

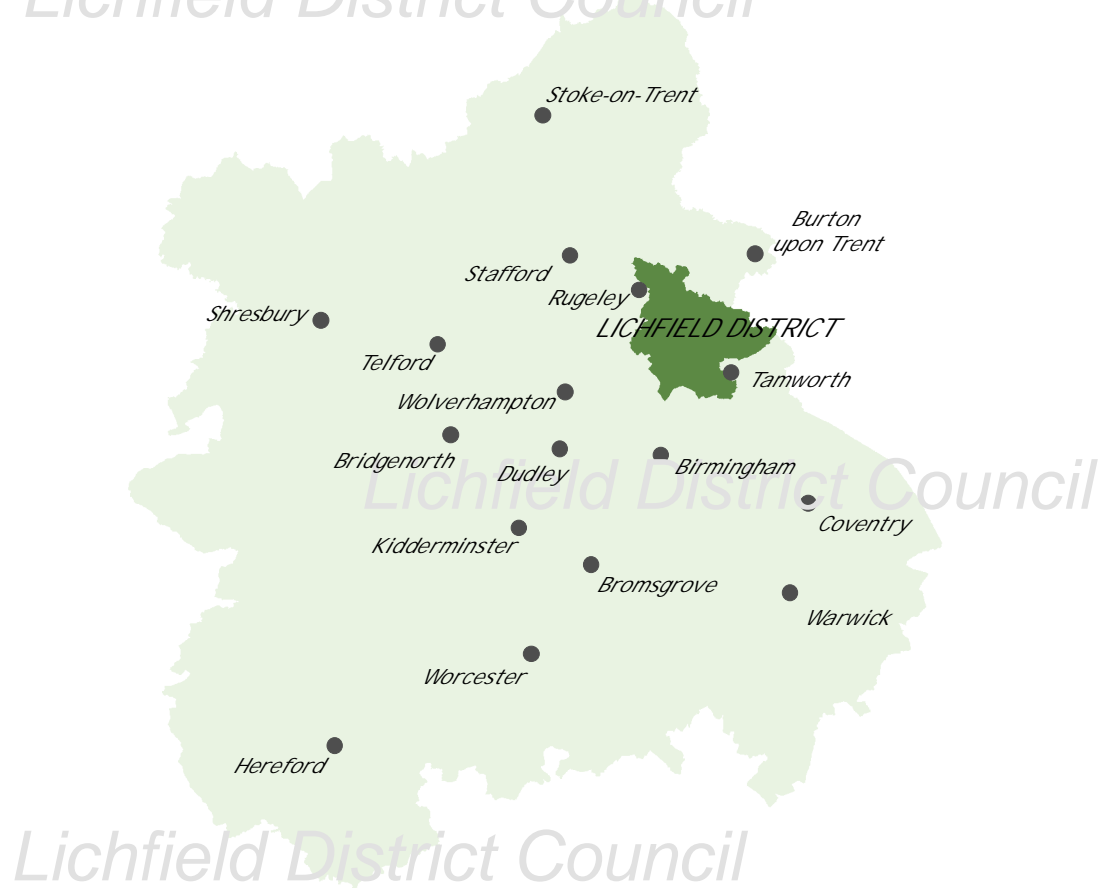
## Annual Monitoring Report 2009



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## 1 Lichfield District within the West Midlands Region

*Lichfield District Council*



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**Map 1.1 Lichfield District within the West Midlands Region**

## 2 Executive Summary

**2.1** The 2009 Lichfield District Annual Monitoring Report covers the period April 2008 - March 2009 and monitors the success of the District Council's policies in relation to a series of national and local indicators. These indicators identify any trends within the District which will help the Authority understand what is happening within the District now, and what could happen in the future.

**2.2** This report covers a range of subject areas to provide a detailed picture of the social, environmental and economic geography of Lichfield District. The monitoring process is hugely important to the planning process as it provides a review of any successes or failures, so that the authority can assess how policies are responding to the issues within the District.

**2.3** The Annual Monitoring Report is the first report which deals with a severe economic recession. This has impacted upon the social and economic aspects of the District and sees a decline in house building and economic development as well as rising unemployment. Despite this, Lichfield District is still broadly achieving its aims and meeting many of the targets. The effects of the recession may still be prevalent in future documents and this will continue to be monitored.

**2.4** The following paragraphs provide a summary of the key findings of this report.

### **Business Development**

**2.5** There has been a decrease in business floor space completions during 2008/09. This was predicted last year as the large completion of Tesco at Fradley was expected to skew figures. There has been an additional employment floorspace of 1.14 ha. All completions for business uses have taken place on previously developed land, reducing the environmental impact of development.

**2.6** There is still a relatively large stock of employment land available for development, with sites located on a broad portfolio of sites within Fradley, Burntwood and Lichfield City. The land available is appropriate for all types of business use and will allow the District to continue to attract new employment opportunities.

**2.7** In terms of town centre uses, there have been a number of completions adjacent to the town centre in Lichfield City, most significantly the new Tesco Extra.

### **Housing**

**2.8** House prices have continued to fall but continue to be significantly higher than the regional average, cementing Lichfield District as one of the most attractive and desirable Districts in which to live within the region.

**2.9** There has been a reduction in affordable housing completions this year, however many remain committed, which will assist in addressing the ongoing issues the District faces with regards to the provision of affordable housing.

**2.10** The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) currently has a strategic housing requirement for Lichfield District to deliver 400 homes per annum. Previously the District was on track to meet this target, however this current year has seen a fall in housebuilding as only 277 homes were delivered during this reporting year.

**2.11** 53.4% of new dwellings in 2008/09 were built to the national density guideline of at least 30 dwellings per hectare. Although some completions were below this figure, the average density of new builds across the District was 31 dwellings per hectare which meets the target. This level is below last years figure which may be due to the larger proportion of small windfall sites completed this year compared to fewer larger schemes.

### **Environmental Quality**

**2.12** The District is heavily involved with, and committed to, a number of different initiatives and organisations to protect and enhance our natural environment.

**2.13** Conditions at most of the District's Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are said to be improving, but are still unfavourable. Schemes at such sites need to be continued and improve to ensure that progress is maintained and the sites are given the best chance to return to a favourable condition. There has been an increase in the number of Sites of Biological Interest (SBI) this year.

**2.14** Once again there have been no developments within areas of flood risk, that were contrary to the Environment Agency's advice. The publication of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) in 2008 has strengthened the authorities decision making on any potential developments and will do so in the future.

**2.15** The implementation of larger scale renewable energy generation within the District needs to be encouraged and a method to monitor such schemes should also be implemented so that a return for this indicator can be made.

### **Historic Environment, Transport & Local Services**




**2.16** Lichfield District Council continues to value and protect the historic sites which form an important element of the District's distinct character. There have been a number of conservation schemes adopted this year and good progress has been achieved in undertaking Conservation Area Appraisals.












**2.17** Lichfield District remains committed to increasing the length of tourist visits, and it is a long term goal to encourage more overnight stays within the District.



**2.18** An Open Space Assessment (2007) identified a number deficiencies in the quantity and quality of green space provision across the District, with the provision of space for children and young people scoring particularly poorly in many of the Districts settlements.

### **Summary of Indicators:**



**2.19** The following tables provide a summary for each of the core output indicators and the local indicators respectively.

	Achieving well, and meeting outline targets
	Little or no change from last year, is neither achieving well, or poorly
	Needs improving, targets are not being met

Indicator Number	Indicator	Status	Notes
BD1	Total amount of additional employment floorspace		Small increase in employment completions
BD2	Total amount of floorspace built on previously developed land		All development occurred on previously developed land
BD3	Employment land available - by type		There are still large areas of employment land available for development
BD4	Total amount of floorspace for town centre uses - by type		Most development has occurred outside of town centres (but within settlements)
H1	Plan period housing targets		Current projections indicate Lichfield is on track to meet the RSS housing requirement and has the flexibility to meet the phase 2 draft revision figures
H2	Net additional dwellings		Net completions this year are lower than last years completions and below the required annual rate to meet the RSS
H3	New and converted dwellings - on previously developed land		There has been an increase of housing completions on brownfield land. This is significantly higher than the Staffordshire target
H4	Net additional pitches (Gypsy & Traveller)		No change to the number of authorised pitches in the District
H5	Affordable Housing (Gross)		There has been a decrease in the number of affordable housing completions
H6	Building for life assessment		All development score 'average' and improvements are expected to occur in the future
E1	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds		No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice









Indicator Number	Indicator	Status	Notes
E2	Changes in areas of biodiversity importance		There has been an increase in SBI and BAS sites this year
E3	Renewable energy generation		Larger scale renewable energy generation should be encouraged and methods to monitor this indicator need to be developed

## Summary of Core Output Indicators

Indicator Number	Indicator	Status	Notes
LI 1.1	Employment land supply		Large areas of land still remain Local Plan allocated, with further areas which have the benefit of planning permission
LI 1.2	Town centre completions & location of completed developments		There have been a few completions within town centre areas.
LI 1.3			
LI 2.1	Density of completions		A vast majority of new housing developments have been completed at a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare across the District
LI 2.2	Dwellings mix		Lichfield has achieved a varied dwellings mix which has responded to the demand for housing
LI 2.3	Number of unauthorised Gypsy/Traveller caravans		There has been no new data since last years report for this indicator
LI 2.4	Developed and committed affordable housing - by sub area		There is a large number of committed and developed affordable units, however there are still shortages in some areas.
LI 2.5	Affordability index - price:income ratio		There has been an increase in the ratio
LI 2.6	Number of home adaptations completed		Fewer home adaptations have been completed, however this is a demand based indicator
LI 2.7	Dwellings built on exception sites		No dwellings have been built on exception sites
LI 2.8	Affordable Housing Viability		This is a new indicator. The viability target of 40% is currently not being met due to the effects of the recession
LI 3.1	Water Quality		There have been minor improvements in water quality
LI 3.2	To improve the condition of nationally important sites such as SSSI's and SAC's		Five year project to restore the heath lands has been completed and a further 10 years funding has been secured for the management of heath land and other SSSI.



Indicator Number	Indicator	Status	Notes
LI 3.3	To protect locally important sites such as local wildlife sites, local geological sites and biodiversity alert sites from loss of area		The Council continues to work with and contribute to the wildlife assessment group and monitors the sites
LI 3.4	To continue to contribute to the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan and protecting European and nationally protected species		Continues to be monitored through development.
LI 3.5	Implementation of Lichfield Districts Biodiversity Strategy		Targets for the strategy are currently being developed
LI 3.6	To protect and enhance the Cannock Chase AONB		A five year management plan has been approved by the Secretary of State.
LI 3.7	To contribute to the implementation of the National Forest Strategy		The Council continues to contribute to the strategy
LI 3.8	To contribute to the implementation of the Forest of Mercia Plan		The Authority is actively contributing to the plan
LI 3.9	To contribute to the strategy for the Cannock Chase to Sutton Park Biodiversity Enhancement Area		Lichfield District Council continues to contribute and is committed to the further development of the scheme
LI 3.10	To promote the Central Rivers Initiative		Lichfield District Council continues to be involved
LI 3.11	Environmental improvement schemes completed		Four schemes have been completed
LI 3.12	Tree preservation		There has been an decrease in the number of applications for works on preserved trees
LI 4.1	Conservation area improvement schemes		There have been four schemes completed this year at varying costs
LI 4.2	Conservation Area Appraisals		Progress continues with the Conservation Area Appraisals
LI 4.3	Buildings at risk		Progress is being made to repair buildings on the list
LI 4.4	Lichfield District Tourism		Tourism in the District continues to improve and the new website has received positive feedback
LI 5.1	Sustainable transport		The private car is by far the most commonly used method of transport within the District
LI 5.2	Percentage of rural households within a 13 minute walk (800m) of an hourly bus service to a major centre		There are a number of gaps in the District bus services

Indicator Number	Indicator	Status	Notes
LI 5.3	Percentage of population within 350m of a bus stop with a minimum service provision of 30 minutes		Access to bus services continues to just meet the target set
LI 5.4	Number of road related deaths and serious injuries		No new figures for the reporting year
LI 5.5	Accession Analysis		Accessibility to a majority of services has declined slightly from last year, and just falls short of targets set
LI 5.6	Accessibility of green space		There is over provision of some typologies and under provision of others
LI 5.7	Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open space		The Council is on track to meet its satisfaction target in 2009/10
LI 5.8	Percentage of residents satisfied with sports and leisure facilities		Satisfaction remains low
LI 5.9	Retention rates of retail and leisure expenditure		The retention rates have not increased
LI 5.10	Town Centre Health Check		Number of vacant units in Lichfield town centre increased through the year but are now becoming filled.

#### Summary of Local Indicators

## 3 Introduction

**3.1** This is the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the monitoring year which runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. All the figures and statistics published in this report refer to this reporting year, unless otherwise stated. This is the fourth AMR undertaken by Lichfield District Council and it builds on previous reports in order to examine how the Council's policies are responding to the social, environmental and economic issues within the District.

**3.2** Monitoring is essential to the planning process and will help the Authority to understand what is happening within the District now, and in what could happen in the future. These trends will be integral to the delivery of spatial policies by highlighting whether current policies are successful or not. The AMR is structured around a series of indicators which are designed to highlight key areas within the social, environmental and economic geography of the District. A number of these indicators are defined as 'Core Output Indicators' which are part of the Regional Spatial Strategy and it is a statutory requirement for Local Authorities to include these in the AMR.

**3.3** Alongside the Core Indicators are a range of Local Indicators which allow the Authority to monitor the District in greater detail and are tailored to apply specifically to the unique nature of the District. Together these two sets of indicators will provide a detailed picture of Lichfield District and assess the success of the Council's current planning policies.

**3.4** Since the publication of the 2008 AMR, the effects of the current economic downturn have become more pronounced. This will be the cause for some of the changes in the indicators and it can be expected that the economic downturn will continue to have an effect for years to come.

### Structure of the AMR

**3.5** This year's report follows the same structure as the previous report providing updates in most cases. The report is structured around the Core Output Indicators, with relevant local indicators adding detail to specific topic areas. In some instances, indicators cannot be presented in the same way due to external changes to monitoring methods, this will be noted against the relevant section.

**3.6** One new indicator has been added to the AMR this year which relates to an affordable housing viability target. This uses data in relation to the Halifax House Price Index, the BCIS General Build Cost Index and the VOA Alternative Land Values in order to determine the viable level of affordable housing.

**3.7** The existing indicators remain unchanged in this AMR, however it has been identified that new indicators will be required for future monitoring in line with the direction of the emerging Core Strategy. A list of areas which may be implemented in the next AMR are as follows:-

- Percentage of energy demand through renewable and low carbon technology by development type.
- West Midlands Sustainability Checklist score (including Code for Sustainable Homes).
- New green infrastructure and walking and cycling connections by length.
- Tree canopy cover
- Provision and vitality of key rural centres

**3.8** The beginning of this report sets out a spatial portrait of Lichfield District, establishing the context by providing key information about the District. The main body of the AMR focuses on the performance and targets based around indicators. The report includes statistics for this reporting year, and previous years where applicable, so that any trends are easily identifiable.

