

BARNSLEY LOCAL PLAN MONITORING REPORT

1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020



Wentworth Castle: Listed building



Old Moor wetland Centre Local Wildlife Site and proposed SSSI



BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

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Introduction

The Statutory Development Plan for Barnsley is made up of the following documents:

- Local Plan, adopted January 2019
- Joint Waste Plan, adopted March 2012
- Oxspring Neighbourhood Development Plan, made June 2019
- Penistone Neighbourhood Development Plan, made August 2019

Barnsley's Local Plan

Barnsley's Local Plan and policies map sets out how the council will manage physical development of the borough on behalf of residents and businesses. The Local Plan was adopted on 3rd January 2019. This followed an extensive period of scrutiny through the Local Plan Examination in Public process by an independent Planning Inspector. The Local Plan was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for examination in December 2016. The examination was held in 4 stages and culminated in receipt of the Inspector's report at the end of December 2018.

The Local Plan forms a key part of the statutory development plan for Barnsley. The main role of this monitoring report is to demonstrate the extent to which the policies in Barnsley's Local Plan are being achieved. This will allow us to assess the effectiveness of the policies and help to identify any changes required in future reviews of the Local Plan.

Supplementary Planning Documents

Following the adoption of the Local Plan we have produced new and updated Supplementary Planning Documents which contain advice for people applying for planning permission. These are used to help make decisions on planning applications alongside the Local Plan. We adopted 18 of the following documents on 23 May 2019 and a further eight on 28 November 2019.

- Financial contributions for schools
- Barn conversions
- Trees and hedgerows
- Shopfront designs
- Advertisements
- House extensions and other domestic alterations
- Residential amenity and the siting of buildings
- Design of housing development
- Open space provision on new housing developments
- Removal of agricultural occupancy conditions
- Mortar mixes for pointing historic buildings
- Hot food takeaways
- Hot food takeaways Planning Advice Note
- Walls and fences

- Lawful development certificates
- Affordable housing
- Heritage impact statements
- Biodiversity and geodiversity
- Planning obligations
- Sustainable travel
- Section 278 agreements
- Section 38 agreements
- Parking
- Development on land affected by contamination
- Elsecar conservation area design and maintenance guide
- Cawthorne village design statement

Local Development Order

Local development orders are made by local planning authorities and give a grant of planning permission to specific types of development within a defined area.

The Ashroyd and Shortwood Business Park, Hoyland, Local Development Order 2012 provides planning guidance for development on the Ashroyd and Shortwood Business Parks.

Masterplan Frameworks

The Local Plan includes some site allocations which require the production of a masterplan framework. The individual site policies explain why a masterplan framework is needed.

Local Plan Review

It is our intention to review the Local Plan to assess whether it needs updating five years from the date of adoption, reflecting Government policy, unless Government legislation on development plans changes.

Joint Waste Plan

The Joint Waste Plan was adopted in March 2012 and was prepared with neighbouring local authorities Rotherham and Doncaster. The Joint Waste Plan contains policies that should be applied to waste related development and a general policy that should be applied to all developments to ensure waste implications are adequately considered.

It is proposed that the Joint Waste Plan will be reviewed across all four South Yorkshire authorities, therefore we will be working with Rotherham, Doncaster and Sheffield to prepare a review document. The first step is to obtain up to date evidence which will be gathered. The authorities will then prepare a Memorandum of Understanding.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

Two Neighbourhood Development Plans have been 'made' (adopted) in the borough. These are:

- Oxspring Neighbourhood Development Plan made on 12th June 2019
- Penistone Neighbourhood Development Plan made on 27th August 2019

The Cawthorne Neighbourhood Development Plan has been examined and submitted to referendum. In accordance with the amended Neighbourhood Planning (Referendum) Regulations 2012, the council may not hold a referendum before Thursday 6 May 2021. In the meantime, in accordance with planning practice guidance issued last year, the plan can be given significant weight in decision-making, so far as it is material to the application.

The Council has approved the area for a fourth Neighbourhood Development Plan in Silkstone.

Duty to Cooperate

We continue to work with our Local Authority Neighbours and the Sheffield and Leeds City Regions on cross-border and strategic issues.

Further detail about the Local Plan, Joint Waste Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents, Local Development Order, Masterplan Frameworks and Neighbourhood Development Plans can all be found on our website at <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/barnsleys-local-plan/>

Monitoring the Local Plan

The monitoring and indicators section of the Local Plan sets out which local plan policies achieve each of the local plan objectives and specifies the associated monitoring indicators.

The following commentary provides an update on these indicators for the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

In summary the indicators reported are:

Local Plan Objective 1: Provide opportunities for the creation of new jobs and the protection of existing jobs

- Policy E1 Providing strategic employment locations: Amount of employment land delivered; total Jobs; and jobs density
- Policy E4 Protecting existing employment land: Amount of employment land lost to other uses

Local Plan Objective 2: Improve the conditions in which people live, work, travel and take leisure

- Policy I1 Infrastructure and Planning obligations: Number and total financial contributions secured by planning obligations, by type of infrastructure
- Policy GS1 Green space: Number of planning applications where financial contributions are secured to contribute towards green space provision and amount of new green space provided
- Policy HE1 The historic environment: Number of designated assets on the Historic England Heritage at Risk Register
- Policy HE3 Developments affecting historic buildings: Number of planning applications granted for demolition of a listed building
- Policy TC1 Town Centres: Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development in town centres
- Policy CC3 Flood Risk: Number of planning applications granted contrary to advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds
- Policy AQ1 Development in air quality management areas: Number of planning applications for development approved within air quality management areas

Local Plan Objective 3: Widen the choice of high quality homes

- Policies H1 The number of new homes to be built; H4 Residential development on small non-allocated sites; and H5 residential development on large non-allocated sites: Number of net additional new dwellings and number of dwellings delivered on non-allocated sites
- Policy H6 Housing mix and efficient use of land: Average density of new homes built
- Policy H7 Affordable housing: Number of affordable homes delivered
- Policy GT1 Sites for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople: Number of pitches delivered

Local Plan Objective 4: Improve the design of development

- Policy D1 High quality design and place making: Number of developments of 10 dwellings or more achieving Building for a Healthy Life 'greens'

Local Plan Objective 5: Achieve net gains in biodiversity

- Policy BIO1 Biodiversity and geodiversity: Number of Local Wildlife Sites and RIGs sites in positive conservation management

The final section provides a progress report on the Infrastructure Delivery Programme (2016).

