



LONDON BOROUGH OF WANDSWORTH
LOCAL PLAN INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC
WRITTEN STATEMENT

MAIN MATTER 22:
MONITORING
(POLICY LP61)

TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2022

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Abbreviations

AMR – Annual Monitoring Report

LDD - London Development Database

LP – The London Plan

NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework

WLP – Wandsworth Local Plan

Will the Council’s monitoring and review processes for the WLP be effective in assessing the success or failure of delivery and what alternatives might reasonably be provided if necessary?

The Council has a well-established and comprehensive set of monitoring indicators that provides a consistent approach that allows comparison over previous years to assess trends. The Council captures considerably more data than is required by the London Development Database (LDD). The Council’s monitoring reports are published online as a series of topics, the timescale of which is determined by the nature of the topic in terms of its strategic importance and sensitive to changing circumstance.

Table 2a in the Local Plan Monitoring Framework (SD-008) sets out proposed monitoring of the Plan Policies. The indicators and targets will assess the effectiveness of policies and how the implementation of policies is progressing. This, along with Table 2b, which sets out the significant effects indicators, covers the strategic objectives as well as meeting requirements for monitoring the significant effects indicators in line with the Sustainability Appraisal process.

It is a comprehensive framework which includes both indicators and targets where possible. The framework, whilst it sits alongside the Plan, was produced as a standalone document as it is an overall framework, which also relates to other plans and monitoring programmes. This approach will allow the Council to regularly review the framework independently, so there is flexibility to adapt to changes in monitoring requirements, which are often required over the lifetime of a Plan.

Overall, this framework sets out a realistic and meaningful way of monitoring the effectiveness of the Plan, taking account of availability of data, practicalities of monitoring arrangements such as resources available within the Council, and it is flexible as it allows for inclusion / review of targets when relevant. The arrangements for monitoring the delivery of the Plan are clear and will be effective.

LP 61 ‘Monitoring’ commits the Council to review the effectiveness of the policies in line with the indicators and where relevant targets, as set out in Table 2a of the Framework.

In addition, a London Plan Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is published which assesses the effectiveness of the London Plan policies, which the policies of this Plan are in general conformity with. This uses the GLA’s LDD, which uses data supplied by the boroughs to monitor planning permissions and completions. This provides good quality data on key indicators, allowing for comparison between boroughs, including for housing, employment,

transport, environment and heritage. This regular monitoring provides an important source of evidence which would act as one of the signals to suggest where a policy (or policies) is not effective. Other sources of information include IDP reviews and appeal decisions. As the Council is committed to regularly reviewing and monitoring the indicators in line with the framework, whereby key policies / aspects are monitored annually, it is considered that this establishes an appropriate time period for assessing the policies' effectiveness.

The Plan is considered sufficiently clear to show what is intended to happen in the area over the lifetime of the Plan, where and when this will occur and how it will be delivered. Monitoring on an ongoing and regular basis, without milestones and with key areas reported on annually, is therefore considered appropriate in this borough.

As set out in LP61 if the monitoring framework shows that there is a failure in delivery or a change in policy then as stated in LP61.C the Council will commence an early review of the Local Plan to determine whether any or all of the policies of the Plan need to be updated in order to address significant changes in circumstances or whether there are other mechanisms that could be used. The Policy provides sufficient flexibility for the Council to respond to changes in circumstance and does not preclude the Council from undertaking an early partial review of the Plan rather than a full review, having had regard to the information provided by the Council's robust approach to monitoring the Plan's effectiveness.