Annual Monitoring Report

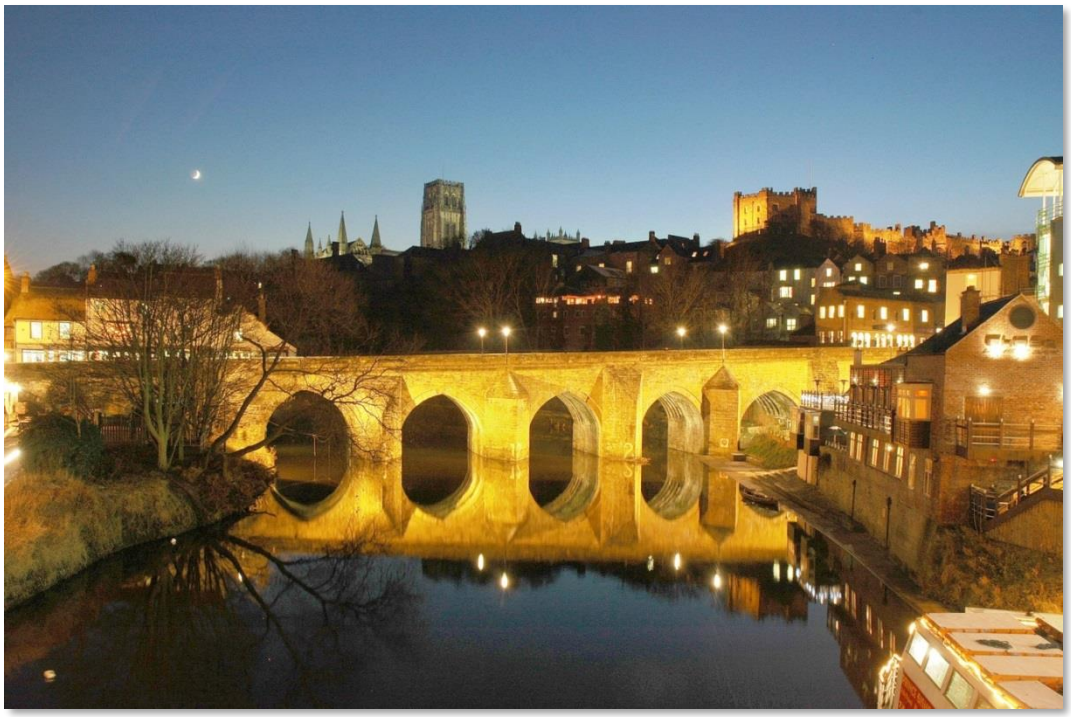
November 2017

Altogether better

Durham County Council

1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017

Contents



1. Introduction

1.1. Monitoring activity relating to local plan policies, enables the identification of any unintended consequences of policies, whether the assumptions and objectives that the policies are based upon are still relevant and if the policy targets are being achieved. In turn, the findings highlight where adjustments and revisions to policies are required and can inform the development of further new policies.

1.2. Further, with monitoring, any difficulties in achieving delivery in terms of timescales and other measurable targets can be highlighted. Where variance from policy is identified, the actions required to bring implementation back in line can be identified and implemented thereafter.

1.3. Following the introduction of the Localism Act in 2011, local planning authorities have much greater flexibility concerning the preparation of Annual Monitoring reports (AMR). An AMR must still be published annually and made available at Council offices and published on the website. The Act however allows local planning authorities to choose indicators and targets to include in their AMR, that best relate to local circumstances and priorities in their area.

1.4. This AMR relates to the period **1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017**.

2. Structure of report

2.1. The Localism Act in 2011 gave local authorities much greater flexibility to decide what they include in their AMR's, whilst ensuring that they are prepared in accordance with relevant legislation. Reports must still be produced on an annual basis.

2.2. The Council's local plan is currently in a transitional phase and we are therefore using the existing development plan. This is made up of a number of documents (local plans) that were put in place for the former districts of County Durham before the local authority became unitary in 2009[1].

2.3. These existing local plans set out information on how planning and development is currently managed. Saved policies in these local plans will continue to influence planning and development decisions until the County Durham Plan replaces them.

2.4. It would be difficult to monitor all of these local plans and so it has been decided to monitor indicators that are cross-cutting and common amongst all previous local plans.

[1] Two neighbourhood plans which introduce new planning policies specifically for their areas have been formally adopted by Durham County Council in July 2017.

3. Progress in preparing the County Durham Plan

3.1. In 2014, the council submitted a local plan for Examination. Following Examination, the Inspectors Interim Report identified areas of unsoundness. This was challenged by the council through a Judicial Review.