### Implementation of the Local Development Scheme

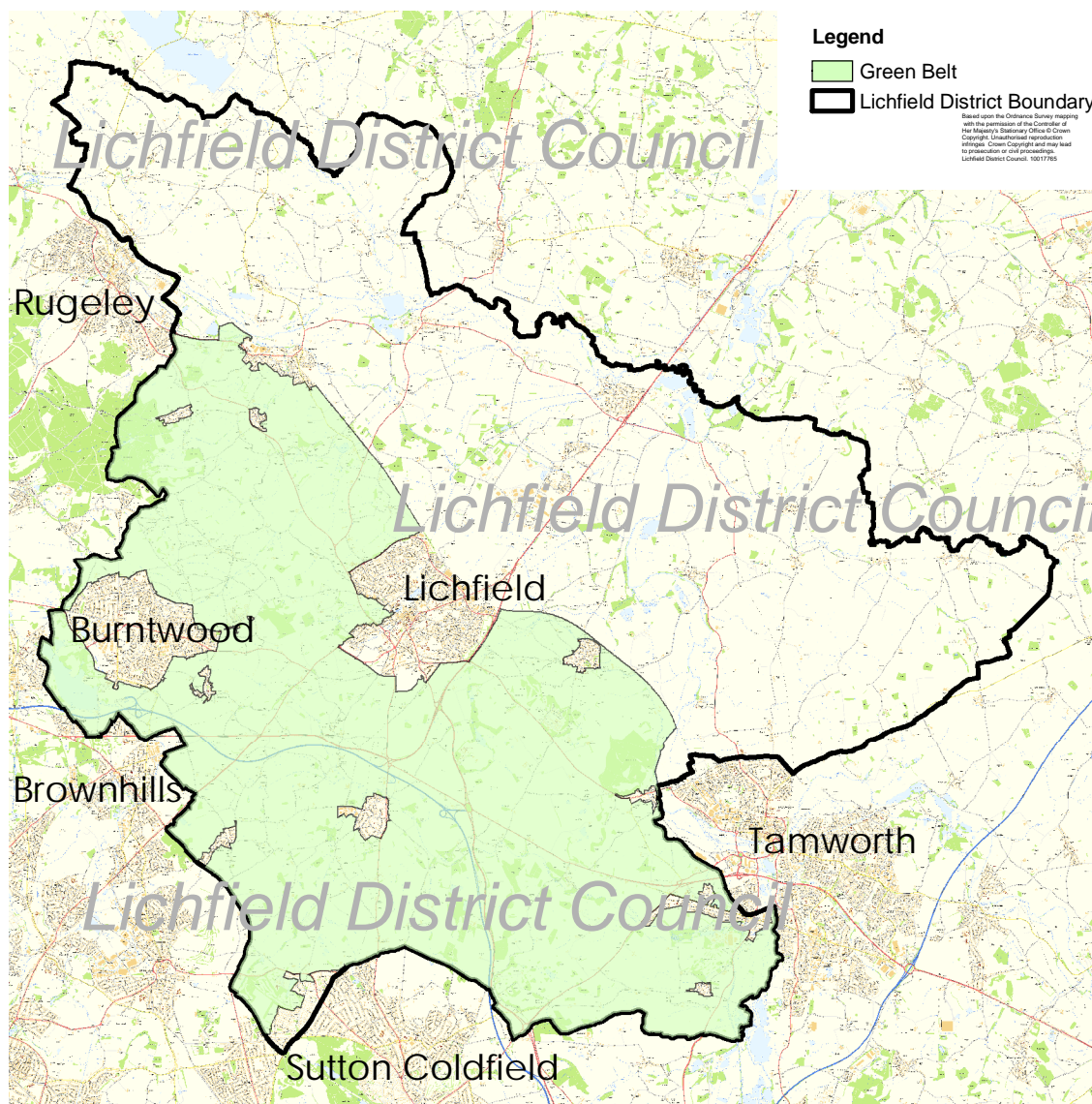
**3.9** Lichfield District Council's Local Development Scheme (LDS) has been reviewed and became effective in July 2009. The tables below show the timescales for the Core Strategy and Allocations of Land documents as set out in the LDS.

Stage	Core Strategy Date	Allocations of Land Date
Commencement of the preparation process	March 2007	July 2009
Draft Publication Date	October 2009	November 2010
Submission to Secretary of State	January 2010	February 2011
Pre-hearing Meeting	March 2010	April 2011
Commencement of the Hearing Sessions	April 2010	May 2011
Adoption and Publication	August 2010	November 2011

**Table 3.2 Core Strategy & Land Allocation Timescales**

**3.10** It should be noted that the draft Core Strategy missed its publication date of October 2009. If necessary, changes to the LDS will be updated in next years AMR.

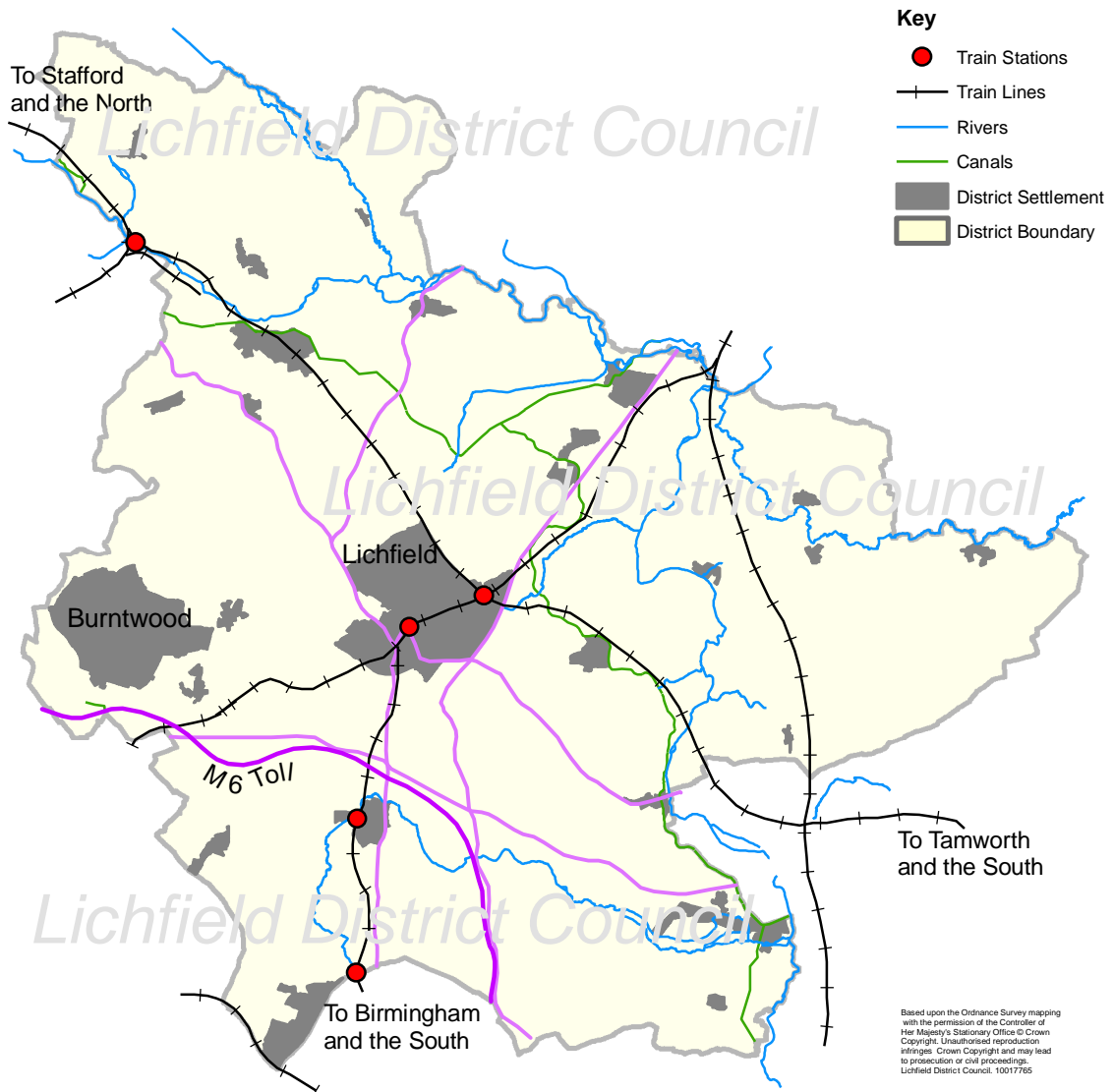
## Lichfield District's Spatial Context



Map 3.1 Lichfield District

**3.11** Lichfield District is an attractive semi-rural region in South East Staffordshire and is part of the West Midlands conurbation. It covers an area of 33,151 hectares and has a population of approximately 97,900 (2008-mid year projections). There are two main urban areas within the District, the City of Lichfield broadly located in the centre of the District and the town of Burntwood to the west. Lichfield and Burntwood account for the majority of the District's population, each settlement having similar populations, just above 30,000 people. There is also a large rural hinterland, especially within the north and east of the District which houses many villages and several high quality, contrasting rural landscapes. Approximately half of the District is covered by Green Belt which generally covers the area between the West Coast Mainline and the southern and western border to the District (as illustrated in map 3.1 )

## District Infrastructure



Map 3.2 Lichfield District Key Infrastructure

**3.12** Lichfield District has well developed inter-urban infrastructure with good highway links to the rest of the region and beyond. The A38 and A5 are the major arterial roads which run through the District and provide quick and direct access to Birmingham and the south and also to the M1 and M6. The recently constructed M6 Toll provides good linkages between the South East and North West and has also helped to relieve congestion on the M6. The M6 Toll has been a major attraction for business investment in the area. Bypasses to Burntwood and Rugeley have also helped relieve congestion within and around urban areas. Within Lichfield City work continues on stages of the southern bypass which, at present, remains incomplete, with full benefits yet to be realised.

**3.13** Lichfield City is well serviced by rail, with two stations on the Cross City Line which leads to Redditch via Birmingham New Street. The trains from these stations run frequently with a train approximately every 20 minutes taking passengers into Birmingham in around 40 minutes. The Cross

City line has a further two stations within the District at Shenstone and Blake Street. The West Coast Main Line also runs through the District, with trains stopping at Lichfield Trent Valley and Rugeley Trent Valley stations. With works to improve the West Coast line being recently completed. Rugeley Trent Valley station is also located on a line connecting Cannock with Birmingham.

**3.14** There are bus services within and between Lichfield, Burntwood and the wider rural area, however there are some gaps in these services with some of our rural communities having significant access issues to public transport. The South of the District also suffers from a lack of bus services.

### Lichfield District Key Statistics

**3.15** The following section provides a summary of key statistics relating to Lichfield District of 2008-09. This section will be broken down into specific topic areas.

#### People and Society

	2008 Mid-year Populations						Source
	District		West Midlands		England		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Total Population	97,900	100	5,411,100	100	51,446,200	100	2008 Mid-year estimates: ONS
Under 16 (0-15 years old)	17,800	18.2	1,051,300	19.4	9,669,500	18.8	
Working Age <sup>(i)</sup>	58,100	59.3	3,293,800	60.9	31,937,600	62.1	
Older People <sup>(ii)</sup>	22,100	22.5	1,066,00	19.7	9,839,100	19.1	
	Ethnic Composition (%)						Source
White British	96.57		88.74		90.92		2001 Census
White Irish / White Other	1.57						
Mixed	0.54		1.39		1.31		
Asian or Asian British	0.78		7.32		4.58		
Black or Black British	0.25		1.98		2.3		
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	0.29		0.47		0.89		

**Table 3.4 People and Ethnicity**

**3.16** The population of Lichfield District continues to grow steadily and, if the mid-year estimates are correct, then the population has increased by approximately 400 people between the 2008 estimates and the 2007 estimates used in last years AMR. This would show a population increase of 4,668 people since the 2001 census which equates to an increase of around 5%. This increase seems to have occurred

i Working age is taken as 16-64 for men and 16-59 for women  
 ii Older people are defined as 65+ for males and 60+ for females

mainly due to in-migration into the District, with 4,373 new dwellings completed between 2001 and 2008 and an additional 277 dwellings being completed during the 08-09 financial year. This has resulted in an overall increase of 4,650 dwellings in the District since the census data was collected in 2001.

**3.17** The majority of Lichfield District residents are within the working age category, however this is slightly below the national average for the same age group. This difference is explained by Lichfield District's higher proportion of older people, which currently sits just over 2% above the national average.

**3.18** The ethnic make-up of Lichfield differs to the West Midlands and National ethnic compositions with 'White British' people accounting for a significantly larger proportion of the population.

	Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)		Source (for 2007 data)
	IDM 2004	IDM 2007	
Rank of Average Score	259	258	Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 - ODMP <sup>(iii)</sup>
Rank of Income	258	258	
Rank of Employment Scale	223	237	

Table 3.5 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

**3.19** Lichfield District ranks well within the indices of deprivation, and finds itself in the top third least deprived local authority areas in the country. There has been a significant improvement in the District's scoring for employment with the District now scoring within the top third least deprived, rather than just outside, as identified in the 2004 figures.

## Education

	2007	2008	National Average for 2008	Source
% of pupils achieving 5+ GCSE grades A*-C <sup>(iv)</sup>	64.1%	69.2%	69.7%	Department for Children, Schools and Families
Average 'A' Level Points Score per candidate <sup>(v)</sup>	682.7	705.1	731.1	

Table 3.6 Education Statistics

**3.20** The percentage of pupils achieving five or more GCSEs has increased significantly and means that Staffordshire average is similar to national averages. This represents a change from last years report when the County scored below this averages.

**3.21** The Staffordshire 'A' level points score is lower than the national average, although it should be noted that the 30 point deficit in Staffordshire's score is only a small proportion of one grade (an A grade, 'A' level =160points).

iii Latest figures available

iv score is for Staffordshire County

v score is for Staffordshire County



## Employment

**3.22** Lichfield District benefits from relatively low levels of unemployment and is viewed as a prime location for businesses to locate. In fact Lichfield District's unemployment rate is significantly lower than that of the West Midlands region and almost 1% lower than the national average. Whilst Lichfield performs well in relation to the West Midlands and Great Britain, it should be noted that there has been a rise in unemployment compared to last year. For instance, the percentage of the population claiming job seekers allowance has risen from 1.5% to 3.3%. When broken down, the statistics show that Lichfield District has lower levels of unemployment in the 18 - 50 category than the regional figures, but higher levels of unemployment in the 50+ category. There are still positive outcomes for Lichfield District as 84.5% of the working population are employed in full-time work which is higher than the figures for the West Midlands region and Great Britain.