Local Plan Objective 1: Provide opportunities for the creation of new jobs and the protection of existing jobs

Local Plan Policy E1 Providing Strategic Employment Locations

Our aim is to ensure the provision of sufficient land for development throughout the plan period and to increase the number of jobs and businesses in the borough.

Table 1: Employment

Indicator	Performance 2019/20*
Amount of employment land delivered (ha)	5.2
Total jobs (NOMIS data)	1000
Job Density (NOMIS data)	0.64

*The latest NOMIS data available is for April 2018/19, this reflected in table 1.

Local Plan Policy E4 Protecting Existing Employment Land

Our aim is to minimise the amount of employment land lost to other non-employment uses.

In the year 2019/20 5673.9sqm of employment floorspace (or 0.6ha) has been lost to non-employment uses

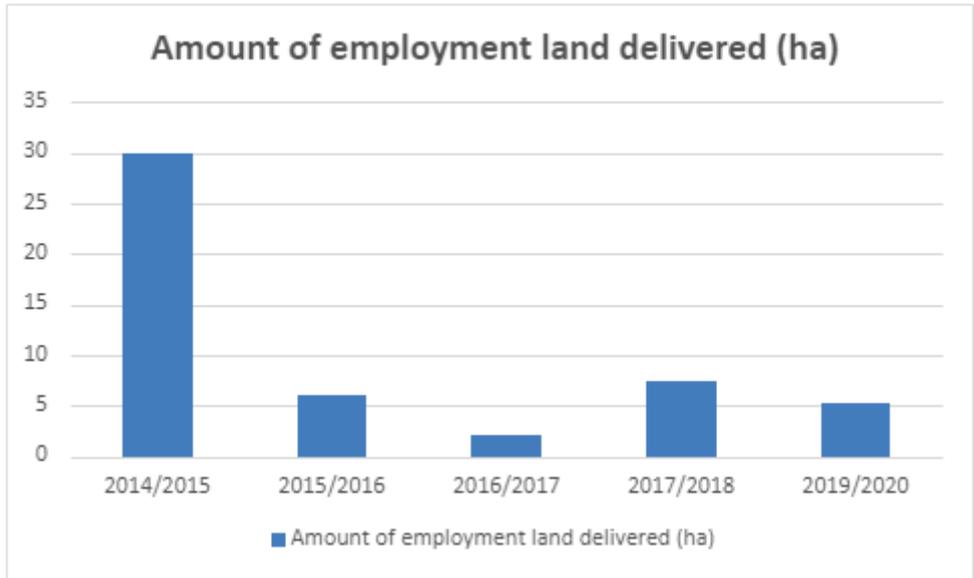
Commentary

The overarching aim of Local Plan Objective 1 is to provide opportunities for the creation of new jobs and the protection of existing jobs, and Local Plan policies E1 and E4 both work towards meeting this objective.

Employment land provision

The Local Plan allocates 297ha of land to meet the development needs of existing and future businesses up to 2033. The plan period, with a base date of 2014, reflects our economic position, the Council's economic strategy and the lead in time for employment land to be developed.

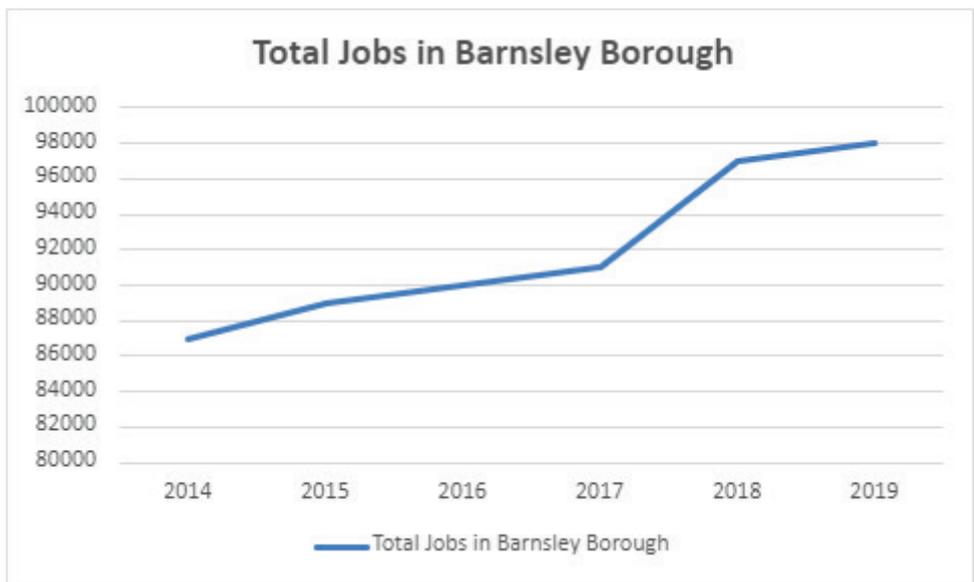
The following chart shows the level of employment development (regarding B1, B2 and B8 completions, including changes of use) since the start of the plan period. The level has remained between 2ha and 6ha, except for the year 2014/15, which saw 30ha developed, mainly due to the completion of the large Aldi development at Goldthorpe. The data in table 1 shows that in the first year following the adoption of the Local Plan the level of employment development is in line with previous years, with 5.2ha of new employment land delivered. Future monitoring reports will start to build up a clearer picture of employment land development, including delivery of those sites subject to current and emerging Masterplan Frameworks.

