


Oxford Core Strategy Examination Statement of Oxford City Council		<a href="http://www.oxford.gov.uk">www.oxford.gov.uk</a>  <b>OXFORD CITY COUNCIL</b>
C/M11/1	<b>Matter 11 – Monitoring Issue 1</b>	

**i) Are the targets appropriate, sufficiently detailed and of an appropriate time scale?**

Section 9.2 of the Core Strategy sets out a framework for monitoring the success of each policy within the Core Strategy. This flows from Section 9.1 showing means of implementation. It is very clear from the Implementation table that many of the objectives of the spatial strategy (and core policies supporting it) rely on partnership working, over the medium- to long-term, between the two tiers of local authority, together with developers, other infrastructure providers, and other enabling bodies. This is, of course, the nature of the spatial planning system. Certainly, it would be misleading to pre-empt milestones and targets relating to as yet unprepared plans and programmes of other bodies without sufficient evidence to back this up.

Nevertheless, in making changes to the submitted Core Strategy, some significant detail has been added to the monitoring framework. Detailed delivery targets are specified for all the strategic sites with the exception of the SDA just south of the City boundary (which cannot be defined independently of South Oxfordshire's Core Strategy). Specific targets relating to the expected phasing of development are also set out in relation to Policy CS1 – Hierarchy of Centres, and measures of progress against goals in regeneration areas are also spelt out. Time-limited indicators and targets for the core policies are specified where appropriate, having regard to other plans and strategies. Policies that relate to the development management process cannot by their nature be time-limited, however thresholds are specified in terms of developments complying with the policy requirements, which can be readily measured through the AMR process.

For some policies, it has not been possible to define milestones or targets, as key delivery partners have not been able to provide investment or implementation plans into the future. For example, improving primary healthcare for the growing population, is a priority reflected in Policy CS16. The policy is supported by the PCT, however it is only possible to identify specific deliverables in reference to Oxfordshire PCT's capital programme, which to date only has the Jericho health centre specified (and this is duly reflected in the monitoring target). Therefore a target *figure* relating to all new healthcare facilities cannot at this stage be specified. Hence for Policy CS16, and other policies where similar circumstances apply, a

target *objective* is applied that relates the development management process, including other bodies' plans as appropriate, to policy implementation. These will be monitored through the AMR where practicable.

It should also be noted that AAPs relating to Barton and the Northern Gateway will incorporate detailed implementation and monitoring frameworks, reflecting more detailed development of these respective projects. The forthcoming Development Management and Site Allocations DPDs will also incorporate monitoring frameworks linked closely to the AMR process.

**ii) Are all areas sufficiently covered by indicators and targets?**

The City Council considers that all key policy areas are covered by the indicators and targets set out in Section 9.2 of the Core Strategy. It is recognised that not every single element of each policy in each case has an indicator relating to it. This is because a monitoring framework of very fine-grained detail is not appropriate for a Core Strategy, and can be better reflected in other DPDs such as those that will deal with Development Management and Site Allocations, and the Area Action Plans. To adopt such a fine-grained approach would be unrealistically cumbersome and difficult to carry out expediently.

Therefore, the key element or elements of each policy are identified for the purposes of monitoring the success of the policy.

It should be noted that there are two policies that do not have a monitoring target. The first is Policy CS8 – South Oxford Strategic Development Area, which relates to an area just outside the City's administrative boundary, and has only recently been confirmed as an SDA with the publication of the adopted South East Plan in May. This development will involve detailed cross-border working before any meaningful framework for monitoring can be adopted, which will ultimately be reflected in South Oxfordshire District's LDF as the lead authority for this development. The second is Policy CS9 – Summertown. This is a contingency housing site, so the timing of delivery is dependent on housing delivery on other sites and the land becoming deliverable, therefore milestones and targets are as yet unknown.