**3.23** There are still a number of large manufacturing companies based within the District such as Ideal Standard, the renowned bathroom producers formerly known as Armitage Shanks. Staffordshire is also the home to many large companies such as JCB and numerous car manufacturers, showing that this is an area which continues to attract some of the worlds largest companies. There have been some closures and job losses at companies across the District and this illustrates the constantly changing local employment structure.

Type of Employment	Lichfield (Number of Employees)	Lichfield (%)	West Midlands (%)	Great Britain (%)	Source
Residents (economically active) in employment	52,700	84.5	71.3	73.9	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
Residents (economically active) unemployed	2,500	4.5	7.5	6.2	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
Full-time jobs available	27,000	67.7	69	69	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
Part-time jobs available	12,900	32.3	31	31	
<b>Unemployment</b>					
Total People claiming Job Seekers Allowance	1941	3.3	5.6	3.9	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
<b>Job Seeker Claimants by Age</b>					
18-24	585	30.4	31.5	30.6	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
25-49	985	51.1	53.1	53.8	
50+	355	18.4	15.2	15.1	

Type of Employment	Lichfield (Number of Employees)	Lichfield (%)	West Midlands (%)	Great Britain (%)	Source
<b>Job Seeker Claimants by Duration of Claim</b>					
Less than 6 months	1355	70.4	63.4	66.9	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics July 2009
6-12 months	450	23.3	23.7	22.5	
More than 12 months	125	6.4	12.9	10.6	

Table 3.7 Lichfield District Employment

### 3.24 Employment by Sector

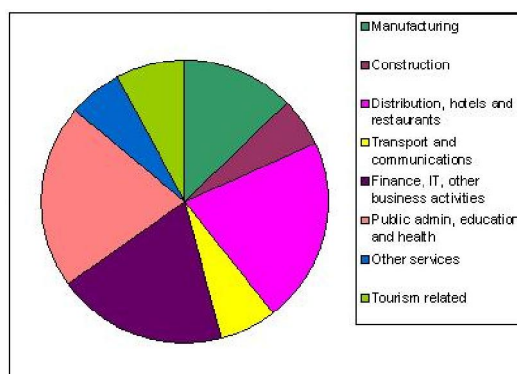


Figure 3.1 Employment sector pie

Employment Sector	Number of Employees	%	Source
Manufacturing	5,300	13.4	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics 2007 (latest figures available)
Construction	2,300	5.9	
Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants	9,000	22.5	
Transport and Communications	2,700	6.7	
Finance, IT and other Business Activities	8,100	20.2	
Public Admin, Education and Health	9,000	22.5	
Other Services	2,600	6.5	
Tourism Related	3,300	8.2	

Table 3.8 Employment by Sector, supports figure 3.1

**3.25** Figure 3.1 and Table 3.8 display the labour market divided into sectors. The number of people employed within the manufacturing sector has decreased from 22% in last years AMR. Whilst it remains one of the largest sectors of employment it is now behind a number of other sectors. The largest employment sector is now jointly shared between Public Administration, Education and Health and Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants each with 22.5%. The Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants sector has become a major employer in Lichfield. This is partly due to the large number of distribution warehouses which have been built in the District recently, especially at Fradley Park and the growth in the hotel and restaurant sector within the District. This sector is expected to grow stronger over the coming years with further logistics operations at Fradley currently under construction.

Average Annual Income (gross)	Lichfield (£)	West Midlands (£)	Great Britain (£)	Source
Earnings by residents of Lichfield District	£26,395.20	£23,400.00	£24,923.60	Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics 2008
Earnings by workplace located within Lichfield District	£24,325.60	£23,342.80	£24,913.20	

Table 3.9 Average Income

**3.26** The average income for residents of Lichfield District is higher than both the national and regional average. The earnings by workplace located in Lichfield District are comparable to the national average.

**3.27** The difference between the earnings by residents of Lichfield District and the workplace located within the District, indicates that jobs within the District are lower paid and that there is a significant out migration of people from the District to higher salaried jobs available elsewhere. This could partly be explained by Lichfield's proximity to major urban settlements such as Birmingham and transport links which would allow easy commuting to much of the West Midlands conurbation. The difference between the earnings of Lichfield District residents and the workplaces within the District has decreased from a gap of approximately £3,270 (annual income) in last years AMR to £2,069 (annual income) this year.

## Housing

**3.28** Property values in Lichfield District are higher than most of the neighbouring authorities, and are higher than the West Midlands average. Lichfield District is seen as an attractive commuter settlement for Birmingham and the larger salaries associated with jobs there. The house prices in Lichfield City and many of the surrounding villages are particularly high due to the historic character of the city and attractive nature of adjoining villages and countryside.

	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007	June 2008	June 2009
Average Property Price - Lichfield District	£195,425	£198,125	£211,750	£210,075	£206,114
Average Property Price - West Midlands	£163,621	£169,141	£179,112	£174,002	£158,245

	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007	June 2008	June 2009
Source	CLG (2005)	CLG (2006)	CLG (2007)	CLG (2008)	CLG (2009)

Table 3.10 House Prices within the District

**3.29** Since last years report, house prices within the District have continued to fall due to the economic downturn which has continued in to 2009. The fall in prices across Lichfield District is in line with national and regional trends. Whilst the District's house prices have fallen they are on average £35,747 more expensive than the West Midlands averages and this re-affirms Lichfield's position as one of the most desirable Districts to live within the West Midlands.

## Crime

**3.30** Lichfield District is served by the Trent Valley District of the Staffordshire Police force, which also serves Tamworth Borough Council and East Staffordshire Borough Council. The crime statistics shown below are taken from the Lichfield District Safer Community Partnership's Annual Strategic Assessment which monitors crime statistics in great detail. A summary of the main findings is provided below.

Type of Crime	Incidents recorded		Source
	2007/2008	2008/2009	
ALL RECORDED CRIME	5,756	5,688	Lichfield District Safer Community Partnership - Annual Strategic Report 2008 - 2009
Domestic Burglaries	344	280	
Anti-social behaviour	3,646	3,678	
Violent Crime	1,189	1,159	
Vehicle Crime - theft of motor vehicle	199	186	
Vehicle Crime - theft from motor vehicle	493	551	
Arson	34	44	
Criminal damage	1,216	1,126	

Table 3.11 Crime levels

**3.31** Incidents of reported crime have decreased slightly since last year. Areas where there has been a minor reduction in crime are domestic burglaries, violent crime and theft of motor vehicles. Conversely there have been slight increases in instances of anti-social behaviour, theft from motor vehicles, arson and criminal damage. Anti-social behaviour still accounts for over half of the incidents reported and the Council and other bodies remain committed to targeting reduction.

**3.32** Table 3.12 shows all the reported crimes within Staffordshire for the three months prior to the compilation of data for this report, and the corresponding data for the previous year. The data indicates that Lichfield has a low crime rate within the Staffordshire Police Forces control and that the number of offences reported is declining.

Police Division	District Authority	All Offences Reported		Source
		2008 (Aug, Sept, Oct)	2009 (Aug, Sept, Oct)	
Trent Valley Police Division	Lichfield District Council	1320	1245	Staffordshire Police Force Crime Statistics
	Tamworth Borough Council	1644	1447	
	East Staffordshire Borough Council	2236	1836	
Stoke-on-Trent Police Division	Stoke-on-Trent City Council	7434	6873	

Police Division	District Authority	All Offences Reported		Source
		2008 (Aug, Sept, Oct)	2009 (Aug, Sept, Oct)	
North Staffordshire Police Division	Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council	2346	1986	Police
	Staffordshire Moorlands Council	1424	1270	
Chase Police Division	Stafford Borough Council	2108	1966	
	South Staffordshire Borough Council	1883	1658	
	Cannock Chase Council	1748	1729	

**Table 3.12 All Crimes Reported in three months prior to report and same three months in 2008**

## 4 Business Development

**4.1** Lichfield District has a healthy economy, the previous section highlighted the District's fairly low levels of unemployment and the excellent transport links which make the area a prime location for inward investment. Most of the employment within the District is located at employment parks at Burntwood and Fradley and, to a lesser extent, Lichfield, along with a large number of jobs within Lichfield City Centre. The Council monitors new and existing locations of business land to ensure that sites are being utilised to their full and most appropriate use. The Council also maintains a broad portfolio of sites which can be used to attract new investment to the District.

**4.2** Many of the indicators in this chapter involve the 'use classes order' which is used to classify all building uses within the planning process. Table 4.1 provides definitions of these classes:

Use Class Order	Definition
A1	<b>Shops</b> - retail sale of goods to the public, includes hire shops and services such as hairdressers, undertakers, dry cleaners, internet cafés and food stores which sell food to be eaten off the premises.
A2	<b>Financial and Professional Services</b> - banks, building societies and Bureau de Change. Also services such as estate agents, and betting shops. Principally where services are provided to visiting members of the public.
B1a)	<b>Business</b> - Offices other than those in use within Class A2.
B1b)	<b>Business</b> - Research and Development: laboratories and studios.
B1c)	<b>Business</b> - Light Industry and small scale industry.
B2	<b>General Industry</b> - General Industry and any other that is not classified under Class B1.
B8	<b>Storage and Distribution</b> - storage and distribution centres, wholesale warehouses and repositories.
D2	<b>Assembly and leisure</b> - cinemas, dance and concert halls, sports and leisure facilities such as gyms, swimming pools, casinos and bingo halls.

Table 4.1 Definitions of Use Class Order

### Core Output Indicator BD1: Total amount of additional employment floorspace

Development	Application Reference	Area (Ha)	Total floor space all types (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1a) floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1b) floors pace comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1c) floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B2 floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B8 floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	Demolition of emp. floor space
City Wharf	06/00308/REM	0.5	5000	5000	-	-	-	-	Yes (m <sup>2</sup> unknown)
Greenhough Road	06/01000/FULM	0.53	5300	5300	-	-	-	-	-

Development	Application Reference	Area (Ha)	Total floor space all types (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1a) floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1b) floors pace comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B1c) floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B2 floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	B8 floor space comp. (m <sup>2</sup> )	Demolition of emp. floor space
BBP Zone 2 Plant Lane - Council Depot	06/00063/FULM	0.11	600	-	-	600	-	510	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.14</b>	<b>10900</b>	<b>10300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>Yes (m<sup>2</sup> unknown)</b>

Table 4.2 Completed employment floorspace

**4.3** During 2008-2009 there has been a very small amount of new employment land within the District. The figures are considerably lower than last year due to the development of Tesco distribution centre at Fradley Park. Figures of development are low across all areas of development due to the effects of the economic downturn.

#### Core Output Indicator BD2: Total amount of floorspace built on previously developed land

Total floorspace built on previously developed land	Amount of B1 floorspace built on previously developed land	Amount of B2 floorspace built on previously developed land	Amount of B8 floorspace built on previously developed land	Target (outlined Last year)
100%	100%	-	100%	100%

Table 4.3 Floorspace on previously developed land

**4.4** The target set last year sought a minimum of 75% of employment development to occur on previously developed land. As with last year, all development this year has been achieved on previously developed land.

**4.5** The target should continue to be a minimum of 75% on previously developed land, and with all but one of the potential sites allocated in the current Local Plan being brownfield sites, the District Council should continue to achieve the target set.

#### Core Output Indicator BD3: Employment land available - by type

Development	Application Number	Total Land available for all types (Ha)	Land available for B1 development (Ha)	Land available for B2 development (Ha)	Land available for B8 development (Ha)	Land Status
Boley Park Extension	07/00568/OUTM	12.4*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Britannia Way	-	2.5*	-	-	-	LP Allocation



Development	Application Number	Total Land available for all types (Ha)	Land available for B1 development (Ha)	Land available for B2 development (Ha)	Land available for B8 development (Ha)	Land Status
Burntwood BP Zone 5	-	11.2*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Burntwood BP Zone 1	07/00356/FUL	0.09	0.09	-	-	LP Allocation
Burntwood BP Zone 1	07/00091/FUL	0.53*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Burntwood BP Zone 1	-	0.17*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Burntwood BP Zone 1	-	0.9*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Fradley Zone 1	-	0.39*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Fradley Zone 1	-	3.33*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Fradley Phase 2	-	49.3*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Fradley Phase 3	-	18.6*	-	-	-	LP Allocation
Rugeley ERZ	03/00627/OUT	4.46*	-	-	-	Not Started
Former Lucas Site	07/00563/FULM	1.79	0.18	0.19	-	Not Started
193 Cannock Road	08/00045/FUL	0.059	0.059	-	-	Not Started
Trent Valley Road	07/00083/OUTM	0.447	0.327	0.067	0.525	Not Started
BBP Zone 3	05/00935/FULM	1	-	-	1	Not Started
Former Integra and Hepworth Site	08/01271/FULM	4.52*	-	-	-	Started
<b>Total</b>		<b>111.686</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>0.257</b>	<b>0.525</b>	

Table 4.4 Land available by class order

\* denotes applications where employment land is designated as a mixture of B1, B2 and B8 without a further break down.

**4.6** Lichfield District has 111.686 Ha of employment land available for employment development. Of this figure only 4.52 Ha is currently under construction although a further 20.776 Ha has the benefit of planning permission for employment development. This means that there is a good supply of land which is being maintained for employment use to enhance the District's employment and economy in the future.

**4.7** That leaves 98.51 Ha which is open for development and identified and allocated within the current Lichfield Local Plan. The majority of this land is previously developed and means that the District will be able to build new employment land without impacting upon greenfield sites/the Green Belt. The 12 Ha of land at Boley Park remains the only greenfield employment site allocated.

**4.8** Large areas of land can be found at the large employment parks at Burntwood and Fradley, these sites continue to be the major areas targeted for employment development.

