by type (B1, B2, B8)

Application	Description	Use	Site Area (m ²)
1999/1159	Saxon Business Park - Phase 4	B1, B2, B8	11,000
2007/0411	Saxon Business Park - Plot 8	B1, B2, B8	2,832
Total:			13,832

There was a total of **13'832m²** of employment built on previously developed land, which equates to **100%**.



Chapter 5

BD3: Employment land available - by type (B1, B2, B8)

Employment Land not started 1st April 2009-31st March 2010 (Excluding land allocated at Ravensbank Business Park and Longbridge)

Application No.	Site Address	Parish	Commitment	Use Classes	Area (m ²)
2002/1014	Former Garringtons / UEF works	Bromsgrove	Not Started	B1, B2	66100
2007/1082	Bromsgrove Technology Park, Plot 2	Bromsgrove	Not Started	B1	2450
2007/0704	Buntsford Business Park, Land Adjacent Sugar Brook Mill	Bromsgrove	Not Started	B2	4400
2008/0602	Bromsgrove Technology Park, Plot 19	Bromsgrove	Not Started	B1	4500
2005/0377	Harris Business Park, Plot 19	Stoke Prior	Not Started	B8	3100
2006/0791	Harris Business Park, Unit A	Stoke Prior	Not Started	B1, B2, B8	2800
2003/1447	Nash Works	Belbroughton	Not Started	B1, B2, B8	3531
2007/0689	Saxon Business Park, Plot 5, Phase 2	Stoke Prior	Not Started	B1, B2, B8	5000
2008/0826	Saxon Business Park - Plot 11	Stoke Prior	Not Started	B1, B2, B8	5670
2009/0985	Wildmoor Mill Farm, Mill Lane	Belbroughton	Not Started	B1	4510
2009/0136	Wythall Green Business Park	Wythall	Not Started	B1, B2, B8	65000
				Total	167,061



Chapter 5

Employment Land Under Construction 1st April 2009-31st March 2010 (Excluding land allocated at Ravensbank Business Park and Longbridge)

Application No.	Site Address	Parish	Commitment	Use Classes	Area (m ²)
2007/1225	Bromsgrove Technology Park, Plots 3, 4 & 10	Bromsgrove	Under Construction	B1	18,490
2007/1246	Barnsley Hall Farm	Bromsgrove	Under Construction	B1	5,205.96
Total					23,695.96

Employment Land Supply 1st April 2006-31st March 2010 (Excluding land allocated at Ravensbank Business Park and Longbridge)

	Square Metres (m ²)	Hectares (ha)
Remaining Allocations (BROM6)	18,000	1.8
Completions - April 2010	82,859.37	8.29
Sites under construction - April 2010	23,695.96	2.37
Sites with planning permission not started - April 2010	167,061	16.71
RSS Target	280,000	28
Total Employment Land April 2006 - April 2026	291,616.33	29.17

At 1st April 2010 a total of **19.08 hectares (ha)** of land was available with planning permission (either outline or detailed permission) for employment development within Bromsgrove District. As the table above indicates, 16.71ha were not started and 2.37ha were under construction. This consisted of 8.2ha of mixed B1/B2/B8 uses, 6.61ha of mixed B1/B2 uses, and 3.52ha for B1 use, 0.44ha for B2 use, and 0.31 for B8 use. Since 2006 (the beginning of the RSS plan period) there have been 8.29ha of completed development, which combined with the land not yet completed, equates to 27.37ha against the RSS target of 28ha for Bromsgrove District between 2006 and 2026. A further 1.8ha of employment land is allocated in the form of BROM6 - a site identified within the District Local Plan. This brings the total employment land supply within Bromsgrove District to 29.17ha, which if all complete, would exceed the RSS target up until 2026.

BD4: Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses'

There were no completed developments or additional floorspace within the Town Centre Zone that was identified in the Bromsgrove District Council Local Plan for this AMR period.

L2: Losses of employment land in (a) development/regeneration area, and, (b) local authority area

There were no losses of employment land in either employment/regeneration areas or the local authority area for this AMR period.

L3: Amount of employment land lost to residential development

There was no employment land lost to residential development with the District for this AMR period.



Chapter 5

L4: VAT Registered businesses - registrations/deregistrations

Figure 2 below shows the number of VAT registered businesses in Bromsgrove District. VAT registered businesses are an indicator of the health of the business population. In 2007, Bromsgrove District had significantly more registrations than deregistrations. The number of registrations was almost equal to the national and above regional levels, which implies that the business economy is relatively strong.

Figure 2: VAT Registered Businesses
Percentages are based on stock (at end of year)

	Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	West Midlands (%)	Great Britain (%)
Registrations	390	10.0	9.4	10.2
Deregistrations	250	6.4	7.2	7.3
Stock (at end of year)	3,905	-	-	-

Source: Nomis - VAT Registrations/Deregistrations by Industry (2007)



Chapter 6

Housing

At the 2001 Census, the number of resident households in Bromsgrove District was 35,168.

Housing (all Households)	Value	England and Wales Rank/376 (proportion)	Regional Rank/34 (proportion)
Number of households with residents	35,168	286	26
Number of people per hectare	4.0	212	18
Average household size	2.44	59	9
Vacant household spaces	755	326	30
Owner-occupied	29,316	11	2
Without central heating	1,539	281	34
Without own bath/shower & toilet	35	375	34
Overcrowding indicator	954	359	34

Source: Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright, Revised February 2003

H1: Plan period and housing targets

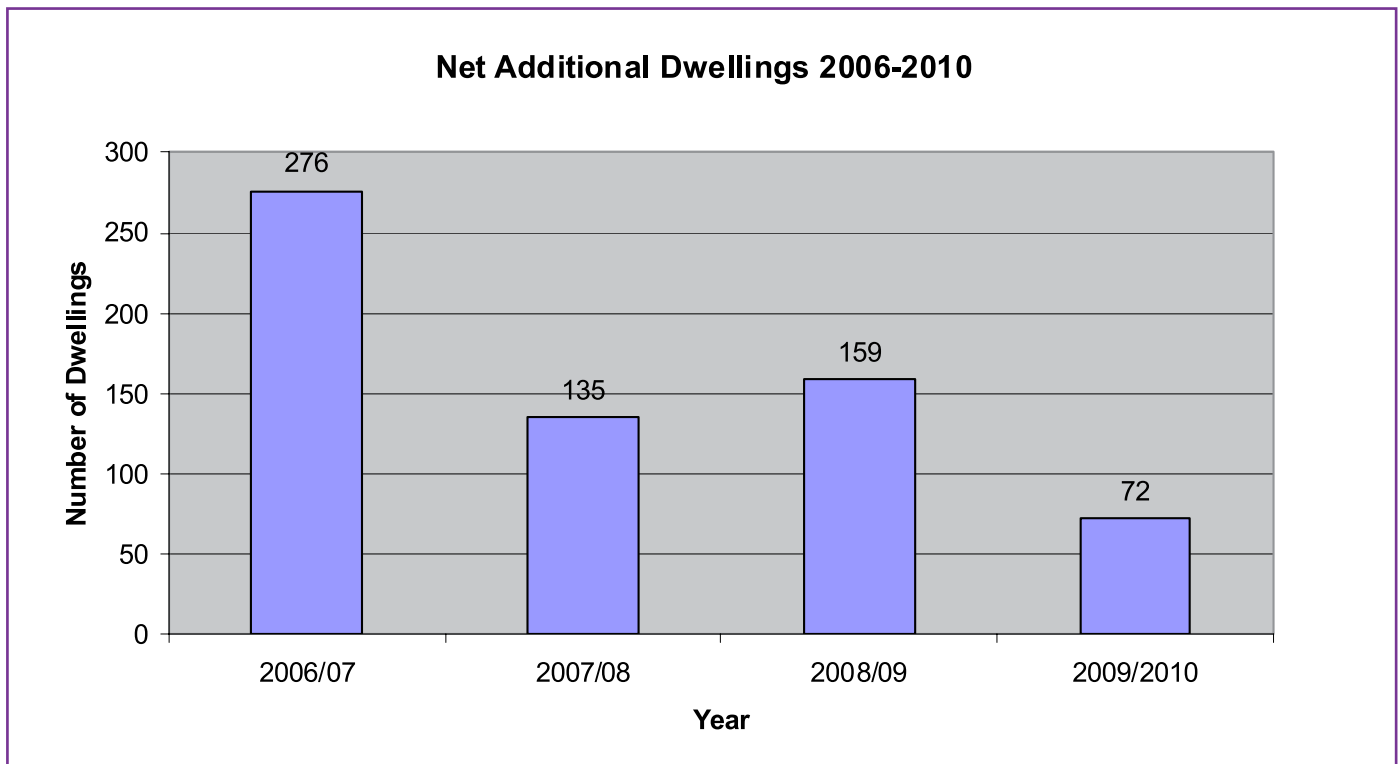
**Emerging Regional Spatial Strategy
(Phase Two Revision) 2006 - 2026
(As of Panel Report October 2009)**

Housing Proposals (Net)		
Time Period	Indicative Annual Average	Proposed Total
2006-2021	266.7	4,000
2022-2026	600	3,000
2006-2026	350 (average)	7,000



Chapter 6

H2: Net additional dwellings: (a) in previous years (b) for reporting year



There has been an average of 160.5 net additional dwellings since the start of the Plan Period (2006), which is a total of 642 dwellings. There have been **72** actual completions for this reporting year.