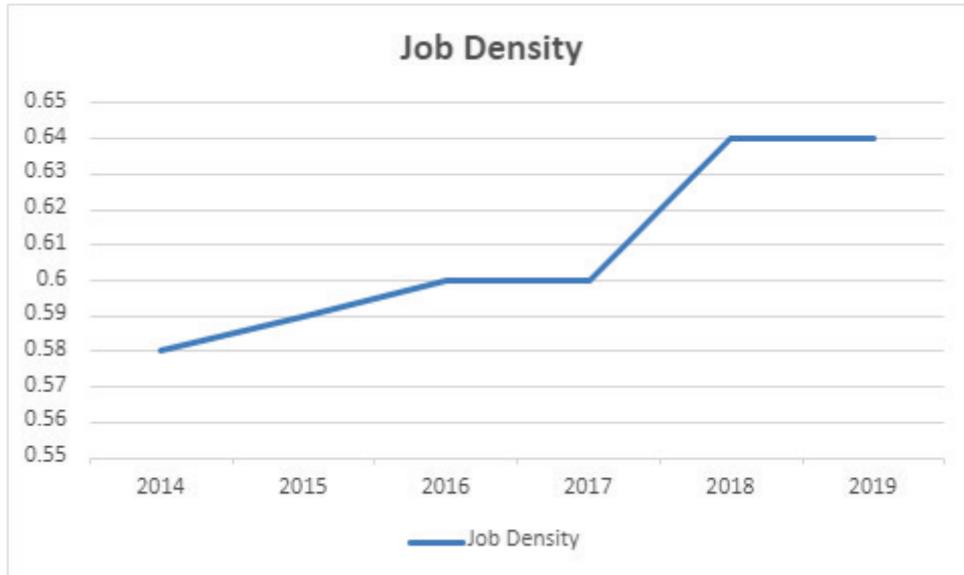


During the start of the Local Plan period, but before adoption (2014 to 2018) the annual loss of employment land to residential use was between 0ha and 2ha. In the year following adoption 5673.9sqm of employment floorspace (or 0.6ha) has been lost to other uses, including residential, a local shop, food and drink sales and an indoor sports/fitness facility. The greatest change was to residential use accounting for 95% of the total loss, including the redevelopment of the former Company Shop site in Tankersley, a loss accounted for in the development of the Local Plan. The site has been redeveloped for housing in accordance with Local Plan housing site policy HS94. The Company Shop remain elsewhere in the Borough, having relocated their headquarters to an alternative site.

Number of jobs

Table 1 shows that there was a total of 98,000 jobs in Barnsley borough as at April 2019 representing a job density of 0.64. The job density figure represents the ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64. The following charts show the pattern of total jobs and job density since the start of the plan period to April 2019. The Local Plan was adopted in January 2019.





These charts show a significant growth in total jobs and an associated rise in job density in the early years of the plan period, most markedly between 2017 and 2018. The increase from 2018 to 2019 reflects steadier increases in the earlier years and the job density has stabilised at 0.64. Future monitoring reports will allow us to consider any potential changes to the pattern following the adoption of the Local Plan.

Overall, the statistics show a positive position for employment development in the borough, with new space being developed, little loss of existing employment land to other uses and a stable position regarding total job numbers and job density in the Borough. This is further supported by a recent study into jobs growth, undertaken by Centre of Cities think-tank and jobs site Indeed. The study analysed job vacancies in 63 cities and large towns and found Barnsley to have the highest increase in job vacancies (+21%) compared to levels prior to the pandemic. The relevant news article can be read here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56827272>

Local Plan Objective 2: Improve the conditions in which people live, work, travel and take leisure

Local Plan Policy I1 Infrastructure and Planning Obligations

Our aim is to ensure that development is supported by, and where necessary contributes to the provision of appropriate infrastructure.

During the year 2019/20, a total of 20 Section 106 Agreements were successfully negotiated between the Local Authority and developers, resulting in £2,085,107 of secured (indexed linked) financial contributions. This can be broken down by infrastructure type as follows.

Table 2: Infrastructure and planning obligations

Infrastructure Type	Total financial contributions secured by S106 Agreement (£)	Number of agreements
Affordable Housing	660,000	1
Education	731,718	6
Green Space	559,123	13
Sustainable Travel	0	0
Highways	0	1
Planning (miscellaneous)	134,266	5
Total	2,085,107	20*

*The total number of agreements signed is not equal to the sum of agreements relating to each type of infrastructure because some agreements include more than one type of contribution or provision.

Commentary

Table 2 shows the level of infrastructure related financial commitments that have been secured during this year (2019/20) to be, for the most part, delivered in future years.

Barnsley's Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement for 2019/20 provides further detail about Section 106 activity for this period, including:

- The Council's internal process relating to Section 106 contributions
- The Section 106 contributions paid to the Council in the 2019/20 monitoring period
- Projects delivered in the Borough through Section 106 in 2019/20
- Section 106 contributions secured for future years (as reported in table 2 above)

The statement has been published and is available on our website at <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/local-plan-research-and-evidence-documents/>

Table 2 shows that the largest contributions secured during 2019/20 have been for education, affordable housing and green space purposes, under well-established processes. The total sum for green space excludes contributions secured from outline application 2017/1451 where a Section 106 has been signed, and the amount collected will be determined according to the housing mix of the associated reserved matters application. The basis of the calculation to be used has been agreed. A further £134,266 was collected for specific purposes including biodiversity and heritage improvements, and contributions towards community projects within the parishes of Thurgoland, Oxspring and Hunshelf. However, no contributions were received for Sustainable Travel purposes, perhaps unsurprisingly given this is a new policy requirement and the associated supplementary planning document setting out the delivery mechanism was adopted towards the end of the reporting period in November 2019. Future monitoring reports will show progress regarding sustainable travel contributions.

Alongside these financial contributions, policy requires that development must also be supported by appropriate onsite infrastructure. In some instances, this provision is also secured using S106 Agreements, and is included in the Annual Infrastructure Statement.

During the year 2019/20 most of the affordable housing provision required as part of new development has been secured on site, with 6 relevant S106 agreements having been made to this effect. As such, financial contributions will only be sought for these developments if the units are not delivered on site. Other onsite provisions have included a new access road, prior notification of an agricultural building, the implementation of a travel plan and the appointment of a travel plan coordinator. No onsite green space has been secured using Section 106 in this financial year, however, the provision of new green space is reported in the following section.

Local Plan Policy GS1 Green Space

Our aim is to protect, enhance and provide adequate green space. Local Plan policy GS1 requires qualifying new residential developments to provide or contribute towards green space in line with the standards set out in the Green Space Strategy and in accordance with the Infrastructure and planning Obligations policy I1. The two indicators identified to measure relative success are discussed below.

The number of planning applications where financial contributions are secured to contribute towards green space provision

During the year 2019/20 a total of 13 planning applications have included a Section 106 Agreement relating to the provision of green space. All these agreements secure financial contributions towards green space provision, rather than onsite provision. As shown in table 2, this amounts to a total of £559,123. Many of these contributions will be collected and spent in future years.

The amount of new green space provided (ha)

Green space projects are delivered either directly by developers as they build their projects, or indirectly by the Council using financial contributions received. Part of the money spent comes from some of the Section 106 Agreements signed in 2019/20, but the majority relate to agreements signed in earlier years for developments that were being delivered and hitting financial trigger points in 2019/20.