#### Local Indicator 1.1 Employment land supply

Land Status	Total Area (Ha)
Local Plan Allocation	98.51
Outline Permission	17.307
Full Permission (construction not started)	3.469
Under Construction	4.52
Built 2008/2009	1.14

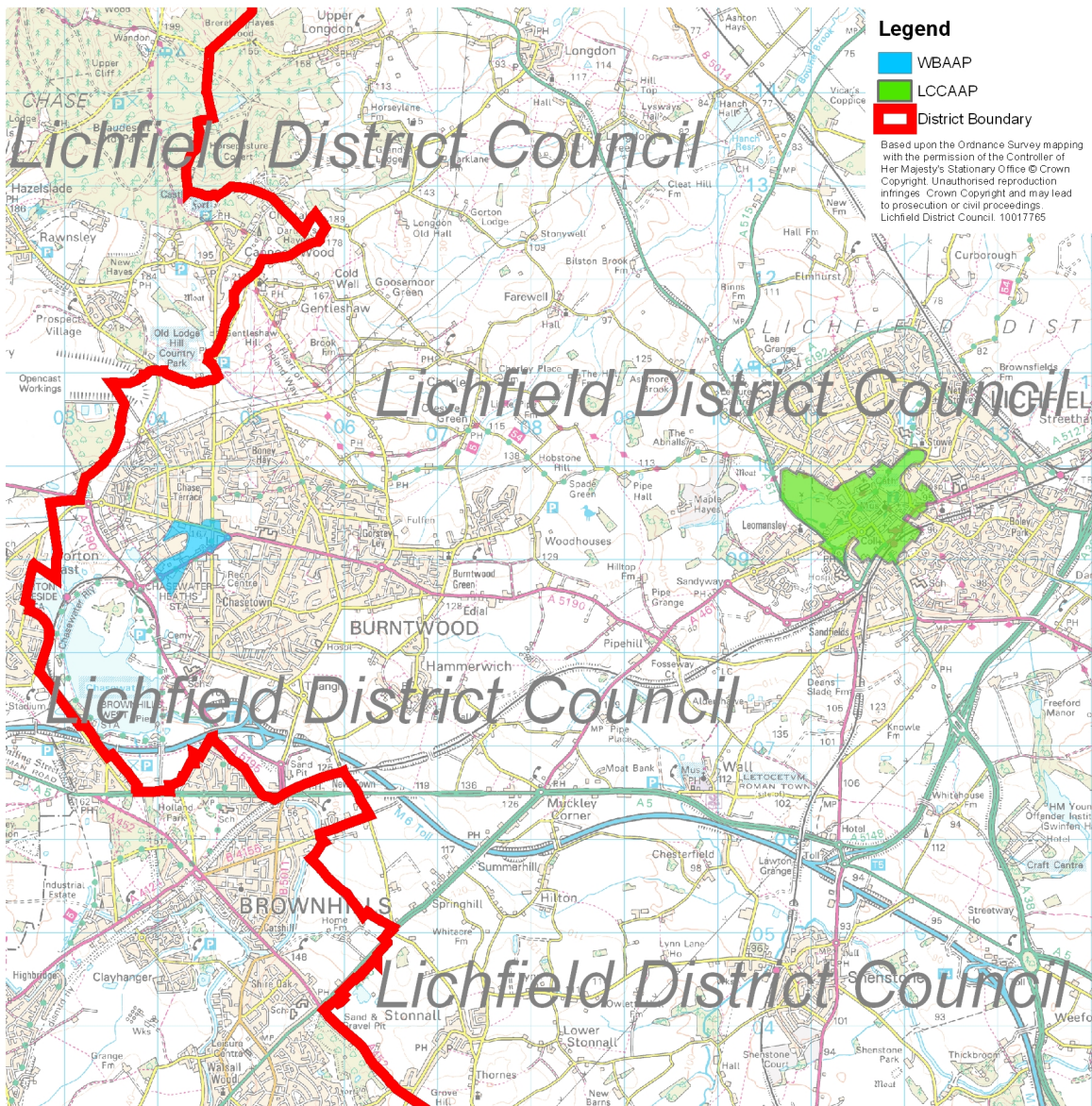
Table 4.5 Land Status and Supply (B1, B2 & B8)

**4.9** There is a healthy supply of land which is prime for employment development, the largest site within the Local Plan Allocation is the 49.3 Ha site at Fradley phase 2. All of the land within this allocation is available for B1, B2 and B8 uses.

**4.10** There is a further 3.469 Ha of land which has been granted full planning permission and is awaiting construction commencement.

#### Core Output Indicator BD4: Total amount of floorspace for town centre uses - by type

**4.11** Indicator BD4 examines the extent to which development is occurring within the urban area. Town centre uses are specified as type A1, A2, B1a and D2 classes for the purposes of monitoring. For the purpose of this report the Districts 'town centres' will be defined as those identified within the Lichfield City Centre Area Action Plan (LCCAAP) and the West Burntwood Area Action Plan (WBAAP). Map 4.1 Illustrates the two town centre areas within the District.



Map 4.1 Town Centres

	Total Amount of A1 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of A2 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of B1a) floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of D2 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Loss of floorspace (type and amount m <sup>2</sup> )	Gross new floorspace (m <sup>2</sup> )	Net new floorspace (m <sup>2</sup> )
In town centres	169	0	0	0	170 (A1)	169	-1

	Total Amount of A1 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of A2 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of B1a) floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Total Amount of D2 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Loss of floorspace (type and amount m <sup>2</sup> )	Gross new floorspace (m <sup>2</sup> )	Net new floorspace (m <sup>2</sup> )
Not in town centres	9984.4	0	0	0	49.94 (A2) 55.46 (B1) 8289 (A1)	9984.4	1591

Table 4.6 New floorspace for 'town centre' uses

Development	Reference	Floorspace (m <sup>2</sup> )	Floorspace Type	In Towncentre?
19A Tamworth Street, Lichfield	08/01284/FUL	169	A1	Yes
6 Water Street, Burntwood	09/00195/COU	49.94	A1 (from A2)	No
Block A, City Wharf	08/01287/COU	55.46	A1 (from B1)	No - (edge of)
Tesco redevelopment, Birmingham Road, Lichfield	07/00369/FULM	9,879	A1	No - (edge of)

Table 4.7 Table of developments contributing to BD4

**4.12** There have been a very small number of small scale developments in the past year which have contributed to this indicator. There has been a combined gross completion of 10,153.4m<sup>2</sup> of 'town centre' uses, with 1.6% of this figure actually located within the identified town centre boundaries. This is due to the large scale Tesco redevelopment which lies just outside of the town centre boundary. As these schemes were part of conversions and redevelopment, there has been a net gain of 1,591m<sup>2</sup>. As the District's town centre areas are small and limited this makes it unrealistic to concentrate all development within them, however, steps are taken to ensure that town centre locations are given priority in accordance with PPS 3. Further studies are currently being undertaken to assess office capacity within Lichfield City as the strategic centre.

### Local Indicator 1.2 & 1.3: Town Centre Completions & Location of Completed Developments

Type of Floorspace	Percentage (%)	Target
% of B1a) floorspace completed in town centres	0	No development outside town centres without justification
% of B1b) floorspace completed in town centres	0	
% of B1c) floorspace completed in town centres	0	
% of B2 floorspace completed in town centres	0	
% of B8 floorspace completed in town centres	0	

Type of Floorspace	Percentage (%)	Target
% of all floorspace in town centres	0%	

**Table 4.8 Employment Completions within town centres**

Development	Total Floor Space - all types (m <sup>2</sup> )	Type B1a) floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Type B1b) floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Type bB1c) floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Type B2 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Type B8 floorspace completed (m <sup>2</sup> )	In Town Centre?
City Wharf	0.5	5000	-	-	-	-	No
Greenhough Road	0.53	5300	-	-	-	-	No
BBP Zone 2 Plant Lane - Council Depot	0.11	-	-	600	-	510	No
Total	1.14	10300	-	600	-	510	

**Table 4.9 Location of New Employment Development**

**4.13** 100% of completions within the District have occurred outside of the town centre areas but within the settlement boundaries.

**Key Findings:**

**One**

There has been a low level of completions of employment floorspace within the District during 2008/09 due to the economic downturn.

**Two**

There have been few developments within town centres, due to existing permissions on other brownfield sites within settlements but also due to the economic downturn. One of the targets for the coming year is to improve upon the level of town centre development.

**Three**

Lichfield District maintains a large portfolio of sites which are suitable for a range of business uses, although a large proportion of the 111.686Ha available is located at one site, the Fradley industrial estate (71.62Ha). These sites are available for all types of business use which allows for a range of opportunities.

## **Four**

The Council continues to achieve in locating new employment land on previously developed land, thus reducing the environmental impact that such developments can have.

### **Actions**

- 4.14** To continue to encourage more office and employment development within the main centres to support and where possible enhance the sustainability of the towns.
- 4.15** Continue to ensure that no land is lost to non-business use without justification.
- 4.16** The District should maintain a wide portfolio of potential employment sites, which will be attractive to inward investment and ensure that the sites are of good quality.

## 5 Housing

**5.1** Lichfield District Council faces significant housing pressures. Dwellings within Lichfield District are highly sought after due to the District's location and good accessibility to the West Midlands Conurbation. This is coupled with the historic nature and attractive qualities of the settlements and countryside.

**5.2** The local indicators in this section are tailored to consider important issues regarding affordability and the demand for affordable housing within the District. The introductory section highlighted that houses within Lichfield District are significantly more expensive than the national average, so affordability in the District is a serious issue, and the lack of affordable housing within the District has been identified as a problem in a number of reports.

**5.3** One of the key elements in meeting social needs is meeting housing demands. The housing needs survey was conducted in 2003, a Strategic Housing Market Assessment was published in 2008 and Rural Housing Needs Survey was published in January 2009. The key findings of the reports were:

- Communities in Lichfield are generally well settled. 51% of all households in the District have been living at their current address for 10 years or more;
- Affordability is a major issue within the District, due to the affordability index being high, especially for first time buyers;
- There is a requirement to develop a more balanced housing stock with the need for more flats and 1 and 2 bedroom properties. This is an assumption that is supported by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2008.

### Core Output Indicator H1: Plan Period Housing Targets

**5.4** The current plan period covers a 25 year period from 2001 to 2026. During this period Lichfield District has a housing target of 6,500 new dwellings (part amended in 2008). This target comes from the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) which was adopted in 2004 and is the plan which the District Council is currently working to.

**5.5** The adopted RSS is currently subject to a phased review, with the phase 2 revision considering housing supply in the region. The RSS preferred option for this report was to increase Lichfield District's housing target to 8,000 dwellings between 2006 and 2026. The Phase 2 Revision was subject to an Examination in Public during the summer of 2009, and the results of this will be published in the Modifications Document at the end of 2009.

**5.6** To deliver 8,000 dwellings between 2006 and 2026 will require a substantial increase over current requirements and equates to some 400 new dwellings per annum. The District Council is currently formulating a Local Development Framework which will need to demonstrate that an increased rate of housing development can be delivered allowing for flexibility to satisfy any final, adopted RSS target. The number of completions in previous years has been well above the 400 that may be needed, however this reporting year shows a significant decrease in housing completions.

Plan Period	Number of Dwellings
RSS Housing Requirement 2001-2026 (adopted 2004)	6,500

Plan Period	Number of Dwellings
RSS Phase 2 Revision Preferred Option 2006-2026 (subject to Examination in Public summer 2009)	8,000

Table 5.1 Plan Period and Housing Targets

### Core Output Indicator H2a & H2b: Net Additional Dwellings - in previous years and for the reporting year

**5.7** Lichfield District continues to grow annually with the housing targets adopted from the current, adopted RSS requiring an average of at least 260 completions per annum.

H2a: Additional Dwellings in Previous Years	Number of Dwellings
Gross Completions 2001-2008	3,876
Demolitions 2001-2008	84
Net Completions 2001-2008	3,792
H2b: Additional Dwellings for the Reporting Year	Number of Dwellings
Gross Completions	281
Demolitions	4
Net Completions	277

Table 5.2 Additional Dwellings

**5.8** In the previous years of the plan period there was an average of 541 dwellings built per year. These high numbers could be attributed in part to a number of large commitments in the District such as the Walsall Road, Bison Concrete, City Wharf and Chesterfield Road developments. The current year of 2008/09 has seen a much lower average of dwellings built, which may be attributed to the economic downturn.

**5.9** Lichfield District does continue to be a popular location for developers with more large developments at pre-application stage. Publication of a the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (May 2009) suggests that there is a good supply of deliverable sites that are due to come forward over the short to medium term. The sites could continue to deliver dwellings to meet the current RSS target and assist in planning for any increase in the Districts annual requirement.



## Local Indicator 2.1: Density of Completions

	Less than 30 per Ha	Between 30 and 50 per Ha	More than 50 per Ha
% of new dwellings completed at:	46.6%	39.0%	14.4%

Table 5.3 Density of Completions

- It is national guidance to seek to achieve an indicative density of at least 30 dwellings per hectare on new developments and within Lichfield District this is achieved in just over half of the cases, with 53.4% of new developments being built above this density.
- The average density of new builds is 31 dwellings per hectare, which is significantly lower than the 39.3 dwellings per hectare as recorded last year. This is likely to be attributed to the large number of small windfall sites completed during this year and few larger sites which generally achieve higher density.

## Local Indicator 2.2: Dwellings Mix

**5.10** The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) published in November 2008 identifies variations in the dwellings mix within the District. The District has a low supply of smaller, more affordable dwellings, with a shortage in 1 and 2 bed terraces and apartments specifically identified. There is a much larger proportion of larger homes within the District, especially in Lichfield City, where there is a shortfall of properties with less than 4 bedrooms. The assessment also highlights a low supply of social housing within the District.

Housing Type	Count	Percentage
H1 (1 bed house)	2	0.7%
H2 (2 bed house)	26	9.4%
H3 (3 bed house)	88	31.8%
H4 (4 bed house)	64	23.1%
H5 (5 bed house)	18	6.5%
F1 (1 bed flat)	11	4.1%
F2 (2 bed flat)	41	14.8%
F3 (3 bed flat)	9	3.2%
B2 (2 bed bungalow)	6	2.1%
B3 (3 bed bungalow)	9	3.2%
B4 (4 bed bungalow)	2	0.7%
B5 (5 bed bungalow)	1	0.3%

Table 5.4 Housing types completed 2007/08

Number of Bedrooms	% 2006/07	% 2007/08	% 2008/2009
1 Bed	11	7.7	4.7
2 Bed	31	37.9	26.4
3 Bed	26	23.7	38.3
4 Bed	(4+) 32	25	23.8
5 Bed	-	5.7	6.9

Table 5.5 Completions by Number of Bedrooms

**5.11** Last years AMR saw a high proportion of 2 bed completions (38%) contributing to the target set by the SHMA. This year sees the balance shift towards 3 bed dwellings which now holds the highest proportion of dwellings built. Again, this could be due to the large amount of small windfall sites completed this year, as opposed to larger sites. This is an area which will need to be monitored closely next year to ensure the provision of 2 bed dwellings continues to grow.

#### Core Output Indicator H2c & H2d: Net Additional Dwellings in Future Years & Managed Delivery Target

**5.12** Table 5.6 is the housing trajectory for the District for the current plan period. The trajectory contains past completions from 2005/2006 until the end of the current reporting year. The remainder of the trajectory shows the anticipated future growth of the District, and we can assess whether the District is on target to meet its housing targets.

**5.13** The trajectory is based on a number of factors and assumptions:

- Gross Housing Completions and net completions for 2005 to 2009 are provided from annual monitoring of completions.
- The trajectory runs for the period of the RSS Phase 2 Revision.
- The projections for net completions for 2009/10 to 2011/12 are based on the Assessment of 5 Year Housing Land Supply which was published by Lichfield District Council in April 2009. The figures do not take into consideration the current economic climate which could impact on housing delivery. This will need to be considered in future assessments of 5 Year Housing Land Supply and fed into any future AMR.
- The further anticipated supply of housing is based on the average annual number of completions which would allow the District to meet the targets specified in the RSS with the flexibility to meet the potential increase to numbers.