3.2. With the Consent of the Government this resulted in the Interim Report being quashed by the High Court and an agreement which saw the Council withdraw the plan.

3.3. A local plan seeks to guide the future development of a place and to improve the lives of its existing and future residents. The Issues and Options was the first stage of consultation on the County Durham Plan which took place in June 2016.

3.4. Looking forward, it is the intention that the monitoring framework will be developed around the emerging County Durham Plan. On the 7th February 2017, the Government published its Housing White Paper entitled 'Fixing out broken housing market.' The Council produced a full response to the consultation however the Housing White Paper signalled a further consultation which could fundamentally change the number of houses that councils are required to plan for and make significant changes to the methodology on which the County Durham plan is based. This was eventually published in September 2017. Further information is available on our website or consultation portal.

4. The County at a glance

4.1. County Durham is the seventh largest authority in North East England, lying at the heart of the region with Teesside to the south, and Tyne and Wear and Northumberland to the north. It covers a total area of 862 square miles and borders Tyne and Wear, North Yorkshire, Cumbria and Northumberland. County Durham has high quality landscapes rich in wildlife, attractive countryside, villages, historic towns and buildings and a restored coastline. The environment is one of the County's key assets.

4.2. The County is home to around 519,700 people[2] of whom over 228,000 are in employment (compared to around half a million in neighbouring Tyne and Wear). The County has around 16400 businesses[3] employing 173,000 employees[4]. Overall, the value of economic output is around £7.8 billion[5].

4.3. Lying at the heart of the North East region with conurbations to the north and south, County Durham has commuting relationships with these areas as it is adjacent to the Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley labour markets. The County has net out-commuting in the region of 30,000 people on a daily basis[6].

4.4. County Durham shares many of the problems of the North of England, arising from a long-term pattern of sectoral change and industrial decline. It also has unique challenges arising from its legacy of scattered industrial settlements, and its lack of large urban areas to drive growth. Countering these, though, are the unique environments of Durham City and the Durham Dales and the key strengths of Durham University. The County, though commonly regarded as a predominantly rural area, varies in character from remote and sparsely populated areas in the west, to the former coalfield communities in the centre and the east, where villages tend to accommodate thousands rather than hundreds. Around 90% of the population lives east of the A68 road in approximately half of the County by area.

4.5. Our largest towns act as service centres for the surrounding communities, providing employment, shopping and key day-to-day services. The role of the towns in County Durham varies widely. Some provide vital services to isolated communities whilst others have grown to provide a much wider range of services for both the town and other communities nearby. Whilst there are

[2] ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2015
[3] Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS) 2015
[4] Business Register and Employment Survey 2015. Employees at place of work
[5] GVA ONS 2014
[6] NOMIS Census 2011 TTW data

over 300 settlements within the County, 94% of the population live within a 5-mile radius of the largest towns.

4.6. The 2011 Census indicates the limited diversity in the County's population compared with larger urban areas. 98.4% - White, 0.6% Mixed Multiple Ethnic, , 0.8% - Asian, 0.1% - Black & Other Ethnic Group – 0.1%.The largest ethnic minority group in the County are gypsies and travellers, either migrant or settled.

4.7. County Durham remains a source of economically important minerals to meet commercial development needs. A steady and adequate supply should be maintained for both local and nationally important mineral resources. The approach to waste management is to tackle the growth in waste through the use of the waste hierarchy which seeks to prioritise the prevention of waste at source, followed by reuse, recycling, recovery including energy recovery and as a last option, safe disposal.

5. Summary of Findings

5.1. Economic Growth and Town Centres

- Employment: 11.1ha approved and 7.8ha of completions
- No employment land lost to other uses on industrial estates.
- Decrease in overall town centre vacancy rates. The current average rate for County Durham is 10.6%[7], compared to 11.3% in 2015/16. Newton Aycliffe has the highest vacancy rate of 23.2%.
- Hot-food takeaways have an average rate of 4.7% per town centre, with Ferryhill and Shildon having the highest rates, 9.3% and 8.3% respectively.