During the year 2019/20 a new (0.7ha) green space was created directly by the developer as part of the ongoing development of the former Royston High School site, associated with planning application 2012/1337. The remainder of the projects have been delivered indirectly by the Council, using the financial contributions to improve existing green spaces rather than to create new spaces. Further details about the projects delivered in 2019/20 is available in the Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement.

Local Plan Policies HE1 The Historic Environment and HE3 Developments affecting Historic Buildings

Our aim is to ensure that development conserves and enhances the historic environment, reducing the number of designated assets on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk Register' and reducing/mitigating the impact of development on heritage assets.

Table 3: The historic environment

Indicator	Number
Designated heritage assets on the 'Heritage at Risk Register'*	11
Listed building consents granted for the demolition of a listed building	0

*as at October 2019

Commentary

Historic England publish the current 'Heritage at Risk Register' annually in October. As this is the first monitoring report that has included a heritage at risk indicator there is no earlier data to draw comparisons with. However, future monitoring reports will help to develop a better understanding as to whether we are achieving our aim to reduce the number of designated assets on the Heritage at Risk Register. Using the data from October 2019 as a baseline, there were 11 designated heritage assets on the register including 5 Listed Buildings, 5 Scheduled Monuments and 1 Conservation Area.

The Local Plan indicator for policy HE3 Developments affecting historic buildings is the number of planning permissions granted for demolition of a listed building. However, given that demolition will always need Listed Building consent, but not always planning permission, we have chosen to report on the number of Listed Building consents granted for the total demolition of a Listed Building. For the year 2019/20 this was zero, in line with the Local Plan target.

Local Plan Policy TC1 Town Centres

Our aim is to ensure development reflects the hierarchy of centres to maintain their vitality and viability.

In the year 2019/20 no developments for retail, office or leisure were recorded as completed within defined town centres.

Commentary

The monitoring shows that for the reporting year there has been no completed new build retail, office or leisure developments within our defined town centres. However, this indicator will record those developments that require planning permission, but there are also likely to have been changes of use that fall within permitted development rules and do not need planning permission.

It should also be noted that Barnsley Town Centre is undergoing a major redevelopment including the development of:

- 19,421 sqm Sui Generis;
- 8,526 sqm D2 (assembly and leisure);
- 2,484 sqm A3 (restaurants and cafes); and
- 9,360 sqm A1 (shops) uses, which will take several years to complete.

The markets area of the development is complete and other areas under construction however, the current monitoring system is reliant on the whole development being completed to be recorded as such.

Other, recent redevelopment work has taken place at Hoyland Town Centre, completed prior to the 2019/20 reporting period.

Local Plan Policy CC3 Flood Risk

Our aim is to reduce the extent and impact of flooding with no planning permissions granted against sustained Environment Agency advice.

In the monitoring period no planning applications were granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds in line with the Local Plan target.

Local Plan Policy AQ1 Development in Air Quality Management areas (AQMAs)

Our aim is to restrict development within AQMAs except where the developer provides, to the Council's satisfaction, an assessment showing acceptable living conditions for future residents/occupiers and no detrimental impact to air quality.

In the monitoring period no planning applications were approved within Air Quality Management Areas in line with the Local Plan target.

Local Plan Objective 3: Widen the choice of high quality homes

Local Plan policies

- **H1 The number of new homes to be built**
- **H4 Residential development on small non allocated sites**
- **H5 Residential development on large non allocated sites**
- **H6 Housing mix and efficient use of land**
- **H7 Affordable housing**
- **GT1 Sites for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople**

Our aim is to ensure that the Borough’s objectively assessed housing need (OAHN) is met making the most efficient use of land, alongside delivering homes to meet affordable housing needs and identified need for pitch provision for Gypsy and Travellers.

Table 4: Housing

Indicator	Performance in Year 2019/20
Number of net additional new dwellings	1054
Number of new dwellings delivered on non-allocated sites	748
Average density of new homes built (dwellings per ha)*	85
Number of affordable homes delivered	203
Number of pitches for Travellers delivered	0

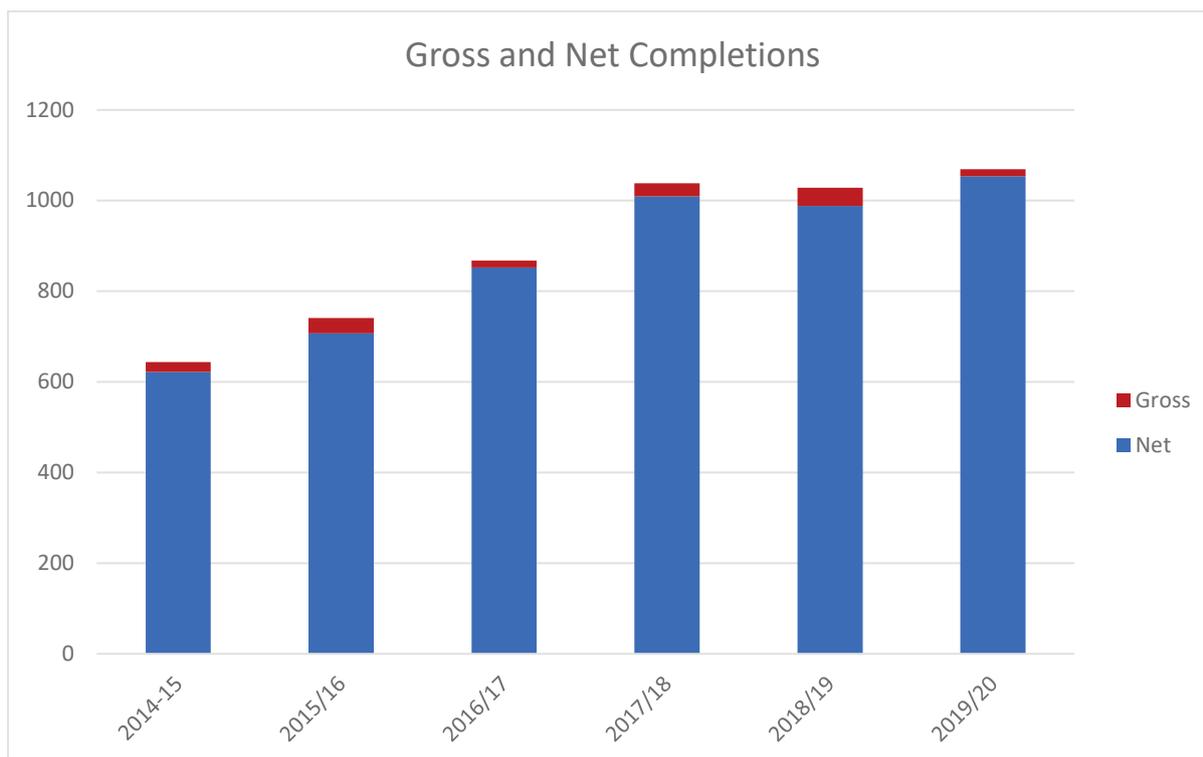
* This figure is a plot density (per hectare, rather than per hectare net) and reflects data collected in previous years.