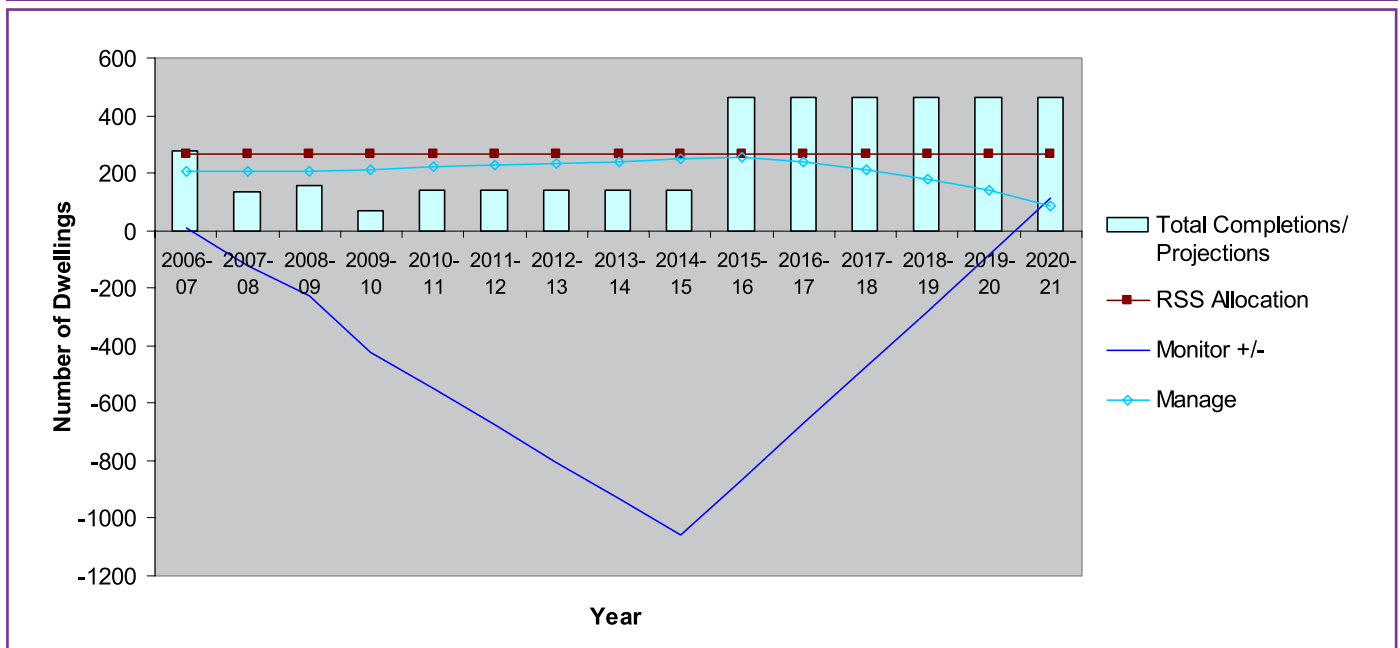
Chapter 6

H2 (c): Net additional dwellings in future years

Target at 4,000 (2006-2021)														
	10/11 Cur	11/12 1	12/13 2	13/14 3	14/15 4	15/16 5	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21			
Net Additions	139	139	139	140	141	461	462	462	462	462	462			
Hectares		4.63	4.63	4.67	4.7	15.37								
Target		267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267			

Target at 4,000 (2006-2026) and 3,000 (2021-2026)																
	10/11 Cur	11/12 1	12/13 2	13/14 3	14/15 4	15/16 5	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Net Additions	139	139	139	140	141	461	462	462	462	462	462	600	600	600	600	600
Hectares		4.63	4.63	4.67	4.7	15.37										
Target		267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267	267	600	600	600	600	600

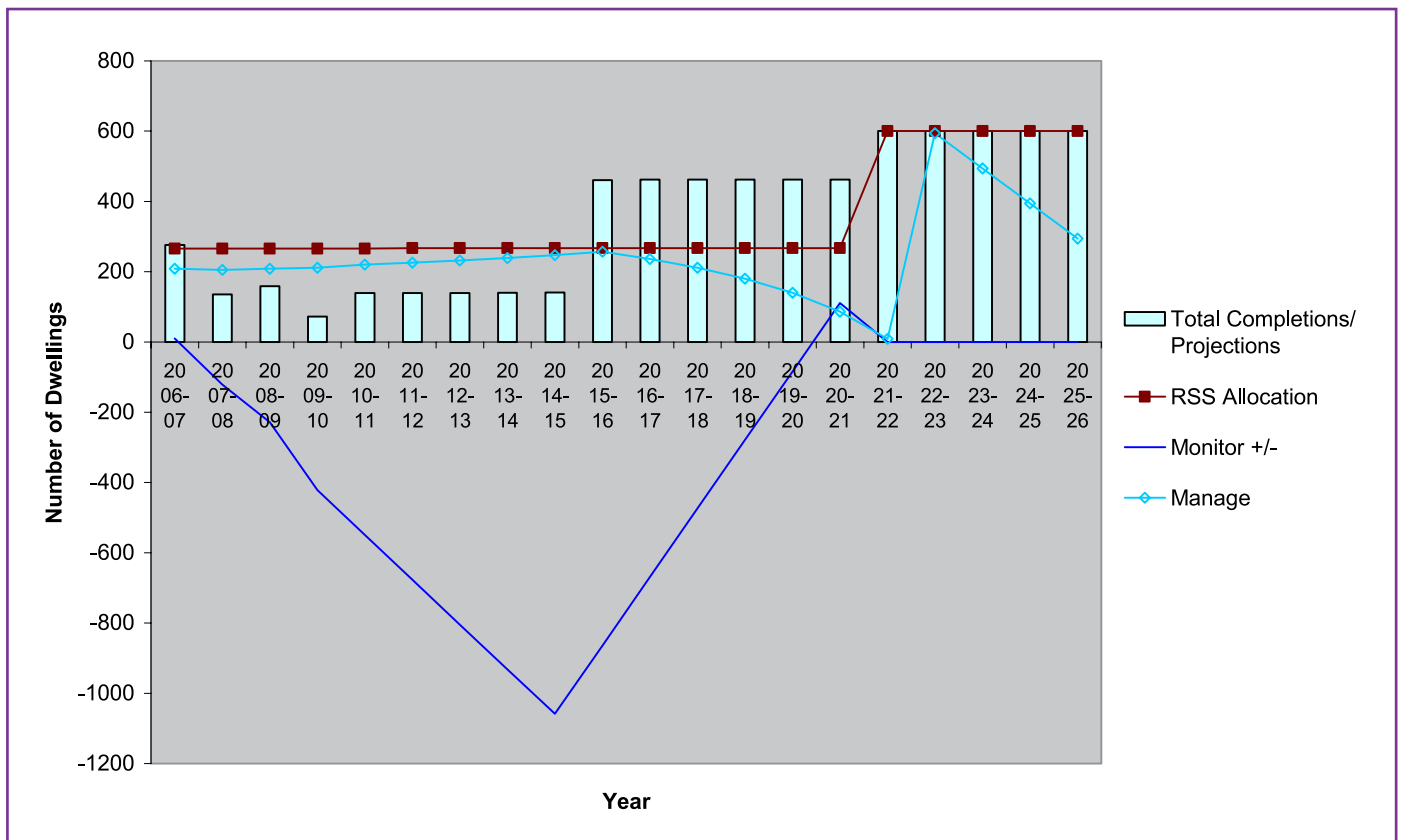
District of Bromsgrove Housing Trajectory Based on Target of 4000 Units by 2021





Chapter 6

District of Bromsgrove Housing Trajectory Based on Target of 7000 Units by 2026





Chapter 6

L5: Percentage of new dwellings completed at: (a) less than 30 dwellings per hectare (b) between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare (c) above 50 dwellings per hectare

Density of new Housing Development 2009/10 (Gross)		
Density of Site	No. of Dwellings	Percentage (%)
<30 dwellings per hectare	37	45%
30-50 dwellings per hectare	19	23%
>50 dwellings per hectare	26	32%
Total	82	100%

Guidance within PPS3 recommends that all housing should be at a minimum density of 30 dwellings per hectare. A number of large developments last year resulted in high figures above this threshold, however, this year the Council has only achieved 55% of housing at the minimum density. The high figure of 45% of housing below 30 dwellings per hectare has

mainly been due to a large quantity of smaller sites, especially when one dwelling is replaced by another single dwelling. This issue should be less common in future years as the housing 'moratorium' has been lifted and there will therefore be more residential development that does not simply replace a dwelling.

L6: Number of bedrooms for completed dwellings 2009/10

	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
Houses	0	19	30	16
Flats	11	6	0	0
Total	11	25	30	16

Bromsgrove is renowned for a considerable number of large properties aimed at the more affluent due to its favourable location in relation to the MUA for commuters. However, Bromsgrove District's Housing Needs Survey back in 2004 highlighted there was a need for more one and two bed properties. This was emphasised as part of the Housing Market Assessment in 2008, which illustrated, due to the demographic make-up of the District, there was a growing

need for smaller properties. In particular there was a need for 850 two bed general need properties and 4,800 two bed properties for people of retirement age. The last two years has seen a major increase in smaller properties being completed across Bromsgrove. During the 08/09 monitoring period, 83% of completions were 3 bed or smaller and this high figure was also achieved during 09/10 with 80% of completions being 3 bed or smaller.



Chapter 6

H3: New and converted dwellings on previously developed land

Policy CF4 of the Regional Spatial Strategy supports the reuse of land and buildings, encouraging Local Planning Authorities to optimise the opportunities for recycling land and buildings for new housing development through contributing to the achievement of a Regional target of at least 76% of future housing provision being on previously developed land between 2001-2011. The 2011 target for Worcestershire of new housing on Previously Developed Land (Brownfield) is 68%.

The proportion of new and converted dwellings completed on previously developed land during the 2009/10 AMR period was **73.17%**. This consisted of 42.68% on residential land, 6.1% on employment land and 24.39% on other brownfield

land. Although Bromsgrove's figures were not as high as last year (73% compared with 95%), they were still above the Worcestershire target of 68%.

H4: Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)

There were no new gypsy and traveller pitches provided this monitoring year. The Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Assessment (2008) has identified that no additional pitches are required in Bromsgrove in the five year period between 2008 and 2013. The Council is currently working towards the publication of the Core Strategy. If circumstances change or a greater demand is identified after 2013, it is anticipated that the Core Strategy will include a set of criteria for permanent gypsy and traveller sites and possibly broad locations for such development.