5.2. Housing

- A total of **1,381** dwellings (net) were completed in 2016/17, including 149 affordable housing units.
- Total completions since 2011/12 have been **7,544** an average of **1,257** per annum

5.3. Minerals and Waste

- Both crushed rock and sand and gravel sales rose in 2015[8] for the third consecutive year. Sales of crushed rock reached 2.77 million tonnes, the highest level of production since 2008 and sand and gravel sales reached 256,000 tonnes, the highest level of production since 2006.
- Permitted reserves of crushed rock and sand and gravel are very healthy at 138.3 million tonnes and 8.3 million tonnes respectively.
- 1,064,000 tonnes of coal and 83,000 tonnes of fireclay were permitted in the period and are available for extraction.[9]

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[7] Rate excludes district centres

8 Due to the way in which mineral information is collected by the North East Aggregates Working Party (NEAWP) no information is available for the monitoring period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017. Information is only available on a calendar year basis. However, the figures for this indicator set out in the table below provide the most up to date information available (January 2017).

[9] The Bradley surface mined coal site was submitted to the Council by UK Coal Mining Ltd in December 2006. This planning application proposed the extraction of 550,000 tonnes of coal from a 67.8ha site near Leadgate. This scheme was refused planning permission by the Council in February 2011. The refusal was then upheld at appeal on 23 February 2012. Following a high court challenge against the Inspector's appeal decision, on Friday 19th July 2013 the High Court quashed the inspector's decision on the grounds that he had misunderstood the Government's planning guidance. The appeal was subsequently heard in October 2014 and the appeal Inspector determined that planning permission should be granted on 3 June 2015.

The Field House surface mined coal site was submitted to the Council by Hargreaves Surface Mining Ltd in August 2013. It proposed the extraction of 514,000 tonnes of coal and 83,000 tonnes of fireclay from a 55.9ha site on land to the north of Low Pittington. This planning

- Reserves of brick clay are below 15 years reflecting the need for further permissions to ensure that continued brick production can continue in the long term.
- The extent of the high-grade dolomite land bank at Thrislington Quarry is currently greater than 15 years, this is sufficient to meet ongoing requirements of the steel and chemical industry.
- No new permitted reserves were granted for natural building and roof stone.
- Percentage of municipal waste landfilled – 4.1%.

5.4. Environmental Quality

- A decrease of 2.3 tonnes per capita C_02 emissions between 2005 and 2014.
- A renewable energy capacity of 199.77 MWe, a 0.5% increase from the previous period (2015/16).
- 93 Conservations Areas, 42 with appraisals/management proposals.
- 18 new listed buildings added (mainly war memorials).

application was refused planning permission by the Council in June 2014. The appeal was subsequently heard in September/October 2015 and the appeal Inspector determined that planning permission should be granted on 5 January 2016.

6. Monitoring Indictors

7. Housing

Indicator
H1 - Net Housing Completions
H2 – Housing Permissions
H3 - Percentage of affordable housing units delivered by Delivery Area
H4 - Net additional Traveller pitches or plots approved and completed by type
H5 – Student Exempt Properties

H1 - Net Housing Completions

7.1. In 2016/17, there were **1,381** net housing completions in the county. Although there has been a steady decline in completions since 2011/12, 2014/15 and 2015/16 have shown a recovery. However,completions have declined again in 2016/17, with a decrease of 10.4%.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Net Housing Completions	**1,244**	**1,124**	**1,090**	**1,164**	**1,541**	**1,381**

Table 1: Net Housing Completions. **** figures may be subject to small changes over time, as data is collected from a large number of sources and due to this some figures may be delayed. Data extract:24/10/2017***