Year	Gross Housing Completions	Net Housing Completions	Cumulative Net Completions
2006/2007	304	296	296
2007/2008	583	581	877
2008/2009	281	277	1154
2009/2010	-	681	2008
2010/2011	-	564	2572
2011/2012	-	545	3117

Year	Gross Housing Completions	Net Housing Completions	Cumulative Net Completions
2012/2013	-	281	3398
2013/2014	-	400	3798
2014/2015	-	400	4198
2015/2016	-	400	4598
2016/2017	-	400	4998
2017/2018	-	400	5398
2018/2019	-	400	5798
2019/2020	-	400	6198
2020/2021	-	400	6598
2021/2022	-	400	6998
2022/2023	-	400	7398
2023/2024	-	400	7798
2024/2025	-	400	8198
2025/2026	-	400	8598
<b>Total</b>		<b>8598</b>	

Table 5.6 Housing Trajectory

**5.14** Whilst Lichfield was exceeding the targets for housebuilding in previous years, the current year has seen a significant decrease in housebuilding due to the onset of the recession. This looks set to continue into next year due to viability issues for developers.

**5.15** As well as the effects of the recession, completions could continue to tail off unless further housing allocations are made, or additional sites come forward, for development. The District Council published the first version of Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) in May 2009 which identified 521 potential housing sites within the District with 6376 dwellings identified as deliverable. This document enables the Council to continue to plan, whilst highlighting flexibility to accommodate future RSS targets. The updated version of the SHLAA is due to be republished early 2010.

### Core Output Indicator H3: New & Converted Dwellings - on previously developed land

**5.16** It is important to monitor the quantity of new dwellings which have been built on previously developed land. In terms of sustainability it is important to bring derelict land back to good economic use and development on brownfield sites is seen as preferable and more sustainable than greenfield builds.

	Number of Dwellings	Percentage
Brownfield	219	79%
Greenfield	58	21%

Table 5.7 Dwellings completed by land type

**5.17** There has been a significant increase in the proportion of completions on brownfield sites this year exceeding the 45% target as set by the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Structure Plan. Last year only 53.1% of dwellings were built on previously developed land.

**5.18** A significant proportion of the completions during 2008/09 have occurred at small windfall sites and conversions. This could be attributed to the effect of the recession on the major house builders. Whilst the supply of brownfield sites available for development within the District still remains relatively high, there will still need to be greenfield releases to deliver any increased strategic housing requirement in the future.

**5.19** It is important to continue to encourage development on previously developed land to protect the green belt and the existing landscapes within Lichfield District. Whilst it would be impossible to stop all development on greenfield sites it is important to realise that brownfield sites too can have significant ecological value. With this in mind the District will strive to meet its target in terms of brownfield development whilst considering the ecological impacts of any alternatives.

**5.20** It is likely that future development will require building on greenfield land to meet the housing targets as the amount of vacant or underused brownfield land reduces.

Dwellings Completed on Brownfield	Number of Dwellings	Dwellings Completed on Greenfield	Number of Dwellings
Windfall	77	Windfall	4
Plan Allocation	0	Plan Allocation	5
Small Windfall	123	Small Windfall	11
Conversion	19	Conversion	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>

Table 5.8 Dwellings completed on Brownfield and Greenfield

#### Core Output Indicator H4: Net Additional Pitches (Gypsy & Traveller)

Existing pitches lost	0
New pitches	0 (subject to change)

Table 5.9 Pitches for Gypsy & Traveller

**5.21** Since last year's report there has been no change in pitch provision across the District. The planning application to increase the number of pitches at the Coleshill Street, Fazeley site from 2 to 8 is still pending due to the need for additional information.

**5.22** Lichfield District Council monitors the number of gypsy sites and caravans in the District and provides returns to the government bi-annually for the national 'Bi-yearly Gypsy & Traveller and Caravan Count'.

#### Local Indicator 2.3: Number of unauthorised gypsy/traveller caravans

	2008	Source
Number of unauthorised caravans	3 <sup>(vi)</sup>	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Report 2008. LDC Housing Department.

Table 5.10 Unauthorised Caravans

**5.23** The District Council aims to ensure adequate provision on authorised sites. The results of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Report suggests that there is currently an unmet demand for pitches within the District. The District Council will look to deal with provision positively through the formulation of policies to be contained within the Core Strategy.

**5.24** There is one unauthorised site at Mile Oak, where the land has been purchased by the occupiers, but planning permission has been refused following an appeal for authorised pitches at the site.

#### Core Output Indicator H5: Gross Affordable Housing Completions

**5.25** Lichfield District has an identified deficit of affordable and social housing, particularly in the main urban areas of Lichfield City and Burntwood. The District Council has published an interim Affordable Housing Policy in December 2007 which reflects new national guidance set out in PPS3 (Housing). This looks to increase delivery of affordable housing through the reduction of the site size threshold from 25 dwellings to 15. The policy should increase the provision of affordable housing within the District by bringing affordable housing forward on smaller sites and developments than in the past. The number of affordable completions is significantly lower than last year however, due to an overall decline in the number of completions across the District, reflecting the effects of the recession.

Development	Completions	Under Construction
Bison Concrete	2 (shared equity)	10
Hammerwich Hospital	4	5
Walsall Road Phase VI	2	0
Chesterfield Road Allocation	0	17
<b>Gross Completions</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>

Table 5.11 Affordable Completions

**5.26** The gross completions of 8 affordable dwellings represents a significant decrease from 79 dwellings in 2007/2008. It equates to approximately 3% of the total completions in the District.

**5.27** There are a further 32 affordable dwellings which are under construction, with many more committed, which will further increase the District's provision.

#### Local Indicator 2.4: Developed and Committed Affordable Housing by Sub Area

vi can vary dependent on day of survey

Housing market Sub Area (SHMA)	Committed/Under Construction	Completed 2007/2008
Lichfield City	62	4
Burntwood	8	4
Lichfield District North	183	0
Lichfield District South	0	0
Tamworth	26	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>8</b>

Table 5.12 Developed and Committed Affordable Housing

**5.28** There are a further 279 affordable dwellings which are either under construction or committed within the District which could be completed over the next five years.

**5.29** 65.6% of these dwellings will be constructed in the Rural North sub area, this includes developments at a number of the key rural settlements located within the area.

**5.30** Burntwood has only 8 affordable dwellings committed or under construction which is low considering that Burntwood is a large settlement seen as having deficiencies in affordable housing provision.

**5.31** Lichfield City has a higher number of 62 affordable dwellings committed or under construction which is important as the city has been identified as one of the most deficient areas with regards to affordable housing.

### Local Indicator LI 2.8: Affordable Housing Viability

This indicator is new for this reporting year. It has been included as an indicator of housing demand and value which may be important for future viability analysis. In order to do this, three components are also taken in to account, the Halifax House Price Index, the BCIS General Building Cost Index and VOA Alternative Land Use Value.

#### Halifax House Price Index

Figures are for England and Wales.

Period	Index (1983 = 100)	Standardised Average Price (£)	Source
February 2009	519.1	160,390	Lloyds Banking Group
April 2009	500.0	154,490	
October 2009	535.1	165,349	

Table 5.13 Halifax House Price Index

## BCIS General Building Cost Index

The BCIS Index Number, which is important in calculating development viability was 286.3 (March 2009).

## Alternative Land Use Value

The table below shows alternative land values, using the best data available. Alternative land values may impact upon viability of future residential schemes and therefore it is important to have an understanding of the market economy.

Use	Type	July 2008 (£ per ha)	January 2009 (£ per ha)	July 2009 (£ per ha)	Source	
Industrial	low	Tamworth	350,000	250,000	250,000	VOA Property Market Reports
		Birmingham	500,000	450,000	450,000	
	high	Tamworth	600,000	550,000	550,000	
		Birmingham	1,300,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	
	typical	Tamworth	500,000	400,000	400,000	
		Birmingham	900,000	800,000	800,000	
Agricultural	-	25,000	-	-	VOA Property Market Report July 2008 and Fordhams Research 2009	
Garden land	-	250,000	-	-	VOA Property Market Report July 2008 and Fordhams Research 2009	

Table 5.14 Alternative Land Use

Using the figures as summarised above it is possible to calculate a viable affordable housing quota. The table below, shows that the current viable affordable housing target is 20%. The Council's target of 40% has not been met and this can be attributed to the economic downturn. The aim for the future will be to increase the viable affordable housing target.

	February 2009 (%)	April 2009 (%)
Suggested Viable Affordable Housing Target	20	20

Table 5.15 Suggested Affordable Housing Viability Target

## Core Output Indicator H6: Building for Life Assessments

**5.32** This indicator is designed to monitor the number and proportion of new build completions at housing sites, which exceed 10 new dwellings, that achieve very good, good, average and poor against the CABE Building for Life criteria. The CABE criteria is a government endorsed assessment which has been designed to ensure new housing meets the housing quality standards set out in PPS3 (Housing). As more projects are assessed to the Building for Life criteria at the planning application stage, the level of criteria met should increase. Each development is assessed against a series of 20 criteria and given a total score out of 20.

Development	Application Number	Number of Dwellings	Buildings for Life Score	Buildings for Life Classification
13-19 Church Street, Chasetown	06/00200/FULM	17	12	Average
26-28 Bird Street	06/01107/FULM	19	12.5	Average
Former Arts Centre	04/00805/FUL	12	12	Average
Bison Concrete	03/01507/REM	175	11	Average

Table 5.16 Building for life

**5.33** All of the developments assessed received a grade of average on CABE's Buildings for Life assessment. It should be noted that on some schemes, certain criteria cannot be easily applied as they are not relevant and they receive scores of 0. This may skew results to show a lower score than fairly deserved. In addition, some schemes were granted planning permission before such assessments were in place and there is a lag effect with these coming forward. The monitoring of this indicator may be subject to change in order to link effectively with the emerging Core Strategy.

#### Local Indicators Housing:

**5.34** The following table displays a number of local indicators for housing. The Affordability Index highlights how affordable an area is to live in by dividing house price by income, the lower the figure the more affordable the areas is to live in (based on median price, median earnings). This year the affordability ratio has decreased, however the figure continues to be high as identified within the SHMA.

**5.35** The number of home adaptations has decreased since last year, however this is a demand based indicator so the lower figure does not necessarily reflect badly upon the District.

Indicator	Indicator Title	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
LI 2.5	Affordability Index. Price:Income affordability ratio <sup>(vii)</sup>	7.91	8.82	7.78
LI 2.6	Number of home adaptations completed <sup>(viii)</sup>	55	71	50
LI2.7	Dwellings built on exception sites	0	0	0

Table 5.17 Housing Local Indicators

#### Key Findings

##### One

The District's housing completion rates have fallen due to the recession and slow down of housebuilding on large sites. RSS requirements are currently being met, however this will need to be reviewed into next year.

vii Source- Communities and Local Government

viii Source LDC Housing-



## **Two**

The SHLAA has identified 512 potential development sites within the District with 6376 dwellings identified as deliverable. This will help the Council to meet the requirements set out in the RSS moving past the 5 year supply.

## **Three**

The District Council continues to plan with the flexibility to meet the outcome of the RSS Phase 2 Revision which has the potential to significantly increase the housing targets to 2026.

## **Four**

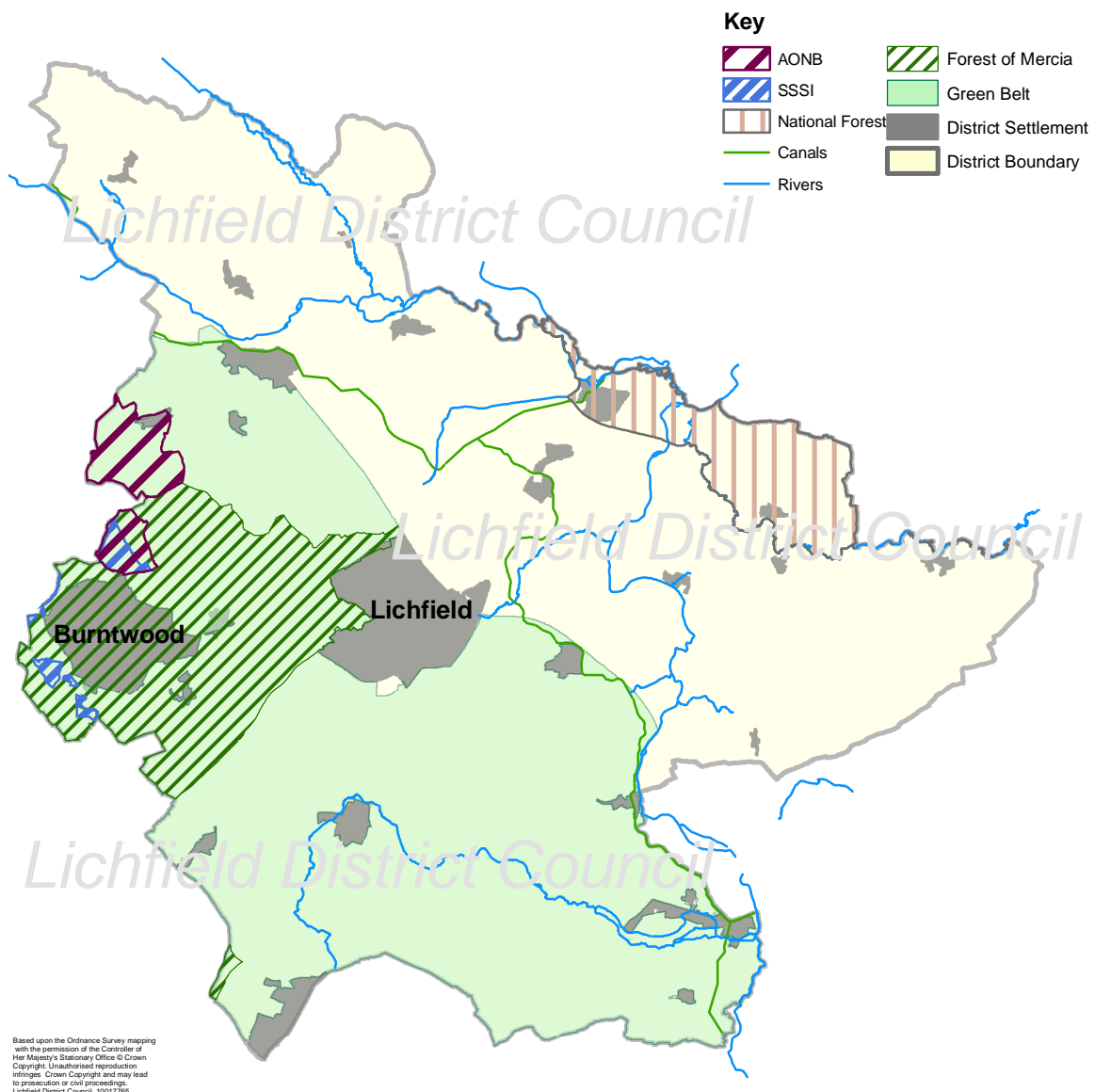
The majority of housing developments within the District are completed to a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare. Although some developments fall below this requirement the average density of completions across the District is 31 dwellings per hectare, which is just above the government guideline.