H5: Gross affordable housing completions

Affordable Housing Completions 2009/10 (Gross)						
Application	Site	Parish	Area (ha)	Social Rented Dwellings	Intermediate Dwellings	Total Dwellings
2007/0495	Ash Lane/Smedley Crook, Hopwood	Alvechurch	1.83	14	6	20
2007/1109	1 Flavel Road	Bromsgrove	0.06	6	0	6
2007/1113	16 Flavel Road	Bromsgrove	0.06	5	0	5
2007/1114	14 Edwin Crescent	Bromsgrove	0.06	6	0	6
2008/0838	Redgrove School, Shaw Lane	Stoke Prior	0.42	11	8	19
2008/0038	399-401 Alcester Road	Wythall	0.10	5	0	5
Total			2.53	47	14	61



Chapter 6

The number of affordable housing completions has decreased from the total achieved in last years Annual Monitoring Report (61 compared with 98), yet it is still higher than previous years. This figure does not meet the Bromsgrove District Council's target of 80 per annum, which was proposed as part of the Council Plan in 2008. The housing supply position in previous years meant it was extremely challenging to achieve a modest target year after year, as there was a total reliance on sites coming forward for 100% affordable housing. This issue should improve since SPG10 was lifted in January 2010. Although only 61 affordable homes were provided this monitoring year, it was still 74% of the new dwellings total achieved across the District.

Although Bromsgrove District Council does not have a specific affordable housing policy, the Council can use the thresholds set out in PPS3 to obtain an element of affordable housing from developers. The realisation is that every year that the Council fails to meet the required level of supply, the demand for affordable housing increases, and this issue is being addressed in the Draft Core Strategy.

H6: Housing Quality - building for life assessments

Bromsgrove District Council does not currently assess new developments according to the 'Building for Life' criteria.



Chapter 7

Transport, Local Services and the Built Environment

Responsibility for the transport network falls on three agencies: The Highways Agency, Worcestershire County Council, and Bromsgrove District Council. Bromsgrove District Council is responsible for the provision of public car parks and for ensuring that planning proposals are compatible with transport policy. The Highways Agency is responsible for the M5 and M42 motorways. Worcestershire County Council as Highway Authority is responsible for public transport, and other highways and traffic management and the maintenance of public footpaths.

Car Ownership

Transport (all Households)	Value	England and Wales Rank/376 (proportion)	Regional Rank/34 (proportion)
Households without car/van	4,686	355	34
Households with 1 car or van	13,971	341	33
Households with 2 or more cars/vans	16,511	21	2

Source: Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright, Revised February 2003

Travel to Work

Travel to work (all people aged 16-74 in employment)	Value	England and Wales Rank/376 (proportion)	Regional Rank/34 (proportion)
Travel to work by car	32,232	15	4
Travel to work by public transport	2,496	250	15

Source: Office for National Statistics, Crown Copyright, Revised February 2003



Chapter 7

L7: Percentage of completed non-residential development complying with car parking standards set out in the Local Development Framework

All non-residential development during this AMR period has complied with car parking standards set out in the Local Development Framework. The **100%** consisted of a total of **13,832m²** additional floorspace for B1, B2 and B8 uses.

L8: Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development respectively

Throughout this AMR period, there has been no completed retail or leisure development in Bromsgrove District. There was also no development completed solely for office (B1) use.

L9: Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development respectively in town centres

As in conjunction with Core Output Indicator BD4, there were no completed developments or additional floorspace within the Town Centre Zone that was identified in the Bromsgrove District Council Local Plan for this AMR period. The major redevelopments proposed for the town centre means that any piecemeal development at this time could compromise ability to deliver a cohesive and comprehensive redevelopment.

L10: Amount of eligible open spaces managed to green flag award standard

A total of 67 awards were granted to Local Authorities across the West Midlands region throughout 2010. Bromsgrove District Council has been awarded a 'Green Flag Award' for Sanders Park near the town centre. Site improvements and a management plan have helped to ensure Sanders Park achieved its 'Green Flag Award' consecutively from 2006 to 2010.

L11: No. of listed buildings and archaeological sites on English Heritage's register of buildings/sites 'at risk'

Owners of listed buildings have a legal obligation to keep them wind and water tight. Formal action can be taken by the Council in the form of an Urgent Works Notice or Repairs Notice to ensure the preservation of a listed building. A national register of heritage sites at risk is produced annually by English Heritage and includes ancient monuments, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas at risk. From our District two listed buildings, six scheduled monuments, the registered historic park at Hewell Grange and Bromsgrove Town Centre Conservation Area are included on the 2010 "Heritage at Risk" Register. These ten sites on English Heritage's register of buildings / sites at risk are:

- ▶▶▶ Moated Site at Tardibigge Farm, Bentley Paucefoot
- ▶▶▶ The Banqueting Orchard moated Site, Bentley Paucefoot
- ▶▶▶ Churchyard Cross in St. Leonard's Churchyard, Beoley
- ▶▶▶ Dodford Priory moated site, Dodford with Grafton
- ▶▶▶ Standing cross in St. Leonards Churchyard, Frankley
- ▶▶▶ Obelisk north of Hagley hall, Wychbury Hill, Hagley
- ▶▶▶ Temple of Theseus, Hagley Hall, Hagley
- ▶▶▶ Moated Site at Blackgreves Farm, Wythall
- ▶▶▶ Hewell Grange Historic Park, Tutnall and Cobley
- ▶▶▶ Bromsgrove Town Centre Conservation Area

L12: Number of listed buildings (all grades)

There are currently 467 Listed Buildings in the Bromsgrove District.



Chapter 7

L13: Number of registered Parks, Gardens and Scheduled Monuments

There are two registered historic parks in Bromsgrove District, Hagley Park which is Grade I and Hewell Grange which is Grade II*. Although inclusion of an historic park or garden in the national register brings no additional planning controls, the registration is a material consideration when assessing applications for Planning Permission. There are 13 Scheduled Monuments within the Bromsgrove District (most of which are either moated sites or historic religious centres) and 839 sites of some archaeological interest.

L14: Number of Conservation Areas

There are now 11 Conservation Areas within the Bromsgrove District which are designated as having special architectural or historic interest. The new Hewell Grange Conservation Area was designated on 6th October 2010 by the Council's cabinet in recognition of the special architectural and historic interest of the area.

L15: Number of Conservation Areas in Bromsgrove with an up to date Character Appraisal and Management Plan

There are only two published Conservation Area character appraisals, which are for Alvechurch and Hewell Grange, but Alvechurch's is somewhat outdated as it was produced in April 1969. There are another four draft character appraisals for other Conservation Areas in the District which were produced between 2006 and 2009, and five with no character appraisals at all. The only management plan is draft for the Bromsgrove Town Centre Conservation Area, which was produced in November 2010. The Council have a programme for completing all outstanding Conservation Appraisals by the end of 2011.

Name	Date of Designation	Boundary Reviewed	Character Appraisal Produced	Management Plan Produced
Alvechurch	1968	No	April 1969	No
Barnt Green	Sept 2000	No	No	No
Belbroughton	1969	1975	No	No
Beoley	August 1980	No	Draft March 2008	No
Bromsgrove Town	1968	1983, 1989 and 2009	Draft November 2010	Draft November 2010
Clent	March 1981	No	No	No
Dodford	August 1975	No	Draft January 2007	No
Hagley	October 1987	No	Draft April 2006	No
Hewell Grange	October 2010	No	August 2010	No
Holy Cross	1981	No	No	No
Worcester and Birmingham Canal	June 1987	No	No	No



Chapter 8

Environmental Quality

E1: Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds

There were no planning applications granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either flood defence grounds or water quality for the AMR period 2009/10.

E2: Change in areas of biodiversity importance, including: (a) Change in priority habitats and species (by type)

(b) Change in areas designated for their intrinsic environmental value including sites of international, national, regional or sub-regional significance.

There have been no new sites of international or national significance designated during this monitoring year or any additions to the list of Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI) within Bromsgrove District.