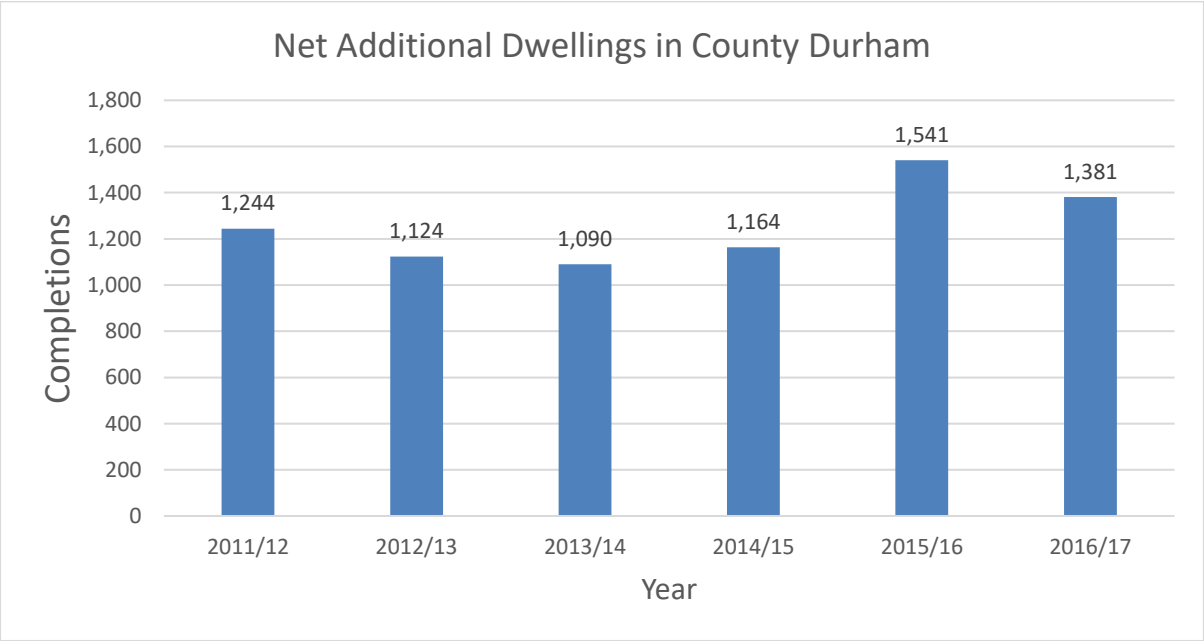

Figure 1: Net Housing Completions. **** figures may be subject to small changes over time, as data is collected from a large number of sources and due to this some figures may be delayed. Data extract: 24/10/2017***

7.2. The NPPF states that housing applications should be considered in the context of a presumption in favour of sustainable development and that if the Council cannot demonstrate a five year housing land supply, housing policies in a Local Plan cannot be considered up to date. The housing trajectory associated with the withdrawn County Durham Plan (CDP) is no longer relevant and similarly the CDP Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) for housing figure no longer exists. This raises the issue of what is the requirement against which the supply is to be measured in order to calculate whether or not a 5 year housing supply exists.

7.3. On 15 June 2016 the County Durham Plan Issues and Options (the first stage of the re-emerging plan process) was presented at Cabinet. The report was approved at Cabinet and consultation on the CDP Issues and Options commenced on 24 June 2016. In relation to housing, the Issues and Options present three alternative assessments of housing needs, each based on average net completions up to 2033 (the end of the CDP plan period). The three alternatives are:

- 1,533 houses per year (29,127 houses by 2033)
- 1,629 houses per year (30,951 houses by 2033)
- 1,717 houses per year (32,623 houses by 2033)

7.4. As of April 2017 the Council considers that it has a deliverable supply of 10,234 (net) new dwellings for the next 5-year period. Set against the lowest figure the Council can demonstrate a supply of 4.91 years of deliverable housing land, against the middle figure around about 4.51 years' worth supply and against the highest figure, 4.20 years of supply. Recent case law has indicated that the extent of any shortfall in supply is a material planning consideration which should be factored into the planning balance under Paragraph 14 (Phides case).

7.5. Whilst none of the three scenarios within the Issues and Options has been publicly tested, it does serve to demonstrate that set against varying potential figures, one of which may be identified as the OAN following consultation in the Preferred Option Stage Local Plan, the Council has a relatively substantial supply of housing.

7.6. Nevertheless, the decision-taking requirements of NPPF Paragraph 14 apply, as the Council does not have a five-year supply in the terms of the NPPF requirements and additionally the relevant local plan policies may be out of date for other reasons, as discussed below, and will only be rebutted where a

proposal would result in adverse impacts that would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, both in the form of a contribution to housing supply and any other benefits, or if specific policies in the NPPF indicate development should be restricted.

H2 - Housing Permissions

7.7. Whilst housing completions are important for considering housing supply and delivery, they only show part of the picture. It is also relevant to consider planning permissions to understand the number of dwellings that the County is actively seeking to boost the supply of housing.

7.8. Recent monitoring activity has confirmed that there remains a large supply of housing sites with planning permission that are yet to be implemented (10,205 units) and under construction (5,314 units), therefore a healthy land supply exists.[10]

H3 - Percentage of affordable housing units delivered by Delivery Area

7.9. In 2016/17 there were 149 affordable housing units completed in County Durham. This is a 32.3% decrease from 2015/16 where there were 220 affordable units delivered.