## **Five**

The target for housing development on previously developed land was met again this year, with 79% of all completions taking place on brownfield sites.

## 6 Environmental Quality

**6.1** The landscape of Lichfield District is rich and varied due to underlying variations in geology and the presence of two major river valleys of the River Trent and River Tame. To the north and north east of the District lies the Trent Valley washlands and significant levels of quality agricultural land that make up the Mease Lowlands. The District also includes part of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and the reservoir of Chasewater near Burntwood. Around half of the District is covered by green belt land (south east) which contains some high quality rural landscapes. There are also numerous protected areas within the District of different designations including the Mease Special Area of Conservation, designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sites of Biological Interest and Biodiversity Alert Sites.



Map 6.1 District Key Nature Designations

**6.2** This section of the AMR which deals with environmental factors, combines the core output indicators for environmental quality along with a number of local indicators which assess in detail the quality of the natural environment within the District.

**Core Output Indicator E1: Number of Planning Permissions Granted Contrary to Environment Agency Advice on flooding and Water Quality Grounds**

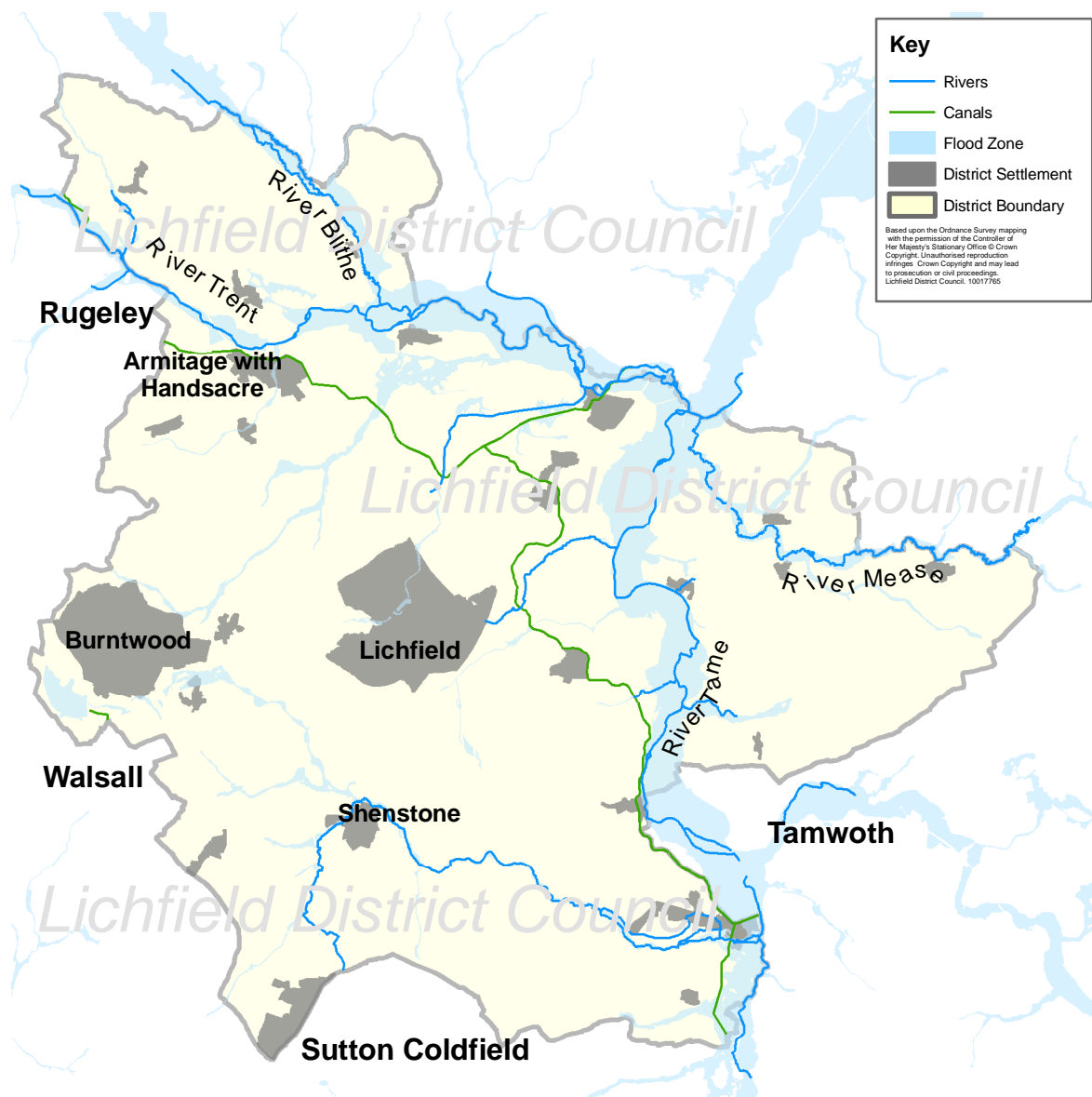
**6.3** There are a number of areas within the District which are at risk of flooding, due to the rivers (River Mease, River Trent, River Tame and River Blithe) which flow through the District and these areas have been identified through the recently published Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The rivers largely run through agricultural land so the risk to larger settlements is limited, although there are some areas which have been known to experience levels of flooding in the past such as Elford and Fazeley.

	2007/2008	2008/2009	Targets
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice	0	0	0

**Table 6.1 Permissions granted contrary to EA advice**

**6.4** There have been no permissions granted which run contrary to the advice given by the Environment Agency - this was the target set last year and should remain the target for future years. The District Council is accepting the advice of the Environment Agency regarding development in areas of flood risk and water quality grounds and this should continue to be the case.

**6.5** The publication of the SFRA has identified areas of flood risk within the District and the document will be used to help guide future development, avoiding these sensitive areas. The areas of flood risk are identified on map 6.1 along with the District's water courses and canals.



Map 6.2 Water Courses &amp; Flood Risk

### Local Indicator 3.1: Water Quality

**6.6** There are a number of rivers and water courses within the District including the River Trent. There are also a number of smaller rivers and tributaries, along with three major canals which intersect within Lichfield District at Fradley Junction. The Environment Agency monitors the water quality across the country and table 6.3 shows the most recent results for the General Quality Assessment (GQA) of water courses within the District. There is one special area for conservation of water courses in the District and this is a section of the River Mease where the quality is essential to the habitat of a protected species.

**6.7** Key to scoring: Chemistry and Biology A (very good) to F (bad). Phosphate and Nitrate 1 (very low) to 6 (very high). Very high levels of nutrients may occur naturally and may not necessarily be bad for the environment.

Watercourse	Location	Chemistry		Biology		Phosphate		Nitrate	
		2006	2008	2006	2008	2006	2008	2006	2008
River Trent	Bishton Road Bridge to River Blithe	C	C	C	C	5	5	6	5
River Mease	Hooborough Brook to Mill Farm	B	A	B	B	5	5	6	6
River Tame	River Anker to Elford Road Bridge	D	C	C	C	6	6	6	6
Black/Bourne Brook	London Road to River Tame	B	A	D	D	6	6	6	6
Swarbourn River	Newborough STW to River Trent	A	A	B	A	5	5	4	4
River Blithe	Blithfield Reservoir overflow to River Trent	B	B	B	B	5	5	4	4
Birmingham & Fazeley Canal	Fazeley to Minworth Bottom Lock	D	D	F	F	2	1	2	2
Trent & Mersey Canal	Coventry Canal to River Trent, Wychnor	B	A	C	F	2	2	2	3
Coventry Canal	B'ham & Fazeley Canal to Trent & Mersey Canal	N/A	C	N/A	A	N/A	2	N/A	2

**Table 6.2 Environment Agency Water Quality Table**

Source: The Environment Agency website 'What's in your backyard'

**6.8** The method of data collection used by Environment Agency has changed in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. This means that there are fewer sampling points this year and may mean that the index will be subject to change in future monitoring reports.

**6.9** The Birmingham and Fazeley Canal represents the poorest stretches of water within the District. The Trent and Mersey Canal has also seen a decline in its biological quality since the last survey in 2006. This could be attributed to the pressure that canals face from recreation and constant use by people and narrowboats.

**6.10** The River Mease (SAC) is the best quality watercourse in the District and now scores 'very good' for chemistry. The River Tame has also improved in terms of chemical quality and now reaches a score of 'fairly good'.

## Core Output Indicator E2: Changes in Areas of Biodiversity Importance

**6.11** There are a large number of indicators in this section which refer to the quality of the District's natural landscape. The majority of these are local indicators which allow the Council to monitor the condition of important sites and how it protects them and whether this could be improved.

Site	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Number	Area (Ha)	Number	Area (Ha)	Number	Area (Ha)	Number	Area (Ha)	Number	Area (Ha)
Site of Biological Interest (SBI)	64	984.5 (combined)	63	953	66	971.3	66	971.3	77	983.1
Biodiversity Alert Site (BAS)	38		33	297	33	226.3	33	226.3	59	246.4
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	5	230.6	5	230.6	5	230.6	5	230.6	5	230.6
Special Area of Conservation	1	16.9	1	15.4	1	16.9*	1	16.9*	1	16.9*
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	1	550.3**	1	550.3**	1	550.3**	1	550.3**	1	550.3*

**Table 6.3 Areas of Biodiversity**

Source: Staffordshire County Council

\* Changes occur outside Lichfield District Boundary

\*\*Much of the AONB is outside the District Boundary

**6.12** There has been an increase in the number of designated Sites of Biological Interest and Biodiversity Alert Sites over the past year, mainly due to the survey of hedgerows which has taken place across the District. This is a good indicator of the increase in biodiversity across Lichfield District.

**6.13** Natural England monitors the quality of SSSI's and table 6.5 provides its assessment of SSSI within the District. Larger sites are broken down into units, with only the units within Lichfield District being provided.

SSSI	Unit Number	Unit Area (ha)	Main Habitat	Condition	Latest Assessment Date	Source
Stowe Pool	1	5.98	Standing open water and canals	Unfavourable No change	24/04/2006	Natural England
Chasewater Heaths	1	28.37	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	22/09/2004	Natural England
	2	4.59	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	22/09/2004	Natural England
	3	3.12	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	19/01/2006	Natural England
	4	10.79	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	22/09/2004	Natural England

SSSI	Unit Number	Unit Area (ha)	Main Habitat	Condition	Latest Assessment Date	Source
	5	1.36	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Destroyed	19/1/2004	Natural England
Gentleshaw Common	3	69.23	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	3/11/2003	Natural England
	4	11.24	Fen, marsh and swamp - lowland	Unfavourable Recovering	19/02/2007	Natural England
River Mease	1	5.93	Rivers and streams	Unfavourable No change	29/03/2007	Natural England
Biddulph's Pool	7	1.29	Standing open water and canals	Unfavourable Recovering	18/07/2001	Natural England
	8	2.74	Dwarf shrub, heath lowland	Favourable	23/05/2003	Natural England

Table 6.4 Condition of SSSI's within the District

**6.14** Natural England provides data on the state of SSSI's within the District and there are no updates to the data from last year. A majority of the sites are said to be recovering and it is important to maintain this improvement over the long term to bring the sites back to a favourable condition such as unit 8 at Biddulphs Pool.

#### Local Indicators: Biodiversity

**6.15** The District Council has been monitoring a number of local indicators with regards to the biodiversity and has been working on some local programmes designed to protect and enhance biologically important sites throughout the District. Table 6.6 provides an update to the progress that is being made at the sites. As these are long term projects there is no statistical evidence yet on how successful they are.

Local Indicator	Targets (outlined last year)	Current Situation
<b>LI3.2:</b> To improve the condition of nationally important sites such as SSSI's and SAC's	To achieve and maintain favourable conditions for all SSSI's and SAC's in Lichfield District	The Council has met its conservation objectives. Lichfield District Council has just completed a five year project (HLF) to restore heath lands and has also secured funding for the management of heath land and other SSSI's
<b>LI3.3:</b> To protect regionally and locally important sites such as Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites and Biodiversity Alert Sites from loss of area	No net loss of areas of natural or semi-natural habitat	Lichfield District Council part fund a wildlife assessment group that will continue to monitor these sites over a five year period

Local Indicator	Targets (outlined last year)	Current Situation
<b>LI3.4:</b> To continue contributing to the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan and protecting European and nationally protected species	Protection and enhancement of the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species. No net loss of Staffordshire BAP priority habitats and species	This is monitored through Development Control, which seeks enhancement and mitigation should development occur at such sites. Lichfield District Council also contributes through the District's biodiversity strategy
<b>LI3.5:</b> Implementation of Lichfield Districts Biodiversity Strategy	Maintain a Biodiversity Steering Group for development and implementation of Lichfield District's Biodiversity Strategy	A steering group is currently working on targets for the District Biodiversity Strategy
<b>LI3.6:</b> To protect and enhance the Cannock Chase AONB	Achieve schemes in the action plan.	A five year management plan has been approved by the Secretary of State. The council also participates in the group and joint committee for the AONB

Table 6.5 Biodiversity Indicators

**6.16** Local indicator 3.2 shows that the Council is making a significant effort to improve the conditions at the nationally important sites. This is reflected in table 6.5 and Core indicator E2 where the conditions at the majority of the Districts SSSI's are in a state of recovery.

**6.17** The District is still contributing to a number of programmes which will protect important sites within the District in the future and will continue to work towards achieving the goals set.

**6.18** These are long term goals and will be monitored over their duration to see how successful they will be.

### Core Output Indicator E3: Renewable Energy Generation

**6.19** There have been no major developments which include renewable energy generation. In past years there have been a number of small schemes to provide energy on small and domestic levels, which are difficult to monitor. These are not large enough to provide any measurable contribution so no return can be given for this indicator.

**6.20** The Council needs to develop an effective system to monitor renewable energy installation in developments across the District and to develop policy in the context of emerging national guidance through the Local Development Framework to provide targets and encourage renewable energy in new development.

### Local Indicators: Environmental Quality Initiatives

**6.21** As a Local Authority, Lichfield District contributes to a number of local initiatives which all relate to maintaining and enhancing certain environments found within the District boundary. Much like the indicators above, work is ongoing to contribute to these initiatives and the table below describes how the District Council continues to contribute toward these environmental initiatives.



Local Indicator	Targets (outlined last year)	Current Situation
<b>LI3.7:</b> To contribute to the implementation of the National Forest Strategy	To make a contribution to forest biodiversity action plan targets	Lichfield District Council contributed to a refreshed National Forest Strategy which has been new been produced.
<b>LI3.8:</b> To contribute to the implementation of the Forest of Mercia Plan	To contribute to the Forest of Mercia's own targets for woodland planting, management and access	Lichfield District Council is actively contributing to the Forest of Mercia plan and funding amounted to £17,000 last year.
<b>LI3.9:</b> To contribute to the strategy for the Cannock Chase to Sutton Park Biodiversity Enhancement Area	To continue to contribute to achieving the strategy	The Council continues to contribute to this landscape based strategy and is committed to the further development of this programme.
<b>LI3.10:</b> To promote the Central Rivers Initiative Vision	Active involvement with the steering of this project and achieving targets associated with Lichfield District Council	The District Council continues to be involved with this programme.