Figure 3: Condition of SSSI Units in Bromsgrove District

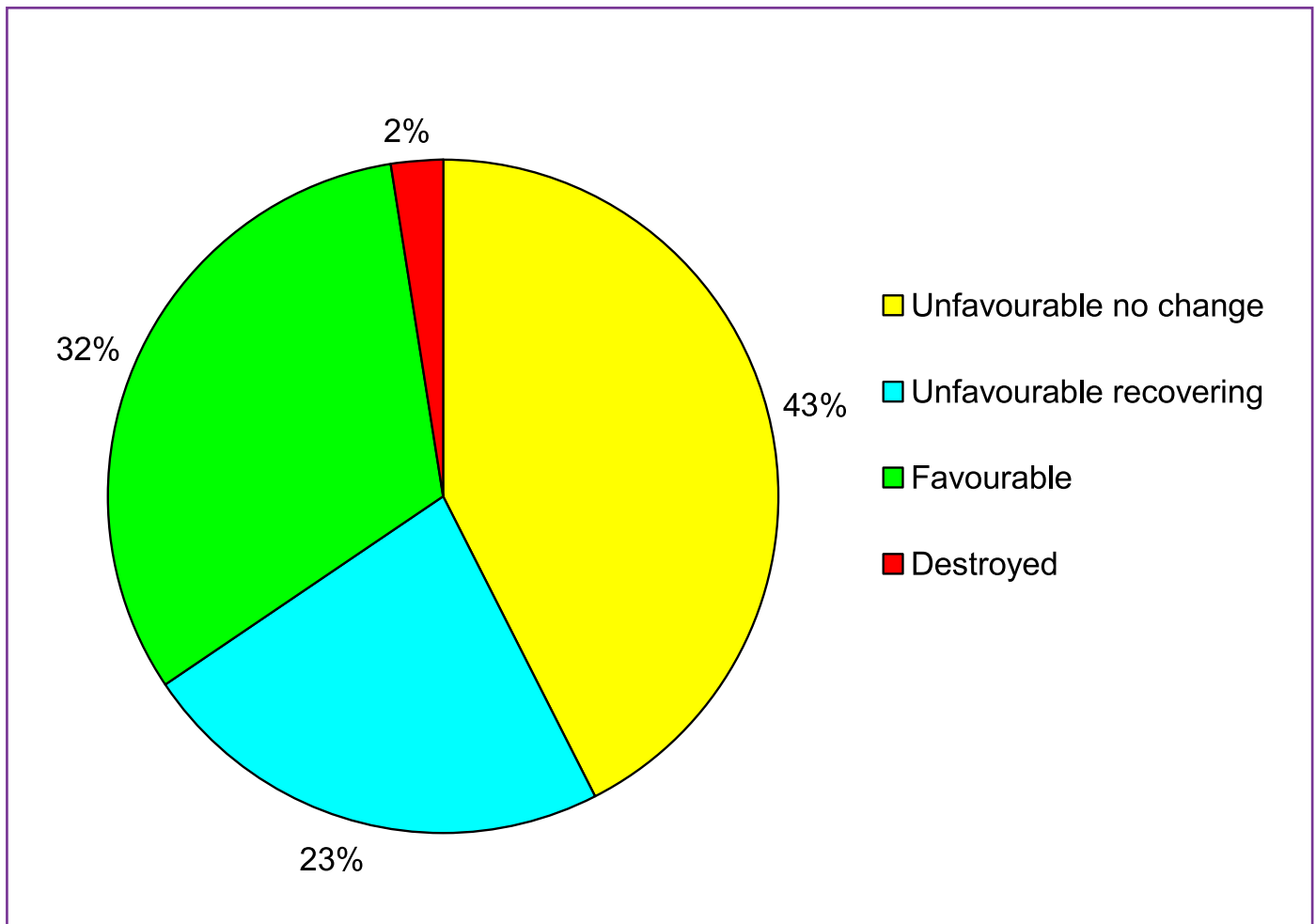
Name of Site	Main Habitat	Size (HA)	Condition Assessment	Latest Assessment Date
Berry Mound Pastures	Neutral Grassland - lowland	11.81	Unfavourable recovering	August 2006
Bittell Reservoirs	Standing open water and canals	65.76	Unfavourable no change	September 2006
Burcot Lane Cutting	Earth heritage	0.38	Favourable	March 2009
Hewell Park Lake	Standing open water and canals	21.07	Favourable	October 2009
Hopwood Dingle	Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland - lowland	7.14	Favourable	June 2009
Hurst Farm Pastures	Neutral Grassland - lowland	2.17	Favourable	May 2010
Little Royal Farm Pastures	Neutral Grassland - lowland	3.29	Favourable	May 2005
Madeley Heath Pit	Earth heritage	2.74	Destroyed	September 2010
Oakland Pasture	Neutral Grassland - lowland	1.05	Unfavourable recovering	June 2006
Penorchard & Spring Farm Pastures	Neutral Grassland - lowland	15.44	Favourable	June 2009
Romsley Hill	Neutral Grassland - lowland	13.64	Unfavourable recovering	October 2006
Romsley Manor Farm	Neutral Grassland - lowland	9.07	Unfavourable recovering	July 2006
Sling Gravel Pits	Earth heritage	1.05	Unfavourable no change	April 2009

Source: Natural England - Condition of SSSI units (2010)



Chapter 8

Condition of SSSI's in Bromsgrove District



The table and pie chart above illustrates the condition report of the SSSI's within Bromsgrove District as of 1st October 2010. There have been no changes since the last monitoring period, even though two more sites have been assessed.

The Government has set a target of 95% of SSSI's by land area to be in a favourable or recovering position by 2010. Nationally, 94.61% of SSSI's are in a favourable or recovering condition, 78.79% in Hereford and Worcestershire, and only 55% in Bromsgrove District.



Chapter 8

As part of the 2007 AMR, the Council began monitoring applications that may have a 'significant' impact on biodiversity to assess whether comments from the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust (WWT) are affecting planning decisions and whether recommended conditions are attached to any approvals.

There were a total of 17 applications that were considered to have 'significant' impacts on biodiversity at the time of submission of this AMR. The impact of comments from the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust are summarised below:

Applications Approved with Biodiversity Conditions

Application No.	Site Address	Proposal	Biodiversity Conditions
09/0378	160 Shawhurst Lane, Hollywood, Birmingham, B47 5JN	Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 4 no. 2 bed and 2 no. 4 bed affordable dwellings	1. Development will be carried out in accordance with the recommendations set out in part 4 Conclusions and Recommendations of Phase 1 Habitat and Protected Species Survey Assessment
09/0440	Severn Trent Building Site, Alcester Road, Burcot	Proposed additional unit to a previously approved scheme to increase the numbers from 3 to 4	1. Survey for protected species
09/0594	Harbours Hill House, Moorgate Road, Harbours Hill, Bromsgrove, B60 4AW	Removal of condition C5 on 08/0487 for replacement dwelling	1. The access to the new bat boxes should remain unlit 2. It is recommended that a licensed ecologist is present to oversee the removal of the roof and soffits/bargeboards
2009/0136	Wythall Green Business Park, Middle Lane, Wythall	Outline approval for business park with associated service roads, landscaping and parking	1. Mitigation measures and survey work as set out in Ecological Appraisal. 2. Integrated wildlife management plan to be submitted to Local Authority

Applications Approved with Guidance Notes

Application No.	Site Address	Proposal	Guidance Notes
09/0199	Kennels Cottage, Manor Road, Upper Bentley, Redditch, B97 5TB	Conversion of existing barn/garage to residential accommodation for existing dwelling	Within planning permission notes: The applicant is advised that consent does not authorise works which may affect European protected species and the applicant will need to apply for a European protected species license.
09/0618	Land at Forest Way, Hollywood, B47 5JS	Erection of 4 1 bed flats and 2 bedroom house	Within planning permission notes: The applicant is reminded of their duties under the NERC Act 2006 and of the guidance of PPS9.



Chapter 8

There were only a relatively small number of applications (17) that were considered to have a significant impact on biodiversity during this AMR period. There were no applications refused on a biodiversity basis, although five relevant applications were refused on Green Belt grounds and one refused on highway grounds. There were also no applications approved without biodiversity conditions and another two were withdrawn. There are three applications that are still ongoing and a decision has not yet been reached. Of the remaining six applications that the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust considered to have biodiversity implications, four contained conditions to minimise any potential adverse effects and two contained guidance notes in their permission relating to protective species.

E3: Renewable energy generation

There was no notable renewable energy capacity provided in the District in 2009 to 2010. However, on a small scale, there were domestic solar panel installations in 16 properties across the District from November 2009 to April 2010. This resulted in a total of 0.04mW of energy. The guidance within PPS22 and policies to be contained in the emerging Core Strategy should help to encourage proposals for new capacity in the future. It will be important for future policies to require new development to incorporate measures to generate a proportion of their energy needs from renewable sources, which would ensure the delivery of some capacity and help to cut carbon emissions, a major cause of global warming.



Appendix 1

Glossary

This glossary of terms is intended to act as a reference point for unfamiliar or technical terms included in the Annual Monitoring Report. Unless stated, these are not definitive or legal descriptions.

Affordable Housing - Housing, whether for rent, shared ownership or outright purchase, provided at a cost considered affordable in relation to incomes, or in relation to the price of general market housing.

Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) - The report prepared by Councils to assess the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the policies of the Local Development Framework are being achieved.

Bio-diversity - The whole variety of life encompassing all genetics, species and ecosystem variations, including plants and animals.

Core Output Indicators - The core measures of sustainable development the Government requires us to monitor.

Core Strategy (CS) - Local Development Framework development plan document setting the vision, objectives, monitoring and implementation framework. All development plan documents must comply with the Core Strategy.

DCLG - The Government Department for Communities and Local Government.

Development Plan Documents (DPDs) - Local development framework documents outlining the key development goals. They include the Core Strategy, site-specific allocations of land and Area Action Plans.

Green Belt - Land allocated for a district to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. Guidance on Green Belt policy is contained in PPG2, and the Worcestershire Structure Plan identifies the broad extent of Green Belt within Bromsgrove District and the Local Plan defines detailed boundaries of Green Belt land.

Greenfield - Land (or a defined site) that has not previously been developed.

Green Flag Award Standard - National standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales.

Housing Trajectory - Means of showing past and likely future levels of housing provision.

Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) - The local Worcestershire Biodiversity Action Plan identifies local priorities to determine the contribution they can make to the delivery of the national Species and Habitat Action Plan targets.

Local Development Framework (LDF) - A folder of documents, providing the framework for planning in the District and to guide planning decisions.

Local Development Scheme (LDS) - Sets time-scales for the preparation of Local Development Documents that must be agreed with the Government and reviewed annually.

Local Plan - Local planning policy and proposal document adopted under the previous planning system.

Listed Building - A building of special architectural or historic interest, graded I, II* or II with grade I being the highest. Listing includes the interior as well as the exterior of the building and any permanent structures (e.g. walls within its curtilage).

Major Urban Area (MUA) - The main urban area of the West Midlands Region, as identified on the RSS Spatial Strategy Diagram (see the inside back cover of West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy).

Monitoring Framework - Sets out the targets and indicators to be used in monitoring the impact of the Local Development Framework.

ODPM - Former Office for the Deputy Prime Minister, now DCLG.



Appendix 1

Planning Obligations - Legal agreements between a planning authority and a developer that ensure that certain extra works related to a development are undertaken. For example, the provision of highway works. More commonly known as 'Section 106 agreements'.

Planning Policy Statements/Guidance (PPGs/PPSs) - National planning policy published by the Department for Community and Local Government, all regional and local planning policy must be in general conformity with this guidance.

Previously Developed Land (PDL) - Land that contains permanent buildings (excluding agriculture or forestry buildings) and associated fixed-surface infrastructure. The definition covers the curtilage of the development.

Priority Habitats and Species - Priorities compiled by regional bio-diversity partnerships, reflecting those in the national bio-diversity action plan and those agreed by local biodiversity partnerships at the sub-regional level.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) - A 15-20 year strategy prepared by the Regional Planning Body identifying the scale and distribution of new housing development, areas of regeneration, expansion or sub-regional planning and specifying priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal.

Renewable Energy - Energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment, for example from wind, water flow, tides or the sun.