[10] *Housing Monitoring April 2017*

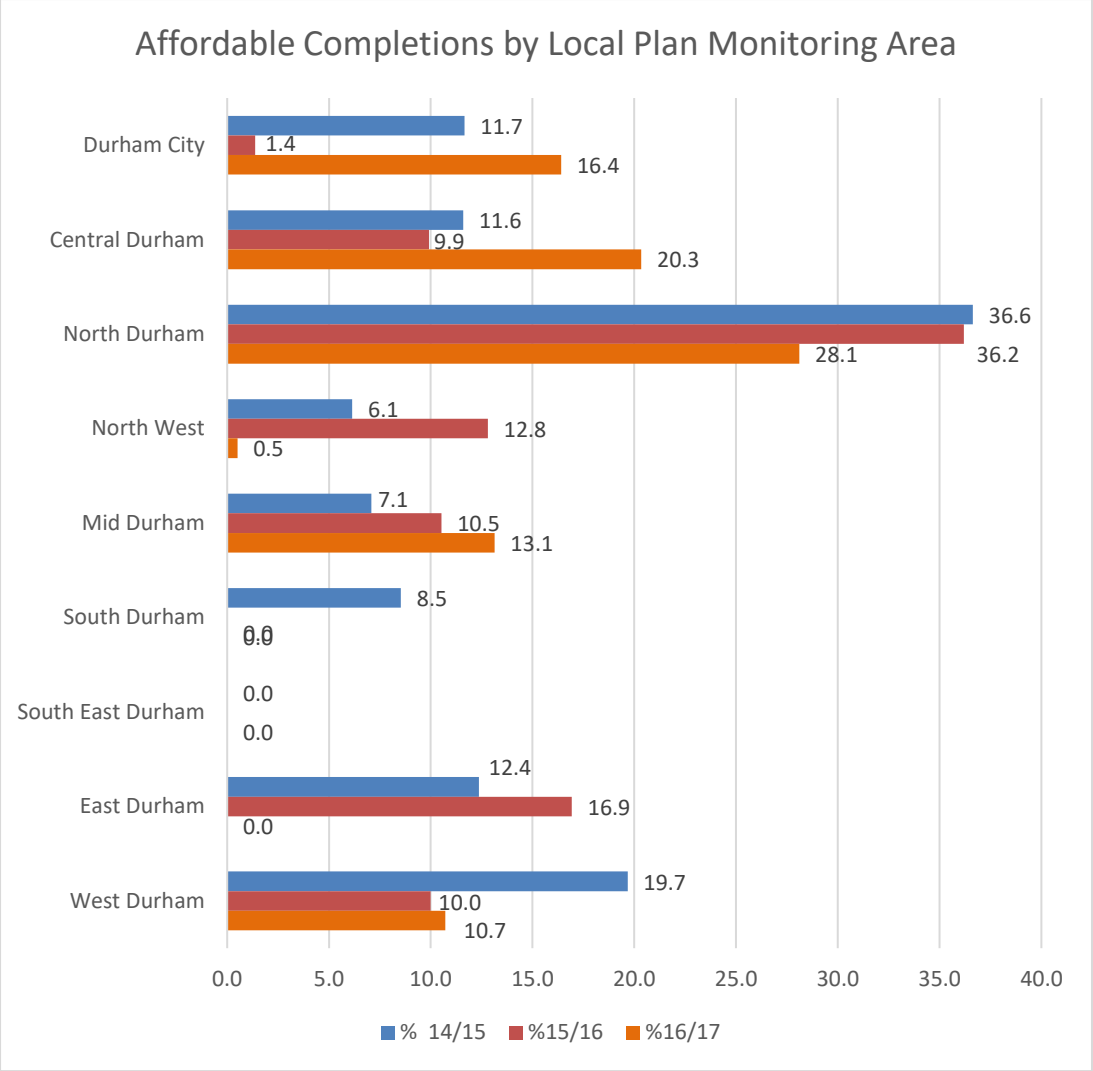

Figure 2: Affordable Completions breakdown by Local Plan Monitoring Area

7.10. Looking at Local Plan Monitoring Areas and affordable completions as a percentage of all housing completions, the bulk of affordable completions in the last three years came from North Durham. In 2016/17 North Durham had the highest percentage of affordable completions with 28.1%.

7.11. In 2016/17,220 affordable units were approved, this is an increase of 358% from the previous period when there were 48 affordable units approved.

H4 - Net additional Traveller pitches or plots approved and completed by type

7.12. There has been 11 additional traveller pitches approved and completed during the period.

H5 – Student exempt properties

7.13. The 2016/17 AMR considers data on the spatial concentration of the student properties by presenting data on properties benefiting from a student exemption from Council Tax by postcode, as a proportion of total residential properties. The postcode geography utilised in the AMR provides a small scale and constant geography to monitor change over time.