Commentary

The number of homes

Local Plan policy H1 seeks to achieve the completion of at least 21, 546 net additional homes during the plan period (2014 to 2033). This gives an indicative annualised figure of 1,134 per annum, an ambitious and aspirational figure which addresses housing needs and supports economic growth ambitions. Table 4 shows that 1054 net additional new dwellings have been developed in the year 2019/20, 80 dwellings short of the indicative annualised figure.

The chart below shows the level of housing completions (gross and net) since the start of the Local Plan period, both prior to the adoption of the Local Plan and the first year following adoption. The chart shows continuation of a general trend of increasing completions, the 2019/20 figure is the highest of the plan period to date. Table 4 also shows that the supply from non-allocated sites continues to be an important aspect of housing supply, during 2019/20 with 748 new dwellings (including change of use and conversions) built on large and small non-allocated sites. 592 of these were on sites of 10 or more dwellings and 156 on sites with less than 10 dwellings.



The latest five year supply position and updated housing trajectory is set out in the ‘Barnsley Five Year Deliverable Housing Land Supply Report’ (April 2020 to March 2025), published in July 2020 and available to view on the Housing Reports section of our website at <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/local-plan-research-and-evidence-documents/>

Density of development

Before the Local Plan was adopted, Barnsley’s Core Strategy set a minimum density target of 40 dwellings per hectare (dph). Local Plan policy H6 Housing mix and efficient use of land expects a density of 40 dwellings per hectare net in Urban Barnsley and the Principal Towns and 30 dwellings per hectare net in the villages. The policy has some flexibility to allow lower densities where demonstrably necessary, according to prescribed circumstances.

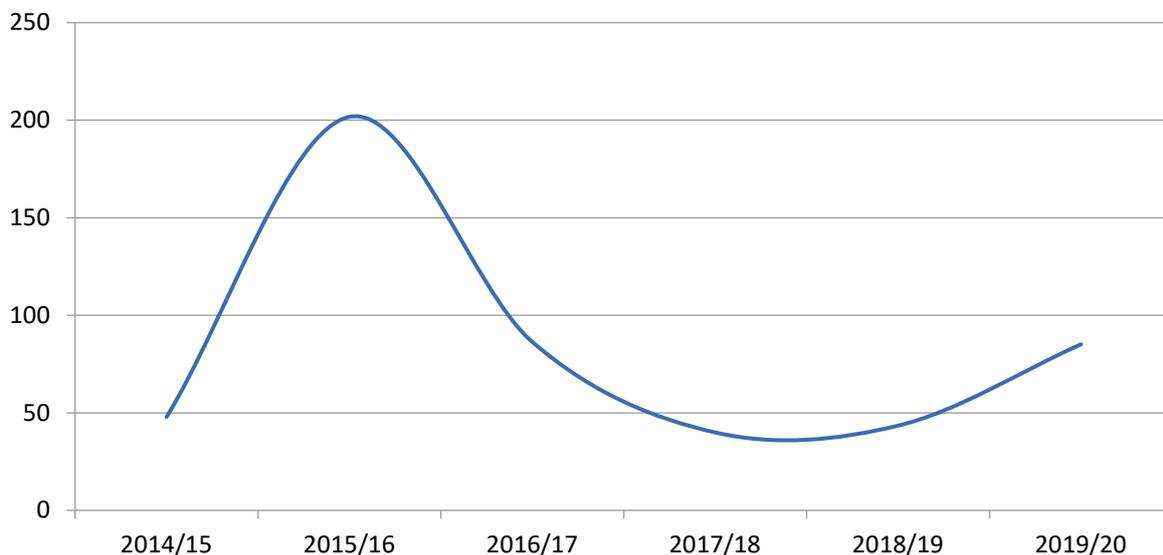
It is important to note that Local Plan density requirements constitute a significant change from data that has been collected and reported on in previous years. It is a change from monitoring plot density (per hectare) to monitoring density per hectare *net*. The focus on density per hectare net takes account of land that is retained/used for other purposes due to site constraints or requirements, including but not limited to ecological constraint, impact on historic environment, flood risk and air quality issues, highway infrastructure and green space. As such it provides a more realistic, clearer reflection of housing density achieved.

Given this is a new indicator, we are currently developing a monitoring process to record the Local Plan policy H6 requirements in future monitoring reports. The figure reported in table 4 and discussed below reflect the plot density and comparisons are drawn to previous years. However, it is our intention that future monitoring reports will analyse housing density per

hectare net for both allocated and non-allocated housing developments in urban and rural areas.

Table 4 shows an average plot density of 85 dwellings per hectare, reflecting an efficient use of land. The chart below shows the average housing plot density since the start of the Local Plan period. The 2019/20 level shows a significant increase on recent years and mirrors the level achieved in 2016/17. The exceptionally high figure 2015/16 figure (202dph) was unusually high due to the completion of the Skyline apartment development, however, the Core Strategy target would still have been exceeded even without these developments. It is perhaps also worth noting that over half (54%) of the new dwellings were built on previously developed land, a slight increase on the figure for the previous year.

Completed Dwellings Density per Hectare



Affordable Homes

Affordable housing is sought through Local plan policy H7 with differing percentages and thresholds as derived from an Affordable Housing Viability Study. Our aim is to deliver homes to meet affordable housing needs, achieving an annual target of 150 affordable homes delivered through Section 106 Agreements.

Table 4 shows that 203 affordable homes have been delivered during 2019/20. The Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement confirms that 106 of these affordable homes were delivered directly by developers through Section 106 Agreements. The remainder have been provided by the Council, either indirectly using monies received from Section 106 Agreements or direct provision. During this period the Council directly delivered 34 new council properties and added 45 units to the affordable stock through some acquisitions and conversions.