Secretary of State - The Government Minister responsible for Town and Country Planning.

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) - Defined areas of ecological or geological importance identified to protect habitat and species diversity.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) - Relates to specifically defined areas where protection is afforded to sites of national wildlife or geological interest. Natural England is responsible for identifying and protecting these sites.

Supplementary Planning Documents/Guidance (SPDs/SPGs) - Detailed policy to supplement Development Plan Document (DPD) policies and proposals. SPDs/SPGs can be thematic or site specific.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA) - Appraisal of the economic, environmental and social effects of a plan from the outset of the preparation process to allow decisions to be made that accord with sustainable development.

Sustainable Development - A widely used definition drawn up by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987: "*Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*". The Government's four aims, to be achieved simultaneously are:

- ▶▶▶ Social progress which recognises the needs of every one
- ▶▶▶ Effective protection of the environment
- ▶▶▶ Prudent use of natural resources
- ▶▶▶ Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

Windfalls or Windfall Sites - Sites that come forward for development that have not been specifically identified as available for development within the Local Plan.

Use Class - The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 puts uses of land and buildings into various categories. Planning permission is not needed for changes of use within the same use class.

Viability - To be capable of existing or surviving in a successful manor. The term is often used in the context of whether town centres are able to exist as viable retail centres.

Vitality - Used to describe the liveliness of an area, which may be measured by particular local features, the general environment or the quality of life for local residents. In the context of town centres, this term can be used to describe the capacity of a centre to grow or develop.



Appendix 2

Demography

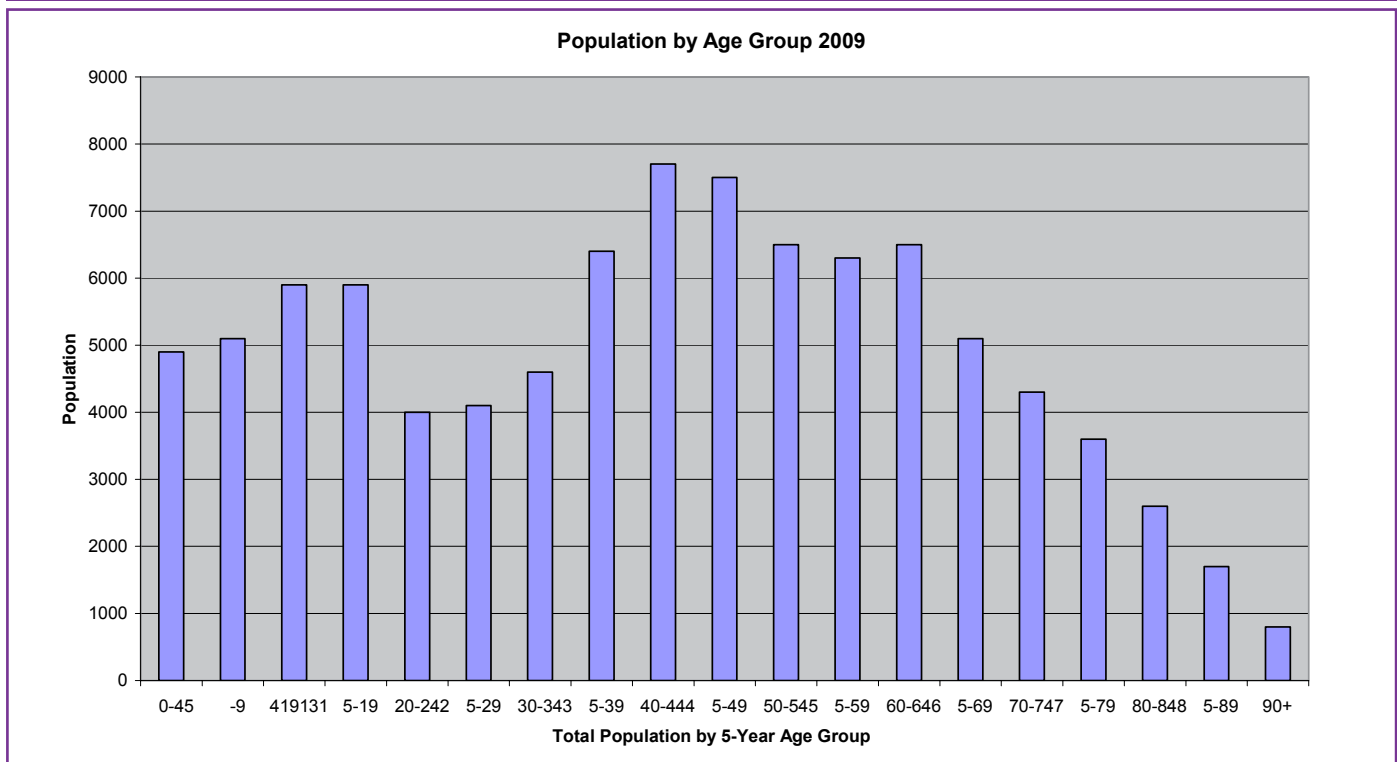
Population

Bromsgrove District's projected population at 2010 is approximately 93,400. The population of Bromsgrove District was 87,837 in 2001 (Census, 2001), so Bromsgrove's population has increased by approximately 5,563 in the last 8 years.

Age Structure

The population of Bromsgrove District is projected to steadily decline to 90,800 by about 2011. The number of people over the age of 65 is projected to rise from just over 15,000 to about 18,400 by 2011. The numbers below the age of 17 are projected to fall back between 2006 and 2011. Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 below shows Bromsgrove District's population by five-year age group for total population, total male population, and total female population.

Figure 1: ONS Mid-2009 Population Estimates for Bromsgrove by 5-Year Age Group





Appendix 2

Figure 2: ONS Mid-2009 Total Male Population for Bromsgrove by 5-Year Age Group

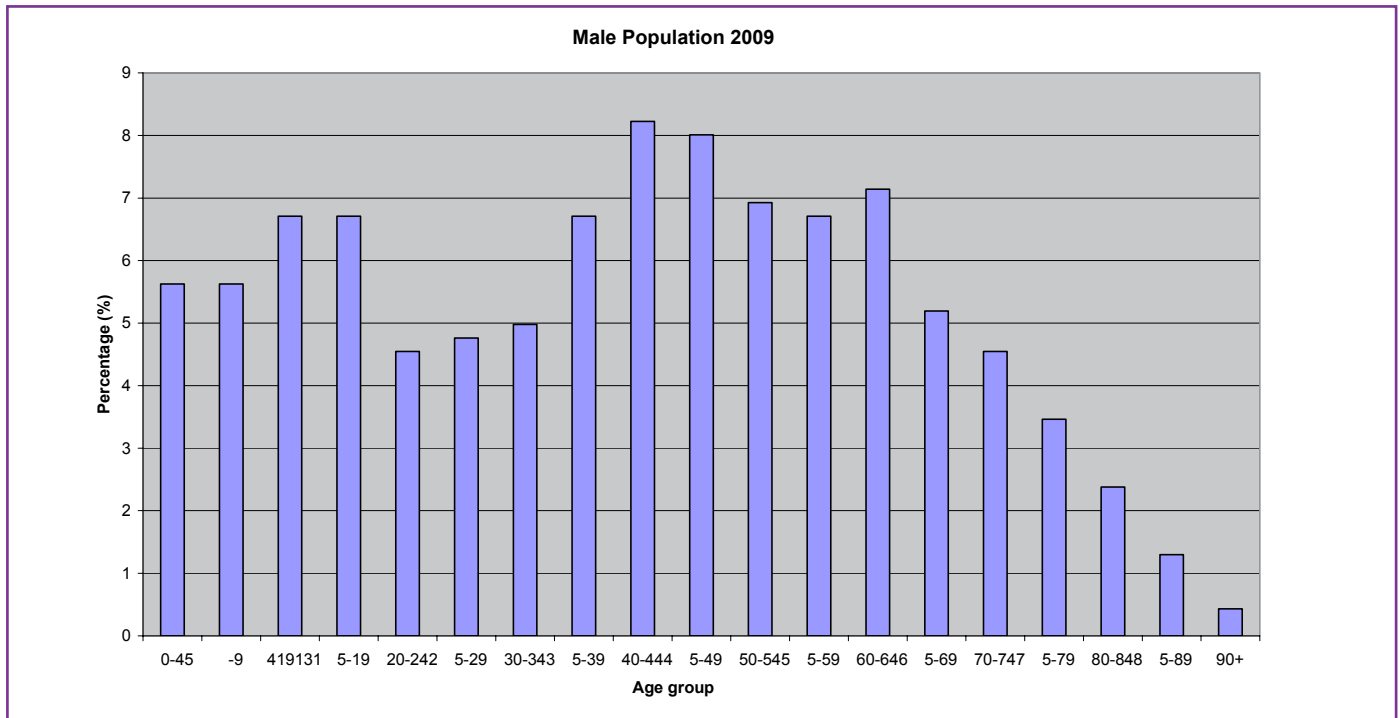
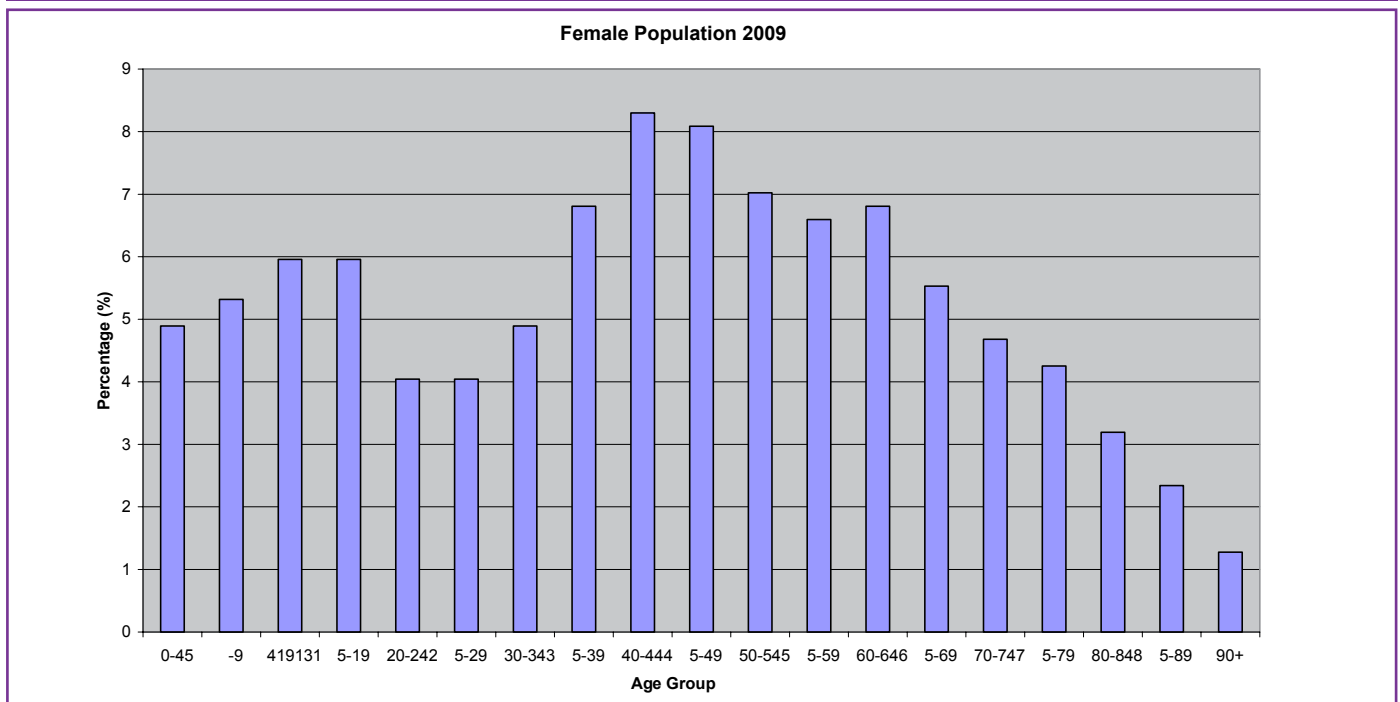