7.14. As background, on the 13th April 2016 Durham County Council adopted an Interim Policy on Student Accommodation. This indicator supports the monitoring impact of the Interim Policy. In addition, an Article 4 Direction for areas of Durham City on 16th September 2016. This Article 4 Direction means that planning permission will be required for the change of use from a family home to a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO). An Article 4 Direction has also been confirmed for a defined area of Framwellgate Moor, Newton Hall and Pity Me covering change of use from a family home to a HMO. This will come into force on the 13th May 2017. This indicator supports the monitoring impact of the Interim Policy.

7.15. Appendix 1 contains a map of the concentrations of the properties benefiting from a student exemption from council tax in Durham City. It is clear that the concentrations vary across the City, with the highest concentrations in the viaduct area and the town centre. Appendix 2 provides a map of concentrations of student exempt properties in the Framwellgate Moor, Newton Hall and Pity Me areas. Whilst in lower concentrations than Durham City, it is clear that there are a spread of student exempt properties across this geography.

8. Economic Growth and Town Centres

Indicator
EG1 - Employment Land approved and completed
EG2 - Employment Land Lost to other uses
EG3 - Approved and completed retail floor space outside retail centres
EG4 - Vacancy rates in retail centres
EG5 - Percentage of units within Town Centres in A5 use

EG1 - Employment Land approved and completed

8.1. During the period 11.1 ha of land of employment uses (B1,B2,B8) was approved. The majority of this was B1 – Office/ Light Industry (7.2 ha), with 3.3ha approved at Glaxo Smith Kline, Barnard Castle for a pharmaceutical manufacturing facility. There was also 1.8ha approved at Meadowfield Industrial Estate for a two storey office building.

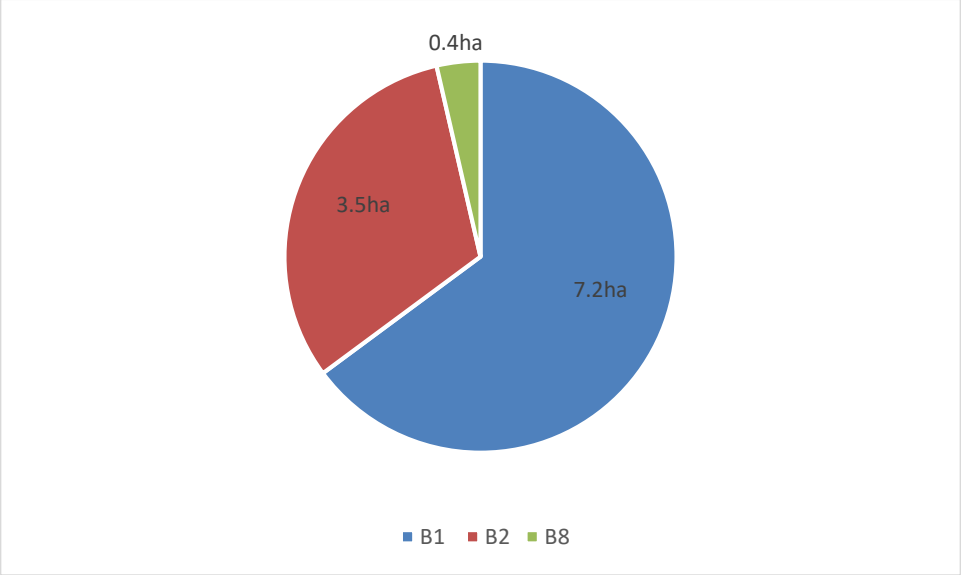

Figure 3: Employment Land Approvals 2016/17

8.2. There was 7.8ha of employment completions in 2016/17 on industrial estates. Of which 3.7ha of development was seen at Bowburn North Industrial Estate. There was a further 2.3ha at Meadowfield Industrial Estate. The remainder was made up of completions across Stainton Grove, Low Willington Industrial Estate, Freemans Reach and Prospect Road, Crook[11].

EG2 - Employment Land Lost to other uses

8.3. It is important that major employment sites across the county are retained to ensure a sustainable distribution of business premises and employment land and maintain a range of potential job opportunities.

8.4. During the period there was no land lost to other uses[12].

EG3 – Net additional Retail Floorspace approved and completed inside and outside Town Centres

8.5. The Council supports our retail centres to generate local employment, promote beneficial competition within and between town centres, and create attractive, diverse places where people want to live, visit and work.

8.6. Retail centres are important as they are highly accessible places, providing customers with the ability to complete multipurpose shopping trips. This reduces the need to travel by car. Therefore, most new retail developments should be within existing Town Centres.

[11] Employment Land Completions data analysis is made up of a combination of OSMastermap and Employment Monitoring Database data.
[12] Housing Monitoring database used in analysis

Approvals

8.7. There was 1,984m^2 of net additional retail floorspace approved within town/district centres within the period. With 1,645m2 approved for an Aldi Supermarket at the former Bus Station and Co-op Buildings, Stanley.