Sites for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

Table 4 shows that no new pitches for Travellers and Travelling Showpeople were completed in the year 2019/20. The latest five year supply position is set out in the 'Barnsley Gypsy and Traveller Five Year Deliverable Land Supply Report (April 2020 to March 2025), published in July 2020 and available to view on the Housing Reports section of our website at <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/local-plan-research-and-evidence-documents/>

Barnsley's Local Self-Build Register

The Local Plan and the Affordable Housing SPD give general support to custom and self build housing. We maintain a register of people who are interested in self-build or custom build projects in Barnsley. The register helps us to understand the demand for self-build and custom housebuilding in Barnsley.

As at 30th October 2020 there were 44 people on our Local Self-build Register.

Many residential developments may be suitable for self-build or custom housebuilding, therefore, where appropriate, an informative is placed on decision notices for outline residential planning permissions, drawing the applicants attention to the register and asking them to let us know if we can pass details of their sites onto people on our self build/custom build register.

Details of planning applications can be found on our website at

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/using-planning-explorer/>

We are also putting in place a system whereby we can notify people on the register when Council owned sites go out to auction. Auctions on behalf of the Council are carried out by Mark Jenkinson & Son Property Auctioneers (www.markjenkinson.co.uk). It should be noted that this does not mean that plots would automatically be suitable for housing and planning permission would need to be obtained. Preplanning advice is available from the Planning Department and details of this service are available via the following link:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/commercial-and-housing-developments/pre-application-advice-for-developments/>

Local Plan Objective 4: Improve the design of development

Our aim is to ensure that development fosters the principles of high quality design. Our intention is that developments of 10 or more dwellings achieve as many 'green' Building for a Healthy Life considerations as possible.

The Local Plan references the 'Building for Life (12) assessment framework' for residential developments of 10 or more dwellings, however, this was replaced by 'Building for a Healthy Life' in 2020. The updated and renamed framework moves away from the former 12 design questions and instead proposes a set of 12 design considerations, still to be assessed using a traffic light system. The monitoring report will reflect the new Building for a Healthy Life considerations.

Given this is a new indicator, we are currently developing a process to record the details from the relevant planning applications. We hope to be able to report on this indicator in the next monitoring report.

Local Plan Objective 5: Achieve net gains in biodiversity

Local Plan policy BIO1: Biodiversity

Our aim is to conserve and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and geological features.

The Local Plan uses the national indicator 'Single Data List 160: biodiversity' as a measure of success. The indicator provides an update on the number and percentage of sites in positive conservation management and reflects how local authorities perform a number of their roles, including the planning process, management of some of their own wildspaces and partnership working. It covers both Local Wildlife Sites and Local Geology Sites (known as RIGS), most of which are not owned by local authorities. These designations are non-statutory.

This biodiversity indicator is reported annually to Government. The reporting period is a rolling five-year period. However, there is no figure to report for the relevant monitoring (1st April 2015 to 31st March 2020), as the data was not collected due to the national Covid pandemic. It is anticipated that a return will be completed for the next reporting period.

Commentary

Whilst there is no available figure for this reporting year, the data for the 2015 baseline set out in the Local Plan and the following reporting years are summarised in the table below.

Table 5: Biodiversity

Reporting period (1st April to 31st March)	Total number of local sites	Number of local sites in positive conservation management	Percentage of local sites in positive conservation management
Local Plan baseline 2010 to 2015	88	15	17%
2011 to 2016	87	15	17%
2012 to 2017	90	18	20%
2013 to 2018	92	18	20%
2014 to 2019	92	18	20%

Whilst the specific sites recorded may have changed, table 5 shows that the level of positive biodiversity conservation management in Barnsley has remained stable in recent reporting years. If we compare this to the baseline figure for 2015 set out in the Local Plan, we can see an increase both in the total number of local sites and the level of conservation management, suggesting that we are moving in the right direction towards our aim to conserve and enhance the Borough's biodiversity and geological features. However, our key focus and targeting of available resources has been to prevent our local sites from deteriorating and falling into the failing category, a position understood and supported by our local wildlife partners. Whilst they may not have been moved into positive conservation management many of our sites have been stopped from deteriorating and improved.

Infrastructure Delivery Programme: update

The Local Plan Monitoring and Indicators section includes the Infrastructure Delivery Programme which was included in the associated Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016. The following section describes general progress on the projects set out in the programme as at December 2019 (unless stated otherwise).

Transport

Scheme	Location	Update
Identified Integrated Transport Block and Sustainable Transport Exemplar Programme (STEP) projects	Boroughwide	<p>The identified projects have been delivered with two exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New footway at Hill End Road, Mapplewell is outstanding • M1 J38 to town centre cycle route – lining J38 to the town centre is complete, but only the route from Bar Lane to Town Centre. <p>The projects included QBC improvements, traffic management, bypass completion, sustainable/active travel, local accident schemes, cycling and eco stars.</p>
Roads: SCRIF Infrastructure	M1 Junction 36 (South bound slip road)	Completed
Roads: SCRIF Infrastructure	M1 Junction 37 Claycliffe, Barnsley	Design work ongoing, works yet to start on site.



Roads: SCRIF Infrastructure	A635 Goldthorpe	Start on site anticipated this financial year.
Penistone Station Park and Ride footbridge	Penistone	SYLTE Management Board have committed to Park and Ride at Penistone, subject to the land being secured. Should it prove possible to secure the necessary land for the Park and Ride, SYLTE would then resume talks with Network Rail about the track crossing.
DDA compliant ramp on Sheffield bound platform at Elsecar Station	Elsecar	No update for this project.
HS2 Connectivity	Various	Awaiting a Government decision on the HS2 eastern leg. It is expected an Integrated Rail Plan for the Midlands and North of England will be announced sometime in 2021; which will show how elements such as HS2, Midlands Connect and Northern Powerhouse Rail will inter-relate.