Figure 3: ONS Mid-2009 Total Female Population for Bromsgrove by 5-Year Age Group





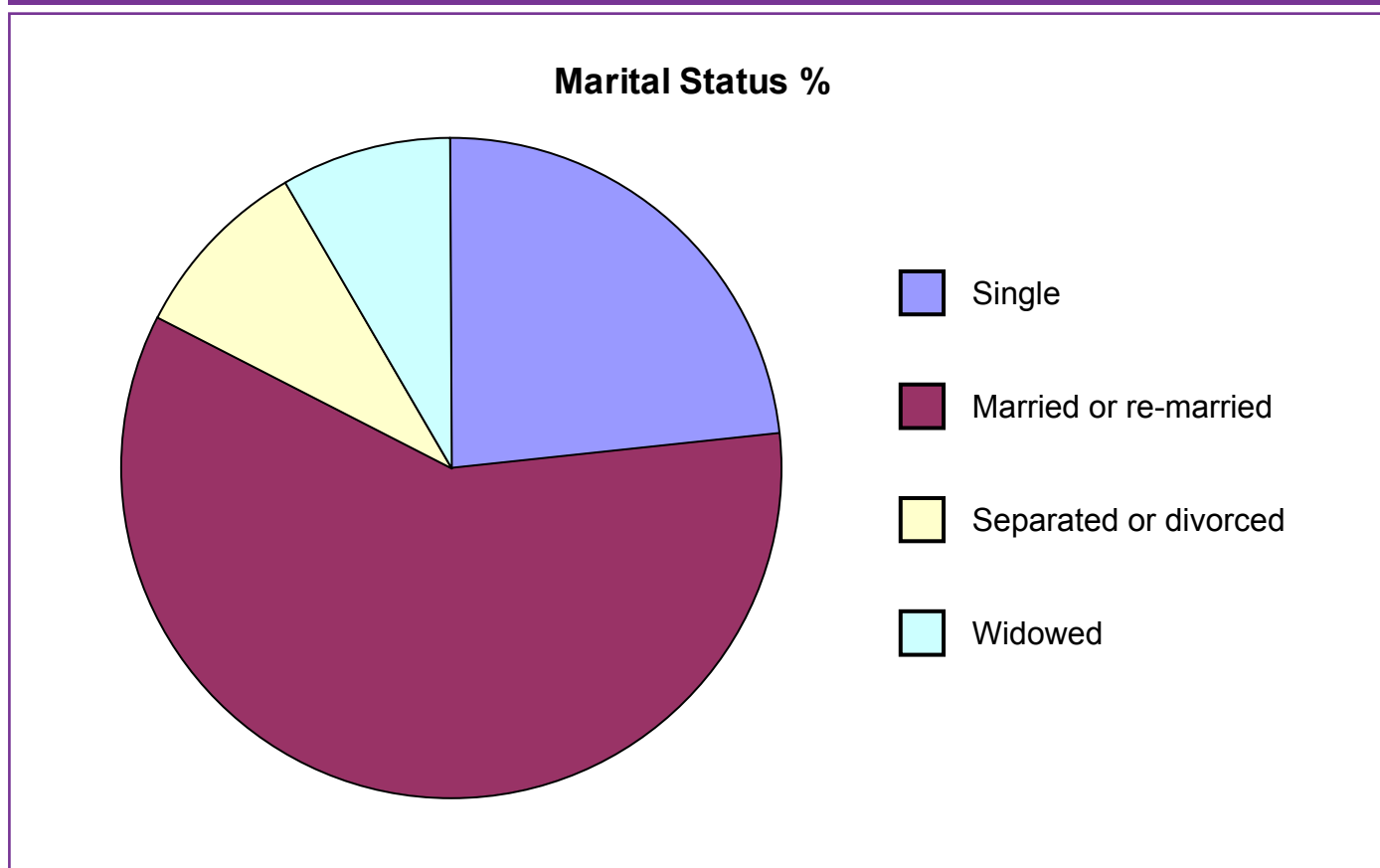
Appendix 2

Marital Status

Marital Status (all people aged 16 and over)	Amount	England and Wales Rank/376 (proportion)	Regional Rank/34 (proportion)
Single people (never married)	16,488	324	29
Married or re-married people	41,915	24	3
Separated or divorced	6,552	328	27
Widowed	5,903	208	20

Source: ONS (Revised February 2003)

Figure 4: Marital Status % (Census 2001)





Appendix 2

Ethnicity and Religion

97.8% of the population in Bromsgrove District are white (Census 2001).

The largest minority ethnic group is Indian (0.6%).

The largest religious groups are:

Christian 80.09%

Sikh 0.33%

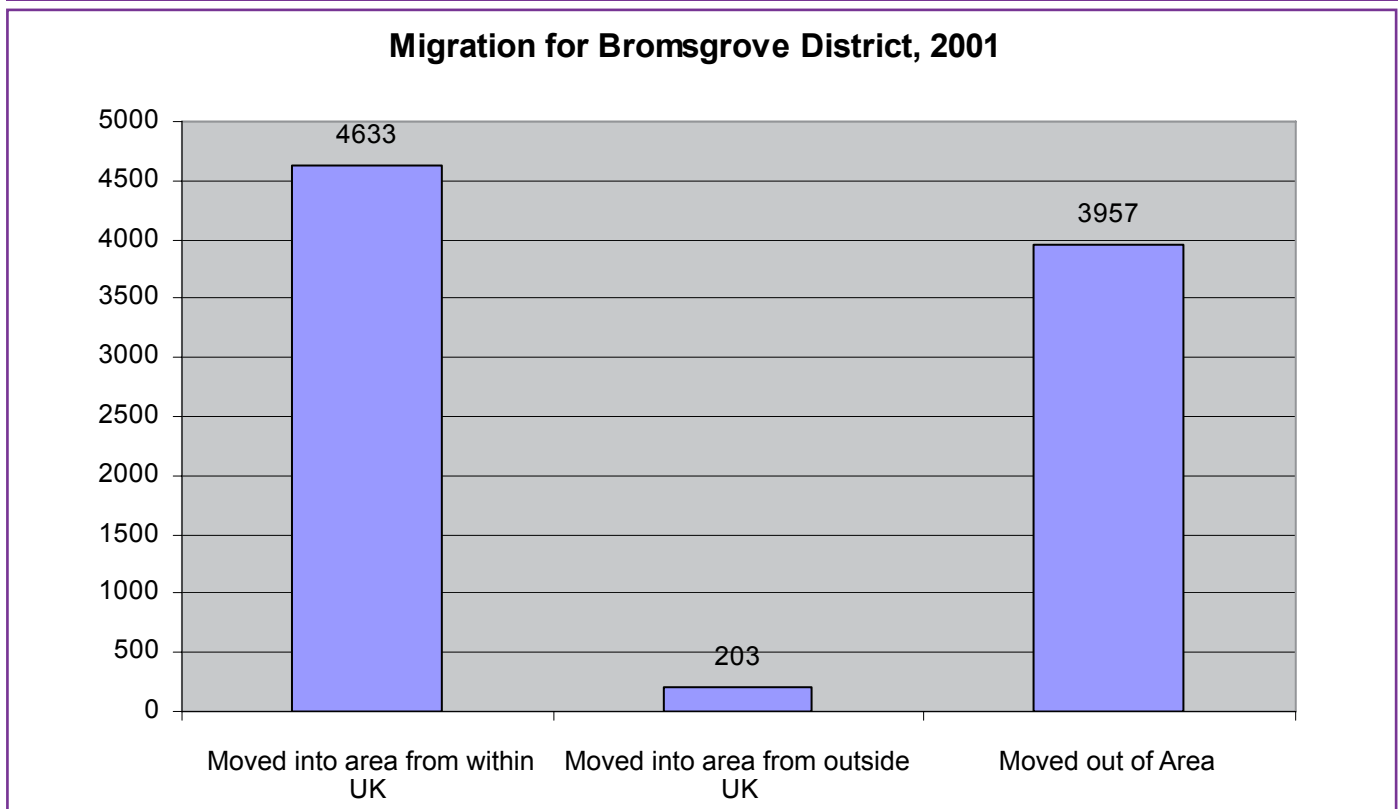
Muslim 0.29%

6.84% of the population indicated that they have no religion.