8.8. There was 12,167m^2 net additional floorspace approved outside retail centres in the period, with 2,049m^2 approved at Black Diamond, Delves Lane, Consett for a mix of A1 convenience, retail, office and restaurant uses.

Completions

8.9. There was 153m^2 of new retail floorspace completed within town/district centres, this was at the Thai River restaurant in The Gates development in Durham City.

8.10. There was 15,417m^2 was completed outside retail centres. The largest individual scheme completed was 8,411m^2 for A1 Supermarket at Dalton Park. However this unit currently remains unoccupied[13].

EG4 - Vacancy rates in retail centres

8.11. The proportion of vacant units is a key market indicator used to measure the vitality and viability of existing centres.

8.12. Overall across the county in 2016/17 the vacancy rate was 10.6%[14] , this is 0.8% below the national vacancy rate of 11.2%[15].

8.13. This continues a trend of a decreasing vacancy rate in County Durham, the average vacancy rate is now the lowest it's been in the last 5 years and has decreased every year from a high of 13% in 2012/13.

8.14. Newton Aycliffe had the highest rate of 23.2% and Barnard Castle showed the biggest improvement from last year, showing a decrease it's vacancy rate of 4.3%.

8.15. The lowest vacancy rates within the County are at the defined district centre of Arnison and also at Tindale (not defined as a centre). It is interesting to note that both locations offer more modern style retail park shopping destinations with free parking and larger units. Neither centre has any vacancies.

[13] Retail completions data from IDOX database.
[14] Rates include district retail centres
[15] Local Data Company October 2016

8.16. For more information on County Durham's Town Centres please visits our Storymap for 2016.

Town Centre	2014/15 Vacancy Rate	2015/16 Vacancy Rate	2016/17 Vacancy Rate	% Change from 2015/16
Arnison	9.1	4	0	4
Tindale	11.1	2.8	0	-2.8
Hermiston	17.6	0	0	0
Ferryhill	8.0	5.9	3.5	-2.4
Barnard Castle	8.9	8.2	3.9	-4.3
Seaham	6.3	4.6	6.1	1.5
Durham City	8.6	8.3	7.1	-1.2
Consett	6.7	7.9	8.3	0.4
Crook	9.7	11	8.3	-2.7
Shildon	11.2	8.2	8.3	0.1
Dragonville	0	7.3	10.8	3.5
Chester-le-Street	12.7	9.7	12.2	2.5
Spennymoor	12.3	12.8	12.8	0.0
Stanley	12.3	11.4	13.7	2.3
Peterlee	14.5	17.2	13.8	-3.4
Bishop Auckland	20.3	19.1	18.1	-1.0
Newton Aycliffe	32.8	27.4	23.2	-4.2

Table 2: Vacancy Rate and % change

EG5 - Percentage of units within Town Centres in A5 use (Hot-food Takeaways)

8.17. Hot-food takeaways have an average rate of 4.7% per town centre, with Ferryhill and Shildon having the highest rates, 9.3% and 8.3% respectively. Whilst over the period Crook showed the largest decline in A5 usage with a decline of 1.3%.

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	% Change from 2015/16
Arnison	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hermiston	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sherburn / Dragonville	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Peterlee	2.6	1.6	1.6	0.0

Durham City	3.2	2.4	2.7	0.3
Tindale	2.8	2.8	2.7	-0.1
Stanley	3.5	3.5	3.4	-0.1
Barnard Castle	4.5	4.9	3.9	-1.1
Bishop Auckland	4.3	4.0	4.0	0.0
Newton Aycliffe	3.4	3.8	4.0	0.3
Chester-le-Street	4.5	4.5	4.4	-0.1
Seaham	6.3	5.3	5.3	0.0
Crook	7.6	7.6	6.3	-1.3
Consett	9.1	7.9	7.8	-0.1
Spennymoor	5.6	7.9	7.9	0.0
Shildon	8.2	9.2	8.3	-0.9
Ferryhill	7.0	9.4	9.3	-0.1