Table 6.6 Contribution to Environmental Initiatives

**6.22** The District Council has invested resources in these initiatives and continues to ensure that they are successful. Progress has been made with all of these programmes, especially with the National Forest Strategy to which the District has contributed to a revision of the strategic goals.

**6.23** There has also been significant financial investment to the Forest of Mercia Plan and Lichfield District Council continues to be committed to the further development of these initiatives.

### LI3.11: Environmental Improvement Schemes Completed

**6.24** There have been a handful of schemes designed to improve the quality of the environments within the District that have been completed this year. This represents a slightly lower level of schemes in terms of cost compared to last year as the large scale Lichfield City Centre Paving scheme was completed (October 2007).

Scheme	Completed	Cost
Burntwood Avenues Tree Planting Project	January 2009	£9,000
Garrick Square	November 2008	£175,000
Chase Terrace Open Space Improvements	March 2009	£50,000
Lichfield Garden, National Memorial Arboretum	November 2008	£3,000

Table 6.7 Environment Improvement Schemes Completed

### LI3.12: Tree Preservation

**6.25** There were 97 applications for works on trees this year, which is a significant decrease of 48 applications from last year. One caution was given for tree damage.

**6.26** As was the case in the two previous years, Little Aston remains the location with the most applications for works on trees - this is due to the densely 'wooded' nature of the area.

	07/08	08/09
Number of new tree preservation orders	21	8
Number of existing tree preservation orders deleted	26	27
Number of prosecutions for tree damage	2	0 (1 caution)
Area	No. of applications for works on trees in conservation areas	
	07/08	08/09
Alrewas	21	6
Colton	5	3
Elford	4	8
Fazeley	3	-
Fradley	-	2
Harlaston	2	-
Haunton	-	1
Hints	5	3
Kings Bromley	5	4
Little Aston	41	25
Lichfield	32	15
Longdon Green	-	6
Mavesyn Ridware	4	5
Shenstone	23	6
Wall	-	2
Whittington	11	11
Wigginton	2	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>97</b>

Table 6.8 Tree Preservation

### Key Findings:

#### One

Lichfield District remains heavily involved with many different projects and partner organisations to ensure the protection of our natural environment. The District Council continues to be committed to the progress and success of these schemes.

## **Two**

There has been a net increase in Sites of Biological Interest and Biodiversity Alert Sites across the District this year. Although the quality of many SSSI's are recovering within the District, their conditions are still unfavourable and targets need to be created to ensure that progress continues in the future.

## **Three**

The District Council's record on accepting the advice of the Environment Agency continues to improve, with no developments occurring against the recommendations put forward by the agency. The publication of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment will guide future development by providing detailed evidence of the flood risks within the District.

## **Four**

The Birmingham & Fazeley Canal is the poorest quality watercourses within the District but elsewhere a majority of the watercourses score well in the Environment Agency's assessment especially the River Mease SAC.

## **Five**

A vehicle to monitor renewable energy within the District needs to be introduced. There have been no large scale developments to generate substantial renewable energy within the District and the Council should consider how to implement such schemes into future developments.

## 7 Historic Environment

**7.1** Lichfield District has a reputation forged upon the wealth of historic buildings and designated conservation areas. Lichfield City is rich with historic buildings, with the jewel in the crown being the three-spire Lichfield Cathedral. Lichfield District has a thriving tourist industry so the preservation of historic sites is of paramount importance.

**7.2** The Council has included significant funding for conservation improvements within its Capital Strategy. Conservation Area Appraisals for Alrewas, Kings Bromley, Little Aston, Clifton Campville and Lichfield City have now been adopted. Progress with the appraisals of the remaining Conservation Areas continues, however completion of appraisals for all the District's Conservation Areas will take longer.

### Local Indicator 4.1: Conservation Area Improvement Schemes

<b>Conservation area improvement schemes completed 2008/2009</b>	3
<b>Target expenditure for schemes in 2008/2009</b>	£5,370
<b>Total expenditure for schemes in 2008/2009</b>	£2,565

Table 7.1 Historic Environment

<b>Conservation Area Improvement Scheme</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Grant Awarded</b>
Management of Churchyard trees	Alrewas	£510
Village Hall fencing	Colton	£1,860
Dog bin installation	Elford	£195

Table 7.2 Conservation Area Improvement Schemes

**7.3** The number of area improvement schemes in the current year has fallen in relation to last year when there were 8 in total. The progress was slower than planned due to lack of staff resources.

#### Local Indicator 4.2: Conservation Area Appraisals

Conservation Area Appraisals Completed (including any which are pending subject to consultation)	Status	Targets
Alrewas	Committee approved document on 30/06/08 for adoption	All 23 to be completed by 2011
Kings Bromley	Committee approved document on 30/06/08 for adoption	
Little Aston	Committee approved document on 03/02/09 for adoption	
Clifton Campville	Committee approved document on 03/02/09 for adoption	
Lichfield City	Committee approved document on 03/02/09 for adoption	

Table 7.3 Conservation Area Appraisals Completed

**7.4** The area appraisals will run on a five year rolling programme from the inception date of 2006. Significant progress has continued with regard to the conservation area appraisals, with 5 now complete and adopted.

#### Local Indicator 4.3: Buildings at Risk

Number of Buildings on the Buildings at risk survey	5	Target
Building	Current Situation	
Conduit Head Maple Hayes	Repairs to the structure are planned for 2010	To reduce the number of buildings on the list
Walls and Gatepiers to Colton House	Talks with owner ongoing	
Chapel East of Haselour Hall	Repairs are currently in progress	
Front railings and wall to Angel Croft Hotel	New owner and talks ongoing	
Church Tower north of Church of St. John, Shenstone	Grant submitted for works to secure the structure	

Table 7.4 Buildings at Risk

**7.5** Repairs are now in progress for one of the buildings and planned for another which is good progress from last year. The Conservation Team continue to monitor and negotiate to ensure the long term conservation of historic buildings.

#### Local Indicator 4.4: Lichfield District Tourism

**7.6** Lichfield has a thriving tourist industry which reflects the District's distinct character. Lichfield City itself hosts a wealth of historic and heritage attractions including the Cathedral and both the Erasmus Darwin and Samuel Johnson Museums. Lichfield City's rich history and range of architecture, along with the aforementioned attractions make this a popular destination, particularly for day trips. Outside of the city other visitor attractions include Drayton Manor Theme Park and the National Memorial Arboretum near Alrewas. These attractions and the tourist industry provide an important element of the local economy.

Indicators for Tourism	2007	2008
Total Number of tourists in the District 2008/2009	1,946,500	2,760,350
Visitors to the Tourist Information Centre (Lichfield Garrick)	17,502	19,136
Average Tourist Spend: visitors to the District 2008/2009	£31.88	£39.85
Total income from tourism in the District in 2008/2009	£62,059,420	Not available
Visit Lichfield website hits (unique IPs)	-	61,359

**Table 7.5 Tourism**

**7.7** The majority of tourists visiting the District are day visitors and the majority of spend in the District is at Drayton Manor Theme Park and the National Memorial Arboretum. By their nature they attract day visitors and this has been identified as an area where Lichfield District could work towards encouraging longer stays. In addition, many visitors come to Lichfield City by coach which again usually forms part of a day trip. Lichfield City comes 'highly commended' in the City of the Year category of the Coach Tourism Awards.

**7.8** In April 2008 a revamped Visit Lichfield website was launched and since then the website use has increased by a significant 71%.

## 8 Transport & Local Services

**8.1** This chapter consists of a number of local indicators which are designed to monitor the state of transport and services within the District. It encompasses a range of subjects in order to examine a number of locally important factors.

### Local Indicator 5.1: Sustainable Transport

**8.2** As stated last year, the District Council intends to monitor these local indicators at a District wide level in the future to provide more up-to-date data. However, the most current data available is still from the 2001 census and is set out below to give an indication of the travel patterns within the District.

Method of Transport		Lichfield	West Midlands	England	Source
By Car	Count	30,785	1,400,069	12,324,166	2001 UK Census
	%	66.69	59.97	54.92	
By Train	Count	1126	35,408	950,023	
	%	2.66	1.52	4.23	
By Bus	Count	1177	204,347	1,685,361	
	%	2.77	8.75	7.51	
By Bike	Count	725	52,545	634,588	
	%	1.57	2.25	2.83	
By Foot	Count	3,543	222,347	2,241,901	
	%	7.67	9.52	9.99	

Table 8.1 Sustainable Transport: Journey to Work

**8.3** A significantly higher proportion of District residents travel to work by car than the regional and national averages. This is partly due to the out migration of commuters to neighbouring Districts and could also be attributed to the quality of public transport services in some parts of the rural areas.

**8.4** Lichfield District has a higher proportion of commuters via train than the wider region and this can be accredited to the presence of train stations within the District that are located on the Cross-City line that links directly to Birmingham.

**8.5** Lichfield District aims to reduce reliance on the private car in accordance with the aims of the County Highways department and National Policy. Policies are currently being considered through the Local Development Framework process which could consider the delivery of improved facilities and services.

## Local Indicators: Transport

Local Indicator		Target (outlined last year)
<b>LI5.2:</b> Percentage of rural households within a 13 minute walk (800m) of an hourly bus service to a major centre	62.7% (March 08)	75% of all new residential development in rural areas to have the required access to bus services. (Not monitored this year).
<b>LI5.3:</b> Population within 350m of bus stop with a minimum service provision of 30 minutes	84.6% *(March 09)	LTP target is 90% of population of 6 major urban areas in Staffordshire by 2010/2011.
<b>LI 5.4:</b> Number of road related deaths and serious injuries	286 - 2008	To reduce the number of pedestrians and pedal cycle users killed or seriously injured. The figure has reduced by 29 since 2007.
Countrywide patronage for buses (England)	24,094,605	-

Table 8.2 Transport Indicators

\*Data is for Staffordshire (excluding Stoke on Trent).

**8.6** The number of road related deaths and serious injuries has fallen slightly since last year. The percentage of the Staffordshire population within 350m of a bus stop continues to just miss the target of 90%. This is an area which could be improved within Lichfield and Burntwood.

### Local Indicator 5.5: 'Accession' accessibility analysis

**8.7** 'Accession' analysis is a tool used to measure the accessibility of new dwellings on large developments to a number of key services and facilities. For example, it uses a ten minute walk time to primary schools as an 'accessible' distance. All of the 277 dwellings completed during the reporting year have been included in the 'Accession' analysis.

**8.8** In previous years the AMR has set a target of 90% accessibility for all services and historically only access to industrial estates has met this target, with other service achieving significantly below the 90% target. The table below shows how accessibility of major new residential developments in the last three years.

Service	2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible
Hospitals	141	48.12	13	2.34	14	5.05
Town Centres	142	48.46	455	81.98	195	70.40
GPs	120	40.96	441	79.46	211	76.17
High Schools	128	43.69	441	79.46	216	78.00



Service	2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible	Number of Completions Accessible	% of Completions Accessible
Primary Schools	177	60.41	500	90.09	244	88.09
Industrial Estates	237	80.89	491	88.47	237	85.56
<b>Total Dwellings</b>	<b>293</b>		<b>555</b>		<b>277</b>	

Table 8.3 Accession analysis of major residential schemes

**8.9** There has been a slight decline in accessibility in 2008/2009 compared to the previous reporting year. However, accessibility is still considerably higher than in 2006/2007 and an approximate level of 70 - 90% is being achieved in most areas except for hospitals. This could be due to the relocation of Lichfield's Victoria Hospital in the southern part of the city (close to large residential development sites), to the Samuel Johnson Community Hospital in the northern part of the city (closer to existing residential areas). This years completions have also been characterised largely by small windfall sites, which by their nature may be located away from key settlements and services.

#### Local Indicator 5.6: Accessibility of Green Space

**8.10** The Open Space Assessment was published in December 2007 and identifies the accessibility and quality of different typologies of green space within the District. It sets out targets for provision of these spaces and determines whether Lichfield is meeting the demand.

Type of Green Space	Definition	Area (Ha)	Areas of Deficiency
Parks and Gardens	Area of informal recreation that is also used for community events, Includes; Urban Parks, Gardens, and Country Parks	79.17	Central and southern Burntwood are deficient in this typology
Natural and Semi-natural greens and open spaces	Areas with a primary purpose of wildlife conservation and biodiversity, Includes; woodlands, urban forestry, scrubland, grassland, wetland, open and running water and nature reserves	2100.37 (at 137 recorded sites in the District)	No single site over 500Ha in the District No 100Ha sites around Alrewas, Fradley and the eastern edge of the District
Amenity Greenspace	Found within housing areas where it is used to enhance the appearance of an area and provide space for activities such as jogging, dog walking and children's play close to home. Also found in town and city centres where they are used by people to walk	145.63	Little Aston, Hamstall Ridware and Wiggington are deficient in this typology

Type of Green Space	Definition	Area (Ha)	Areas of Deficiency
Allotments and Community Gardens	Open space generally owned by local councils and is rented out to clubs and individuals for the purpose of growing fruit and vegetables.	8.59	There is a greater provision of allotments in the northern area of the District. It is identified that there is an unmet demand of allotments in Lichfield City.
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Cemeteries are designated areas of land intended for the internment of human remains. Churchyards are burial grounds within the walled boundary of a church. This type of land has minimal disruption so has wildlife and biodiversity importance	25.54	None
Provision for Children and Young People	Open spaces where children and young people can socially interact, while taking part in energetic activities. Includes; Areas of Equipped Play, Multi Use Games Areas and skate parks (this provision is often set within a larger park or open space)	0.04 Ha per 1000 population	Settlements short on equipped play include: Alrewas, Drayton Basset, Fazeley, Hammerwich, Hamstall Ridware, Hill Ridware, Kings Bromley, Longdon, Shenstone, Upper Longdon, Wiggington, Lichfield and Burntwood , particularly in the south.
Green Corridors	Mainly used for environmentally sustainable forms of transport. It provides linkages between housing area and makes use of linear routes such as disused railway lines, roads or canal and river banks Biodiversity can often flourish here.	681Km in length	Less sustainable transport links in Burntwood, Armitage with Handsacre and Little Aston compared with Alrewas, Fradley and Lichfield City

Table 8.4 Types of Green Space in the District

**8.11** There is a lack of facilities for children and young people across the parts of the District. The Play Strategy policy aims to provide at least 1 equipped play area in all settlements.

**8.12** Whilst there is a lack of allotments in the south of the District, this is a demand based provision and unless a greater demand is identified the current provision could be considered sufficient. There is an identified unmet demand of allotments in Lichfield City.

**8.13** Whilst there is no 500 Ha site of natural open space with the District boundary, part of Cannock Chase does fall within the border and this means there is adequate provision of this typology accessible by the majority of the District.