Migration

The following represents the migration figures for Bromsgrove District.

Figure 5: Migration for Bromsgrove District (2001 Census)



Projected Migration to Bromsgrove from 2001 to 2008

	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08
Internal Migration	1,200	1,200	900	600	700	800	700
International Migration	-200	-200	0	100	-100	-200	0
Total Migration	1,000	1,000	900	700	600	600	700

Source: ONS Components of Change, 2001-08



Appendix 3

Economy

Working Age Population (Percentage is a proportion of total population)					
		Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	West Midlands (%)	National (%)
ALL PEOPLE	Working Age	58,200	62.4	63.7	65.0
MALES	Working Age	29,300	63.4	64.7	66.0
FEMALES	Working Age	29,000	62.7	62.7	64.0

Source: ONS - Mid-Year Population Estimates (2009)

Economically Active					
		Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	West Midlands (%)	National (%)
ALL PEOPLE	Economically active	50,000	85.9	75.6	76.5
	In employment	47,900	82.3	68.5	70.3
	Employees	37,900	65.6	59.7	60.9
	Self employed	9,600	15.8	8.3	9.0
	Unemployed	3,300	6.4	9.3	7.9
MALES	Economically active	26,600	88.7	82.3	82.7
	In employment	25,300	84.0	73.0	75.2
	Employees	18,800	63.4	60.3	62.0
	Self employed	6,500	20.7	12.2	12.8
	Unemployed	#	#	11.1	8.9
FEMALES	Economically active	23,400	83.1	68.9	70.3
	In employment	22,600	80.4	64.0	65.5
	Employees	19,100	67.9	59.1	59.8
	Self employed	#	#	4.4	5.2
	Unemployed	*	*	7.2	6.7

Source: ONS - Annual Population Survey (Apr 2009-Mar 2010)

Sample size too small for reasonable estimate

Economically Inactive					
		Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	West Midlands (%)	National (%)
ALL PEOPLE	Economically inactive	8,000	14.1	24.4	23.5
	Wanting a job	#	#	5.0	5.6
	Not wanting a job	5,900	10.3	19.3	17.9
MALES	Economically inactive	#	#	17.7	17.3
	Wanting a job	#	#	4.5	4.8
	Not wanting a job	#	#	13.2	12.5
FEMALES	Economically inactive	4,800	16.9	31.1	29.7
	Wanting a job	*	*	5.6	6.4
	Not wanting a job	4,000	14.1	25.5	23.3

Source: ONS - Annual Population Survey (Apr 2009-Mar 2010)

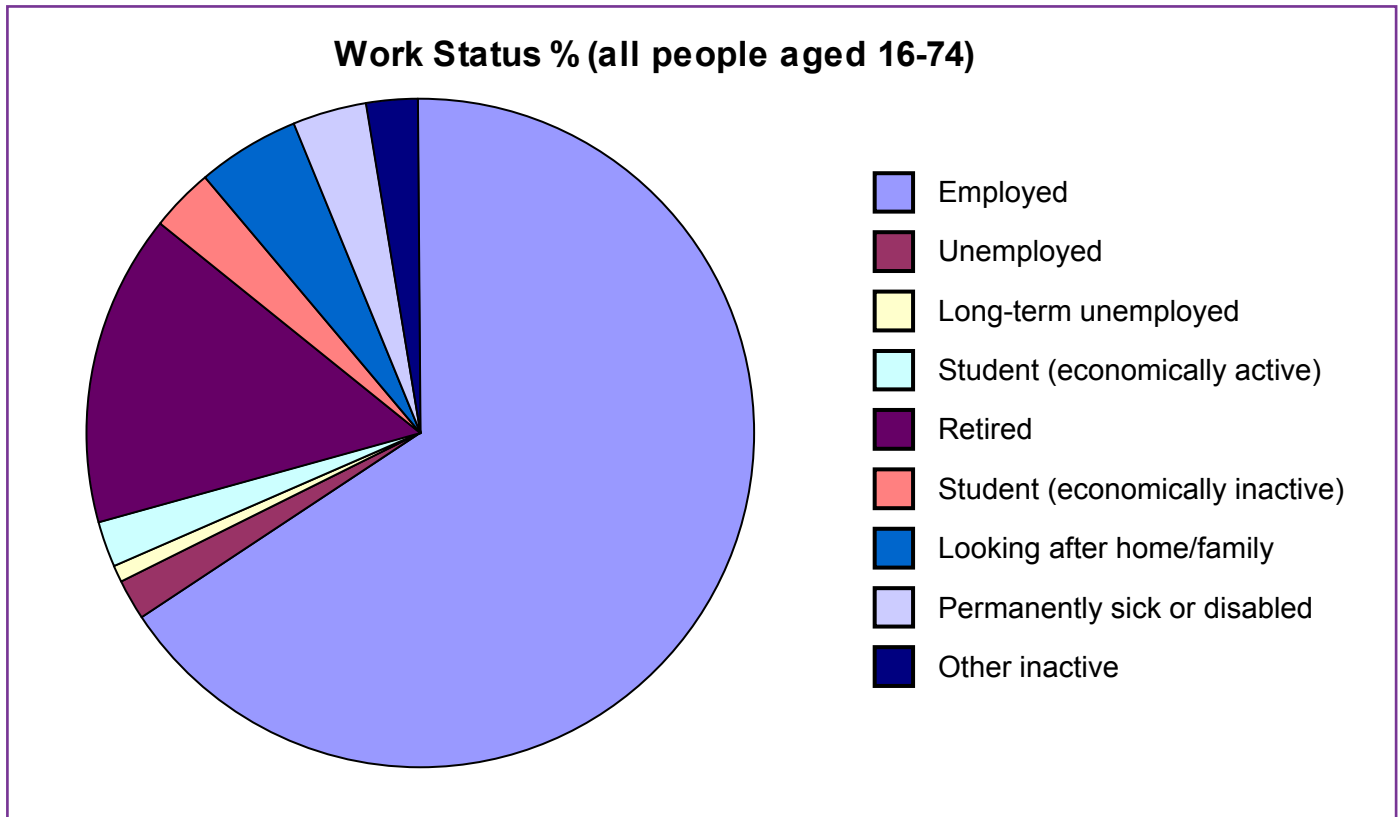
Sample size too small for reliable estimate

* Estimate is not available



Appendix 3

Figure 6: Work Status % (Census 2001)



Source: ONS (Revised February 2003)

Unemployment rates

The unemployment rate in Bromsgrove District is measured by the proportion of working age people unemployed and

claiming job seekers' allowance (JSA). The table below shows the number of people in Bromsgrove District who are unemployed and claiming JSA as at October 2010.

	Bromsgrove (numbers)	Bromsgrove (%)	West Midlands (%)	National (%)
All people	1,718	2.9	4.4	3.5
Males	1,210	4.1	6.2	4.9
Females	508	1.8	2.6	2.1

Source: ONS Claimant Count - Rates and Proportions (October 2010)

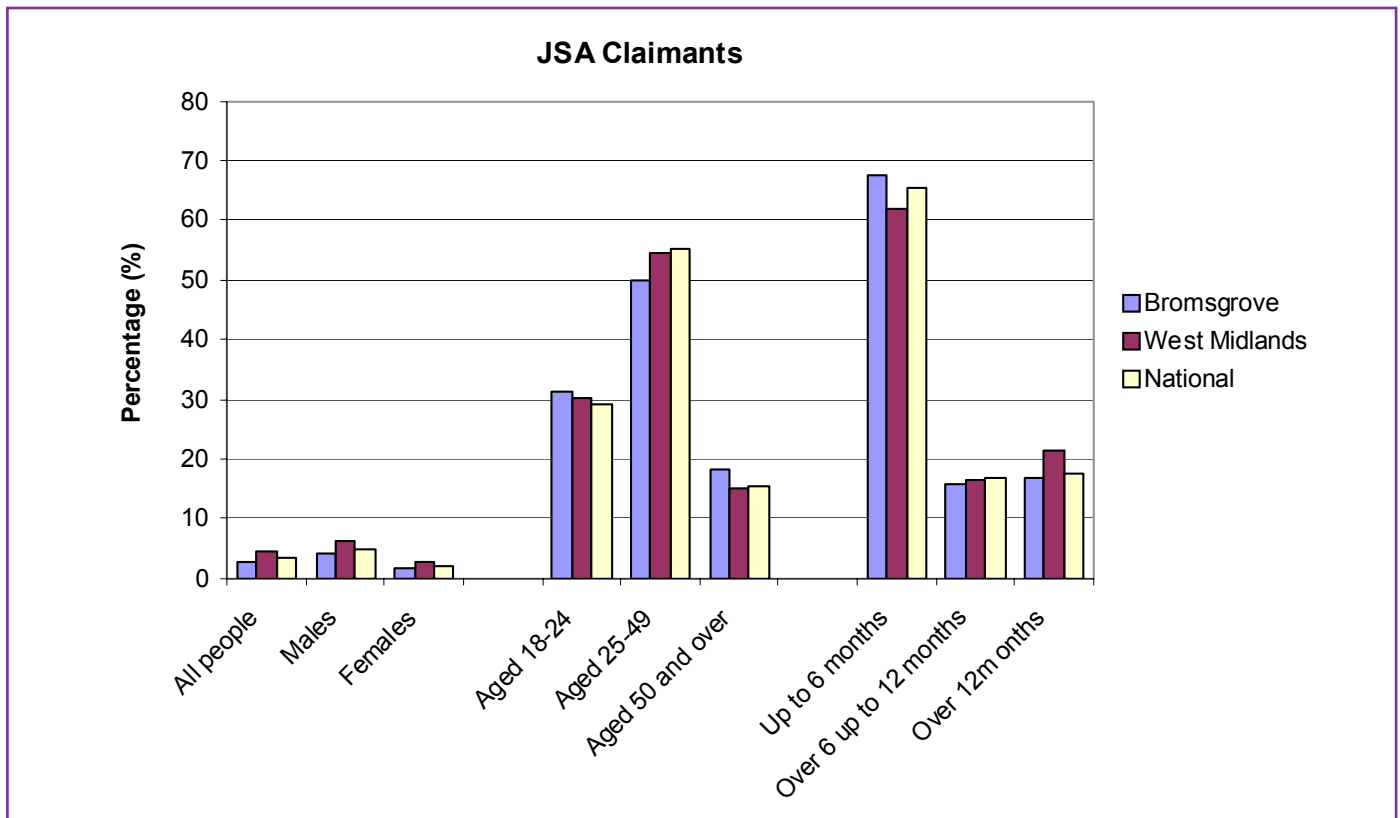


Appendix 3

Figure 7 indicates that the majority of unemployed and claiming JSA in Bromsgrove District are in the age group 25-49 years of age (50.1%). There are a higher percentage of males unemployed (4.1%) than females (1.8%). These figures are below the regional average.