Education

Scheme	Location	Update
Primary School Provision	Boroughwide	<p>The local Plan includes 4 sites for the future development of primary schools as part of wider mixed use site allocations.</p> <p>MU1 Land South of Barugh green Road: Please see item below</p> <p>MU2 Land between Fish Dam Land and Carlton Road: This mixed use site is the subject of an emerging Masterplan Framework</p> <p>MU5 Land off Lee Lane, Royston: This mixed use site is the subject of an emerging Masterplan Framework</p>

		MU6 Former Wombwell high School, Wombwell: The land for the school has been reserved as part of an approved hybrid outline application for the wider MU6 site, but reserved matters have not yet been submitted.
Primary School Provision	Junction 37, Claycliffe	(Update as of April 2021) The new primary school will be delivered through the Free School Presumption process. The presumption process is the main route by which local authorities establish new schools in order to meet the need for additional places, both in terms of basic need and the need for diverse provision within their area. A public consultation exercise was undertaken as part of the presumption competition and finished in February 2021. The presumption competition is now live and will be completed in May 2021; the presumption competition is a process by which a preferred Multi Academy Trust is selected as the preferred provider to deliver and run the school. Once appointed, the Multi Academy Trust will commence the design and planning stages with the support of the local authority and the current anticipated opening of the school is September 2022.
Secondary School Provision	Boroughwide	(Update as of April 2021) The new Free School, or Trinity Academy St. Edwards as it is now officially known, is going to be delivered by the Department for Education in 2 major phases. The initial phase involves the installation of a temporary 2 storey modular unit with a capacity for 360 pupils and is located on the former playing fields on the upper part of the site. It is expected that the school will operate for a maximum of 2 years until the main school is constructed. Planning permission was granted in February 2021, but the discovery of old mine workings on the site has resulted in a delay to the programme. Works are now scheduled to start on site early June 2021, with a completion date of November 2021. Pupils that were due to start school

		<p>on the 1st September 2021 are going to be temporarily based in a former college building, located on Eastgate in the Town Centre.</p> <p>The second phase of works, the new permanent school building, will be constructed at the rear of the site on the former NHS buildings. This is scheduled to be ready for pupils from September 2023. The current programme indicates an 18 month construction period and the design team are currently at the pre-planning advice stage.</p> <p>The school has proven to be popular with parents and pupils in the community with 179 places being offered for September 2021.</p>
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Utilities

Scheme	Location	Update
Electricity and gas upgrades	Boroughwide	Where a site or collection of sites is covered by a Masterplan Framework, utilities are considered as part of the development of the framework. Site specific requirements will be negotiated between private developers and utility companies.
On-site water supply and access to wastewater treatment cost	Boroughwide	Bolton and Lundwood treatment stations have had improvements to their water quality works. The works are understood to be near completed or completed.

Telecommunications

Scheme	Location	Update
Telecommunications (broadband provision) improvements	Boroughwide	Ongoing Local Plan Infrastructure Policy I1 includes requirements for broadband provision associated with new development, and a standard condition requiring details of measures to facilitate provision of full fibre broadband for the dwellings/developments permitted by planning application is applied.
Superfast South Yorkshire (SFSY)		Phase 1: completed in March 2019. About 97% coverage (close to 98%), covering alongside private investment. This concentrated on fibre to cabinet, and some fibre to premises to employment areas and secured improvements for 95 000 homes and businesses. Phase 2: was launched straight afterwards and includes additional properties. Is about fibre to properties. Phase extends to 2021 and includes more residential properties. Take up for phases 1 and 2 is 50%, the target was 20%.
Improvements to IT connections at visitor attractions	Various	Elsecar Heritage Centre: Enabled for fibre-to-the-cabinet commercially (not through the SFSY programme) Worsborough Mill and Country Park: Enabled for fibre-to-the-cabinet commercially (not through the SFSY programme) Cannon Hall Museum (includes investment from SFSY programme): Included in the SFSY programme but not yet enabled. Cooper Gallery (includes investment from SFSY programme): This project was covered in phase 1, was available from Jan 2017 at superfast speeds.

Flood risk and drainage

Scheme	Location	Update
Flood defences	Low Valley	Further feasibility work is ongoing, scheme unlikely to be delivered in the short or medium term.
Habitat creation and flood storage extension	Wombwell Ings	Project near completion

Waste and recycling

Scheme	Location	Update
Waste management: Joint waste strategy and facilities with Rotherham and Doncaster	Cross Boundary	The strategy and facility are in place. Please refer to page 4 of the monitoring report for reference to the proposed Joint Waste Plan Review. It is intended that the plan be extended to include all four South Yorkshire Authorities (Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield).

Green infrastructure, open space and public space

Scheme	Location	Update
<p>DVLP ED4 Creating and managing sites more effectively</p>	<p>The Dearne Valley</p>	<p>A hugely successful project with a total spend of £205,394.97.</p> <p>Successes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ‘On The Verge’ grass verges project working with our three local authority partners we facilitated the creation of verge management guidance and sowed metres of wildflowers to enable grass verges to become richer wildlife habitats. • As part of the tree planting initiative we were able to be responsive to community requests which led to three community orchards being created. The orchards were planted with heritage species specific to the South Yorkshire area and were in large planted by local school children who will grow with the trees and nurture them. • Goldthorpe Embankment was a badly fly tipped railway cutting and a local group with the help of the Council Area Team were transforming through basic groundworks. We enabled them to expand the project significantly by bringing in funding/outputs from other areas of the LCAP and working with local schools and in excess of 5 separate community stakeholder groups to create an innovative community space. The project has been shortlisted for the LGC Community Award (with the DVLP included in the nomination), a Queens’ Volunteer Award, and has been celebrated by regional media on many occasions. • 16 site management plans produced • 6 Woodland management plans produced • 18 Key sites having practical improvement works carried out on them

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Hectares of new wood planted • 13,750m² of new verges seeded • 6 Priority woodlands interpreted • Volunteer days, training and active involvement
DVLP ED5 Reconnecting the River Dearne	The Dearne Valley	<p>Successful project with a total spend of £153,618.21</p> <p>Successes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two fish passes installed to enable fish to move freely through the river system so they can find food, shelter, mates and spawning habitat. This, in time will result in increased fish population which might be able to colonise new areas, thus attracting piscivores such as otter and bittern. • Groynes (a collection of piled up boulders in the river) installed to speed up the flow of the water which scours away fine sediment, leaving behind coarse gravel which fish need to spawn. • 1600m Stretch of river corridor directly improved and naturalised
DVLP DD7 Exploring the Dearne	The Dearne Valley	<p>Successful project with a total spend of £248,044.49</p> <p>Successes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership working with BMBC, DVLP and Trans Pennine Trail team • Delivery of improved paths and creation of living fences (hawthorn) to not only deliver our fencing target, but created additional wildlife habitat at the same time • Commissioned a Derbyshire organisation – Access for All – to deliver most of the accessibility aspects of the projects inspiring delivery of the only Access Forum in South Yorkshire • Improved website and digital guides