	Very Satisfied (%)	Fairly Satisfied (%)	Neither Satisfied now dissatisfied (%)	Fairly dissatisfied (%)	Very dissatisfied (%)	Targets
<b>LI5.7:</b> Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open space <sup>(ix)</sup>	23	47	18	7	5	Looking to achieve 80% satisfaction by 2009/2010
<b>LI5.8:</b> Percentage of residents satisfied with sports and leisure facilities <sup>(x)</sup>	9	38	32	16	5	Looking to achieve 80% satisfaction in the long term

Table 8.5 Satisfaction with parks and gardens

**8.14** The method of sampling resident satisfaction has changed since last years AMR, and this year it can be broken down from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. The percentage of residents satisfied with parks and open space within the District amounts to approximately 70%. This is close to meeting the target set, and the District Council remain dedicated to improving the quality of parks and open space as well as accessibility to them.

**8.15** The percentage of residents satisfied with the sports and leisure provided within Lichfield District is much lower at 47%. This is significantly below the target of 80% satisfaction and the Council has identified the deficiency and need in this area.

#### Local indicator 5.9 & 5.10: Retention Rates of Retail and Leisure Expenditure & Town Centre Health Check

	Burntwood		Lichfield		Targets
	2005	2006	2005	2006	
Retention rates for shopping and leisure expenditure (comparison goods)	5%	5%	48%	45%	Increase retention rates for primary catchment area to 30% for Burntwood and 60% for Lichfield by 2012

Table 8.6 Retention Rates of Expenditure

ix Source Lichfield District Council Place Survey 2008/2009:

x Source Lichfield District Council Place Survey 2008/2009

	Vacant Shops in Lichfield Centre	Source
January 2009	20	Lichfield District Venture - Lichfield City Retail Health Check
April 2009	30	
August 2009	31	
December 2009	24	

Table 8.7 Town Centre Health Check - Vacant Units

**8.16** A town centre health check has been conducted quarterly during 2009 for Lichfield City. One of the indicators is the number of vacant units which reached a peak during August 2009 due to the effects of the recession.

**8.17** The Council has identified that a new town centre is required in Burntwood to provide new office, retail and leisure space to serve the local residents needs. When combined with the ongoing plan to redevelop the Birmingham Road site in Lichfield (the 'Friarsgate' development) there is the potential for a considerable increase in retail and leisure provision within the two main settlements in the future. It is expected that with these developments the retention rates for retail and leisure expenditure would increase as would the health and vitality of the town centres, thereby benefiting the local economy.

## 9 Significant Effect Indicators







**9.1** Local planning authorities undertake sustainability appraisals of all policies within the Local Development Framework (LDF). Significant effects indicators should be drawn from the Annual Monitoring Report with regards to any policies which may need attention and objectives developed for the sustainability appraisal.

**9.2** The following table shows how the sustainable framework objectives relate to the AMR indicators and the saved Local Plan policies.

Sustainability Framework Objectives	AMR Indicators	Local Plan Policy
A - To maintain and enhance landscape and townscape quality	LI 3.6, LI 3.7, LI 3.8, LI 3.9, LI 3.10, H6	E2, E3, E4, E5A, E6, H3, R3, SOC3, L24, L26, L36, L37, L42, L48, L51, NA1, EA14, EA16, DC5, DC18, DC19
B - To promote biodiversity and geodiversity through protection, enhancement and management and management of species and habitats	E2, LI 3.2, LI 3.3, LI 3.4, LI 3.5	G9, L49, L50, B24, DC17
C - To protect and enhance buildings, features and areas of archaeological, cultural and historic value and their settings	LI 4.1, LI 4.2, LI 4.3	C1, C2, C3, C7, C9, EMP11, L28, L47, SA6, DC1, DC4, DC5, DC14, DC15, DC19, DC7
D - To mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change	E3	E20A, S4
E - To encourage prudent use of natural resources	E3, H3, LI 2.7, LI 3.1	E14
F - To reduce flood risk	E1	E15
G - To improve availability of sustainable transport options to jobs and services	LI 5.1, LI 5.2, LI 5.3, LI 5.4, LI 5.5	E6, EMP2, T3, T4, T6, T8, L27, L28, L31
H - To encourage sustainable distribution and communication systems		EMP2, S4, DC16
I - To create mixed and balanced communities	H2, H5, LI 2.2, LI 2.4, LI 2.5, LI 2.6, LI 2.8, LI 5.1, LI 5.2, LI 5.3, LI 5.8, H6	E6, H2, H5, H6, H8, H9, EMP2, EMP3, EMP5, S2, S3, SOC1, SOC2, L7A, L9, L10, L12, L13, L15, L16, L17, L18, L19, L21, L22, L23, L35, L37, L42, L49, B1, B5, B6, B9, B13, NA20, EA1, EA13, SA7, DC2, DC7, DC8, DC10
J - To promote safe communities, reduce crime and fear of crime	LI 5.4	EMP3
K - To improve the health of the population		E17, R1, R5, L37, B24
L - To enable improved community participation		

**9.3** The AMR indicators included in the above table are from this years report. It is worth noting that the indicator numbers have changed since previous incarnations to reflect the slightly altered structure of the document. The local indicator numbers have changed, whilst the topic of the indicator has not.

**9.4** The Significant Effects Indicators identified this year include those from last year so that any patterns can be identified. This table contains both core and local indicators and as with the above table the indicator numbers may have changed. Some new significant effect indicators have been introduced which will be monitored in the future to identify any patterns.

AMR Indicator	Significant Effects Indicator	Result	Target	Current Position	
BD1	Total amount of additional employment floorspace	11,400m <sup>2</sup>	Employment floorspace completions should maintain a 33 Ha reservoir for future years	Completions for 2008/09 have increased the available employment space, however the level is lower than last year.	
BD2	Total amount of floorspace built on previously developed land	100%	100%	All employment completions took place on previously developed land	
LI 1.1	Employment land supply	111.686 Ha	Maintain 33 Ha rolling reservoir	108.58 Ha of land is included in Local Plan Allocation, Sites with outline and full permission and sites under construction	
H2 a,b,c & d	Net additional dwellings in future years and managed delivery target	277	Maintain a 5 year rolling supply	The housing trajectory shows future completions to meet the targets for the RSS, this may need to be monitored in accordance with the economic downturn.	
H5	Gross Affordable Housing Completions	8	25% on qualifying sites	There has been a decrease in the number of affordable completions	
LI 2.4	Developed and committed affordable housing by sub area	279 committed/under construction	Affordable completions to meet the District's needs		

AMR Indicator	Significant Effects Indicator	Result	Target	Current Position	
LI 5.9	Health Check in town centres	Burntwood - 3.2 Lichfield - 3.6	Maintain vital and viable town centre - not reduce index	No new data from last years report	☹️
LI 5.5	Accessibility of green space	See table	No loss of open space without justification	Greens and Open Space Assessment 2007 identifies areas of deficiency for different categories of green space	😊
E2	Changes in areas of biodiversity importance	An increase in the number, size and condition of sites	Land gained	There has been an increase in the size, number and quality of biologically important sites	😊

## 10 Local Plan Saved Policies

Policy Number	Policy Name
E2	Forest of Mercia
E3	Trees and Woodlands
E4	Green Belt
E5A	Area of Development Restraint
E6	Development in Rural Areas
E14	Water Habitats
E15	Flood Protection
E17	Contaminated Land
E18A	Development Affecting Nature Conservation Sites - National Sites
E18B	Development Affecting Nature Conservation Sites - sites designated locally
C1	Listed Buildings
C2	Conservation Areas: Development Proposals
C3	Conservation Areas: Demolition
C7	Conservation Areas: Buildings out of scale or character
C9	Protected Open Space
H2	Housing Mix
H3	Housing Design Standards
H5	New Housing in Settlements
H6	Living Accommodation on Upper Floors
H8	Loss of Residential Accommodation
H9	Affordable Housing in Rural Areas
Emp2	Existing Industrial Areas
Emp3	Retail Uses in Industrial Areas
Emp5	Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt
Emp11	Wyrley & Essington Canal
R1	Open Space Provision



Policy Number	Policy Name
R3	Recreational Buildings
R4	Sports Playing Fields
R5	Loss of Sports Pitches/Grounds
T3	Private Sector Contributions
T4	Parking
T6	Rail Transport
T8	Cycling
S2	Neighbourhood Shopping Centres
S3	Village Shops
S4	Farm Shops
Soc1	Community Facilities
Soc2	Community Provision
Soc3	Townscape Improvements
L7A	Housing - Buffer Depot, Streethay
L9	Employment - extension to Boley Park Industrial Estate
L10	Employment - Britannia Way
L12	Office Development Sandford Street
L13	City Centre Redevelopment
L15	Primary Retail Area
L16	Secondary Retail Area
L17	Bird Street
L18	Dam Street
L19	Business Areas
L21	New Roads
L22	Road Line Safeguarding
L23	Road and Junction Improvements
L24	Traffic Management
L26	Rear Servicing

Policy Number	Policy Name
L27	Pedestrian Access to the City Centre
L28	Car Parking - commuted sums
L31	Lichfield Railway Stations
L35	Recreation Zones
L36	Recreation Zones
L37	Lichfield Linear Park
L42	Environmental & Housing Improvements
L46	Shopfronts
L47	Cathedral Close
L48	Protection of Views
L49	Framework Open Space
L50	Landscape Improvements in Framework Open Space
L51	Environmental Improvement
B1	Burntwood - Existing Residential Areas
B5	Sankey's Corner - New Shopping Development
B6	Indoor Leisure
B9	Redevelopment & Town Square
B13	Redevelopment & Expansion of Neighbourhood Centres
B21	Chasetown Industrial Estate
B22	Recreation Zones
B24	Chasewater Area & Country Park
NA1	Cannock Chase - ANOB
NA12	Employment - Lea Hall Colliery
NA13	Employment - Rugeley Power Station
NA20	Public Open Space, Longdon
EA1	Fradley Airfield Industrial Proposals
EA13	Hotel at Fradley
EA14	The Tame & Trent Valley

Policy Number	Policy Name
EA16	The National Forest
SA3	Laurel House, Fazeley
SA6	Little Aston Park
SA7	Canal Facilities at Fazeley
DC1	Amenity & Design Principles for Development
DC2	Amenity
DC4	Reuse and Adaptation of Rural Buildings
DC5	Extensions to Dwellings in Green Belt
DC7	Replacement Dwellings
DC10	Stables and Equestrian Activities
DC14	Archaeology
DC15	Archaeological Assessment
DC16	Telecommunications
DC17	Existing Trees & Hedges on Development Sites
DC18	New Tree Planting on Development Sites
DC19	Advertisement Control

## 11 Glossary

### **Affordable Housing**

Housing provided with subsidy both for rent and shared ownership, for people who are unable to afford their own home in the general housing market, because of the disparity between local housing costs and incomes.

### **Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)**

A report submitted to Government by local or regional planning bodies on a yearly basis. The purpose of the report is to assess Local Development Framework or Regional Spatial Strategy production progress and policy effectiveness. The AMR follows a series of core indicators and implements the council's own local indicators to provide an assessment of how successful the council's current policies are.

### **Biodiversity**

The variety of life encompassing all species, genetics and ecosystems, including plants and animals.

### **Biodiversity Alert Site (BAS)**

Sites that form a part of the county's nature conservation resource, but these sites are of a lower significance than other conservation sites due to their lower quality, smaller size, damage or disturbance. The degree of protection merited by each site is assessed on an individual basis.

### **Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**

AONBs were created by the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act in 1949 to preserve and enhance its natural beauty. These sites are smaller than national parks and management of the sites is different, but local planning authorities are given the power to operate development control within the site. Part of the Cannock Chase AONB crosses into Lichfield District near Burntwood, and the council contributes to the management and other initiatives which are designed to protect the AONB.

### **Conservation Area (built environment)**

Areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character, appearance or setting of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

### **Conservation Area (natural site)**

Area of natural or semi-natural land which is managed to protect and promote the wildlife habitat for the benefit of the present species as well as the communities that use and enjoy them.

### **Indices of Multiple Deprivation**

The index combines a number of indicators which focus on a range of social, economic and housing issues within areas of England. These are then used to provide an overall deprivation rank for these areas. The Index contains 354 Districts (of which Lichfield District is one) and each District is ranked with the poorest scoring ones coming first in descending order. The index is published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).

### **General Quality Assessment (GQA)**

The Environment Agency's method for monitoring and classifying the water quality of rivers and canals. The assessment takes into account the chemistry and biology of the water scoring from A to F, and also granting a score of 1-6 for the Phosphate and Nitrate mineral content.

### **Greenfield Land/Site**

A plot of land or site which has never been built on before, or where the remains of any structure have been absorbed into the landscape/habitat over time.

### **Infrastructure**

The physical features that make up the transport network. (Roads, rails, bus stops and stations)

### **Local Development Framework (LDF)**

Is a term used to describe a suite of documents, which include all the local planning authority's local development documents; both statutory documents and supplementary documents are included along with the local development scheme and this AMR.

### **Local Development Scheme (LDS)**

The local planning authority's time-scale programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents that must be agreed with Government and reviewed every year.

### **Local Plan**

An old-style development plan prepared by local planning authorities, to set out how the Districts planning system will operate. These plans will continue to operate for a time after the commencement of the new development plan system. A number of Local Plan policies have been saved to be taken forward to the new system. A list of these policies is provided within the appendices.

### **Open Space**

All space of public value, includes natural and semi-natural areas, parks, gardens, allotments and play areas. Open space also incorporates areas of water, canals, lakes and reservoirs, which offer opportunities for sport and recreation. They also act as a visual amenity and a haven for wildlife.

### **Previously Developed Land/Brownfield Land**

Land which is currently or has in the past been occupied by a permanent structure and associated infrastructure.

### **Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**

A strategy for how the District should look in 2026. It defines the scale and distribution of new housing in the region, indicates areas for regeneration and expansion and specifies priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development and agriculture. The adopted RSS plan period for Lichfield District runs for 25 years from 2001 to 2026. The phase 2 revision may come into effect and will run for a 20 year period from 2006 to 2026.

### **Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**

Sites of European importance that can only be achieved once the site has been designated as a SSSI

### **Site of Biological Importance (SBI)**

Sites of local importance, which represent the best remaining sites within the District.

### **Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)**

The finest sites for wildlife and natural features, and are identified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The purpose of a SSSI is to preserve and protect valuable environments for future generations to enjoy, and they make a valuable contribution to the ecological processes upon which will all depend.

### **Sustainable Development**

A widely used concept which was coined in the 1987 Brundtland Report: "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". Sustainable Development has become the driving force behind the governments planning system which has four main aims to help achieve sustainable development; social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; effective protection of the environment; the prudent use of natural resources; and the maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

### **Tree Preservation Order (TPO)**

A mechanism for securing the preservation of single or groups of tree of acknowledged amenity value. A tree subject to an order may not be worked upon without the prior consent of the local planning authority.