A total of 67.4% of those registered as being unemployed have been claiming JSA for less than six months. This is above the national and regional average. Only 17.0% have been claiming for more than 12 months. This is below the national and regional average.

Figure 7: JSA Claimants



Source: ONS Claimant Count - Age & Duration (October 2010)

Jobs Density

The density figures in the table below represent the ratio of total jobs to working-age population.

	Bromsgrove (jobs)	Bromsgrove (density)	West Midlands (density)	National (density)
Jobs Density	40,000	0.69	0.77	0.79

Source: ONS Jobs Density (2009)



Appendix 3

Earnings

Figure 8 shows the average gross weekly earnings in pounds for employees living in the area. Whereas, Figure 9 shows the average gross weekly earnings in pounds for employees working in the area.

Figure 8: Earnings by Residence



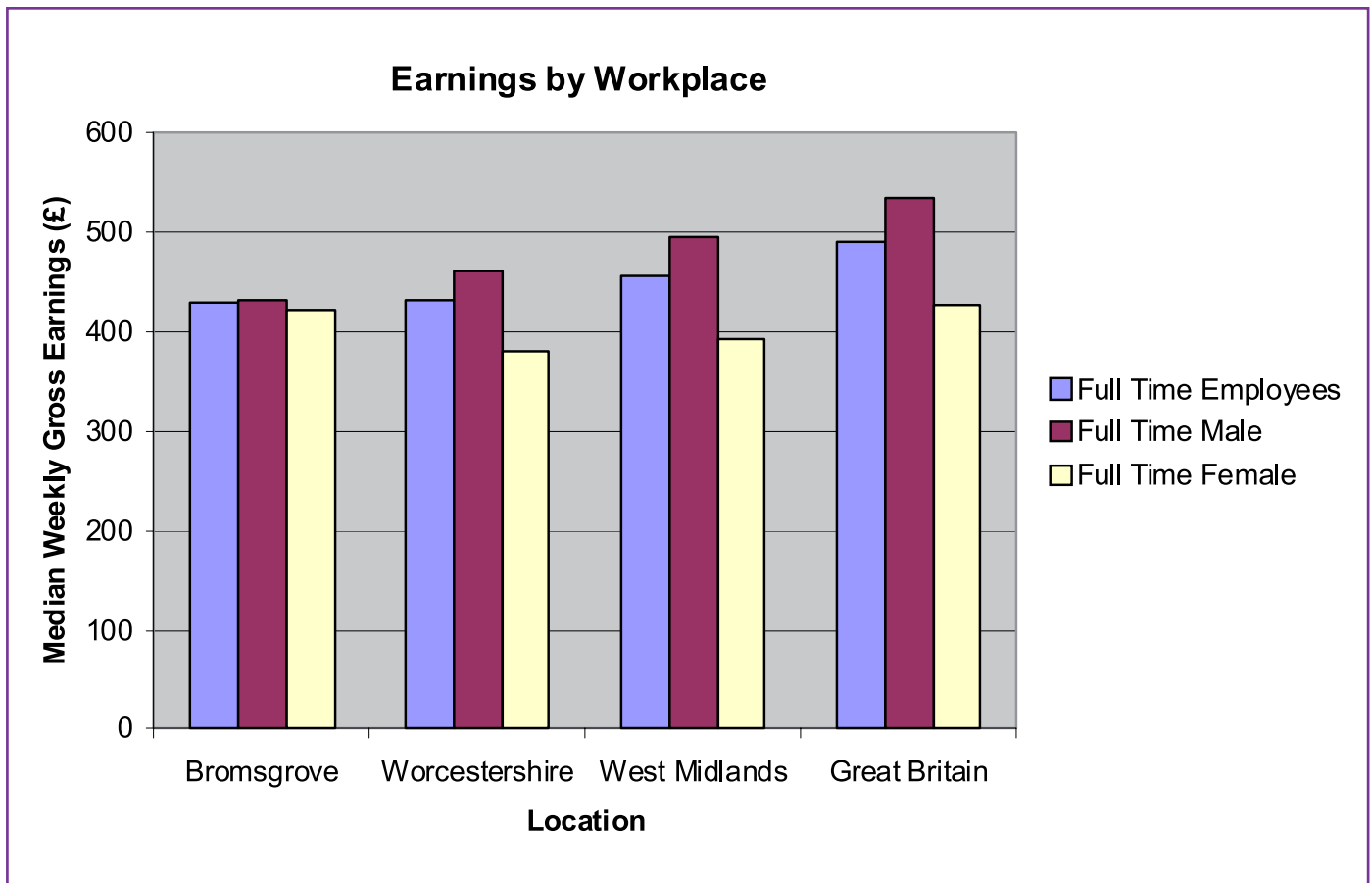
Source: ONS - Annual Survey of Hours of Earnings (2009)



Appendix 3

On average, Bromsgrove District residents are paid relatively well when compared to the national and regional average. In contrast, workplace earnings are lower than the national and regional average.

Figure 9: Earnings by Workplace



Source: ONS - Annual Survey of Hours of Earnings (2009)

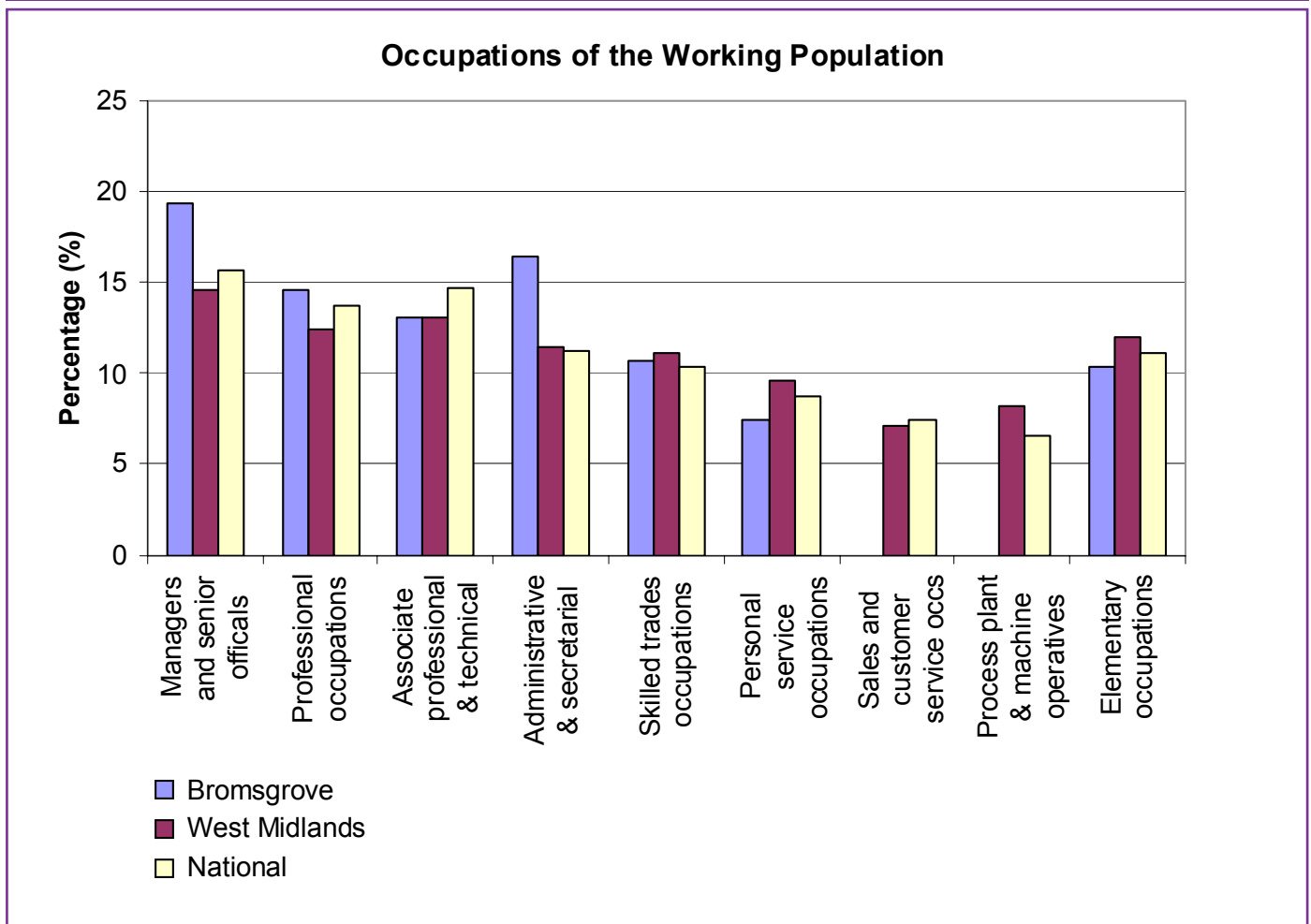


Appendix 3

Occupations of the Working Population

Figure 10 shows that the number of people in Bromsgrove District with occupations in managerial, technical, personal service, and elementary occupations are higher than the national average.

Figure 10: Occupations of the Working Population



Source: ONS - Annual population survey (April 2009 - March 2010)



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