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit of accessible heritage • Lots of involvement of groups and individuals
DVLP DD8 Signposting the Dearne	The Dearne Valley	<p>Project completed with a total spend of £109,525.70</p> <p>Successes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with local history groups unearthed a veritable wealth of little known information about the area • To deliver our viewpoints we worked with different groups and created different types which responded to the landscape they sat in. These included a willow hermitage, an industrial bench, and an interpretational ‘tear’ in the landscape among others • Received additional funding from Northern, the rail operator, to create eight historical information panels for stations in the Dearne Valley • 40 Way markers installed • 15 Orientation panels installed • 42 Walks led
Green Space Strategy: Improving parks	Boroughwide	<p>Please refer to the Annual Infrastructure funding Statement for details of spaces and funding secured through Section 106 Agreements and expenditure on green space projects for 2019/20.</p> <p>https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/local-plan-research-and-evidence-documents/</p>
Green Space Strategy: Provision of new space within residential development	Boroughwide	<p>Please refer to the Annual Infrastructure funding Statement for details of spaces and funding secured through Section 106 Agreements and expenditure on green space projects for 2019/20.</p>

		https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/local-plan-research-and-evidence-documents/
Mixed use games area	Locke Park	Compete May 2017 Full MUGA, with additional tennis/ basketball/ a5 aside and outdoor gym
Mixed use games area	Goldthorpe Recreation Ground	Complete Dec 2017 Additional play added June 2017
Play area upgrade	Wilthorpe Park	Complete May 2016
Mixed use games area	Bluebell Bank, Sheffield Road	Complete May 2017 NEAP play space & kickabout area/ general landscaping/trees
Refurbished play area	Lesley Road, Kendray	Refurbished June 2018
Provision of play area	Former Royston School	Scholars Gate LEAP play area and general public open space adopted Jan 2019

Sports facilities

Scheme	Location	Update
Improvements to MBC owned sports facilities, managed by BPL	Boroughwide	Since 2016 there have been investment and upgrades at many locations including Royston, Hoyland, Dearneside, Metrodome and Dorothy Hyman. This has included things such as cafes, internal upgrades and improved use of inside space.
Quality improvements to existing playing pitches	Boroughwide	A budget of around £120k has been spent across the borough where needs have been identified.

Health

Scheme	Location	Update
Potential enhancement to A&E services	Barnsley Hospital	<p>(Update as of April 2021)</p> <p>Plans to extend the front of the hospital building in order to create a separated accident and emergency department and clinical assessment unit specifically for children were approved under planning application 2019/1070 on 20 November 2019.</p> <p>The accompanying design and access statements explained that this initiative aims to deliver a better patient experience for children and families accessing urgent and emergency paediatric care at Barnsley Hospital. The proposed physical reconfiguration of the Emergency Department footprint, releasing additional adult ED capacity, will significantly strengthen the</p>

		Trust's clinical strategy of consistently delivering urgent and emergency care within the 4 hour access standard. The building works are underway.
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Climate change and renewables

Scheme	Location	Update
Solar PV: Energise Barnsley Project	Various	Completed 320 PV units installed to Berneslai Homes and 16 BMBC non-domestic properties.
District Heat Networks	Various	Outline Business Case is in delivery to look finalise the opportunity of using ambient heat loop to develop district energy scheme in and around town centre. The lead delivery/management organisations now include BMBC, WYCA, Carbon Trust, BEIS and ARUP. Delivery mechanisms include BMBC, DECC, SCR, Public and grant funded via HNIP. The anticipated cost is £8m with a potential funding gap of £4m. The target for delivery is 2021.
Boiler replacement	Barnsley Metrodome	The scheme is underway and is being delivered using the Local Partnerships Re:Fit framework and Ameresco at a cost of £1.6m. The lead delivery/management organisations include BMBC, Local Partnerships and BPL.

Emergency Services

Scheme	Location	Update
Redevelopment or relocation of Keresforth Fire Station site	Keresforth Fire Station Barnsley	(Update as of April 2021) Plans to demolish the existing fire station and replace with a modern fire station fit for purpose have been approved under planning permission 2019/1134, granted on 7 th February 2020. The developer took over the site in July 2020 and it is now under construction.

Community and cultural

Scheme	Location	Update
New library as part of the Better Barnsley town centre redevelopment plans	Barnsley Town Centre	Construction began in September 2016 and the new library (Library at the Lightbox) opened on Saturday 13 July 2019.
Renovation of Cooper Gallery Cottage to provide artist studio space	Cooper Gallery Barnsley Town Centre	Completed £250K investment from Arts Council, S106 and Barnsley Council
Parks for People	Cannon Hall	£4M investment secured from National Lottery Heritage Fund, S106, various Trust & Foundations. Project completed Spring 2020
Exhibition galleries	Cannon Hall	No funding identified for major scheme. £60K secured from Wolfson Foundation for Ceramics Gallery re-fit
Development of site including new function/café space and restoration of two cottages for holiday let.	Cannon Hall	Full scheme designed and costed; £200K match identified but no funding for full scheme.

<p>DVLP: Partnership with Friends of Monk Bretton Priory to improve signage, interpretation, access and management of space</p>	<p>Monk Bretton Priory</p>	<p>Partnership work is ongoing including BMBC, Historic England and the Friends of Group.</p> <p>Working with ArchHeritage, the Friends of Group and with the support/knowledge of Historic England and SYAS so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2017 – wildflower meadow sown • June 2017 – Geophysics survey and volunteer days with student from Bradford University • March 2018 – Finds handling workshop for volunteers based at the site • May 2019 – Ancient graffiti recording at the Mill of the Black Monks • September 2019 – received final reports on Geophysics and Graffiti from ArchHeritage <p>Current spend is around £6,500</p>
<p>DVLP: Conservation and management plan to protect and enhance the site, building pathways, signage and interpretation</p>	<p>Barnsley Main/Oaks Colliery</p>	<p>Project is ongoing. Initial funds secured from a combination of HLF and match funding and monies from Section 106 Agreements. £156, 877 has been spent so far.</p> <p>Success to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established a Heritage Group • Securing Section 106 funds to extend the work to the headgear and building • Repainting the winding wheel • Funding some additional work to compliment a project that the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust were doing on the land they managed helping to link the two sites more closely. • Significant improvements to the site • Near cessation of antisocial behaviour at the site

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation plan produced • Protection of a Listed Building
Masterplanning	Elsecar	Masterplanning complete. Bid being submitted for £4M to NLHF June 2020 following EOI stage; funding being sought for development of adjacent Dawson's site (purchased by BMBC)
Site development including new learning facilities (bakery and cookery school)	Worsborough Mill	Feasibility work complete but no funding identified for scheme. £100K secured from National Lottery Heritage Fund for habitat restoration
Potential need for new cemetery	Bolton upon Dearne	Site selection work is ongoing