Table 3: Hot Food Take-away %

9. Minerals and Waste

Indicator
MW1 - Crushed Rock land bank (years) and the extent of crushed rock reserves (tonnes) with planning permission
MW2 - Crushed rock sales (tonnes) per annum
MW3 - Sand and gravel land bank (years) and the extent of sand and gravel reserves (tonnes) with planning permission
MW4 - Sand and gravel sales per annum (tonnes)
MW5 - Extent of high grade dolomite (land bank in years) at Thrislington Quarry west and east of the A1(M)
MW6 - No of years of approved reserves at Todhills, and the Union Brickworks
MW7 - Quantity of new permitted reserves of coal and fireclay
MW8 - Quantity of new permitted reserves of natural building and roofing stone granted
MW9 - Quantity of new permitted reserves granted on relic sites for natural building and roofing stone working
MW10 - Amount of waste (tonnage) imported into/exported out of County Durham per annum and by stream
MW11 - New Capacity permitted by waste type and management type
MW12 - Amount of **municipal** and **household** waste arising, and managed by management type

** Due to the way in which mineral information is collected by the North East Aggregates Working Party (NEAWP) no information is available for the monitoring period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017. Information is only available on a calendar year basis. However, the figures for this indicator set out in the table below provide the most up to date information available (January 2017).*

MW1 - Crushed Rock land bank (years) and the extent of crushed rock reserves (tonnes) with planning permission

9.1. Policy M1 of the County Durham Minerals Local Plan advised that as a whole that a crushed rock landbank of at least 10 years will be maintained throughout the plan period. 31 December 2015 the crushed rock land bank for County Durham stood at 44.9 years. This landbank comprised 138,326,200 tonnes of crushed rock comprising magnesian limestone, carboniferous limestone and dolerite

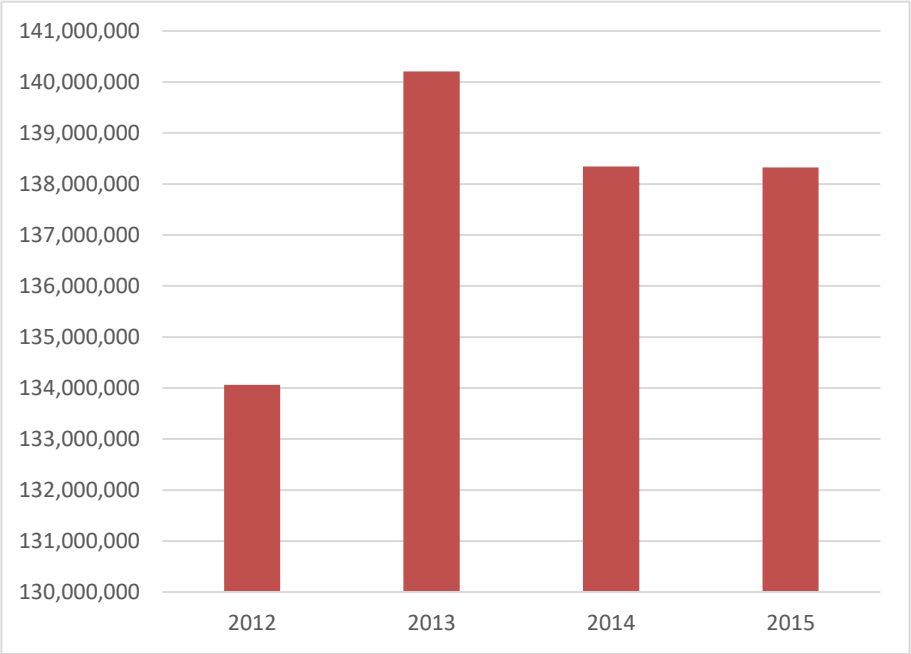

Figure 4: Crushed Rock Permitted Reserves

MW2 - Crushed rock sales (tonnes) per annum

9.2. Crushed rock sales are the quantity of crushed rock aggregate which was extracted and sold from all of County Durham's hard rock quarries. It excludes all mineral used for non-aggregate purposes, for example agricultural lime. Crushed rock sales in 2015 were 2,770,000 tonnes. This continues an upward trend in sales for County Durham over the last few years and shows a slight increase of sales from 2014 when 2,654,000 tonnes of crushed rock was sold. Crushed rock sales in 2015 were also higher than the ten year sales average for crushed rock which is 2,527,000 tonnes. The three year annual average sales, over the period 2013 to 2015, is 2,556,667 tonnes which is 1.1% higher than the ten year average sales. The last three years sales all being higher than all previous years since 2008 reflecting growth in the economy in recent years following the significant decline in sales between 2009 and 2012.Crushed rock sales are expected to continue to rise as the economy comes out of the recession.

9.3. Sales during 2015 were, however, below the annual demand requirement figure of 3,078,000 as set out in the Joint Local Aggregate Assessment for County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear, and still well below the pre-recession figure of 3,777,000 tonnes which were sold in 2005.

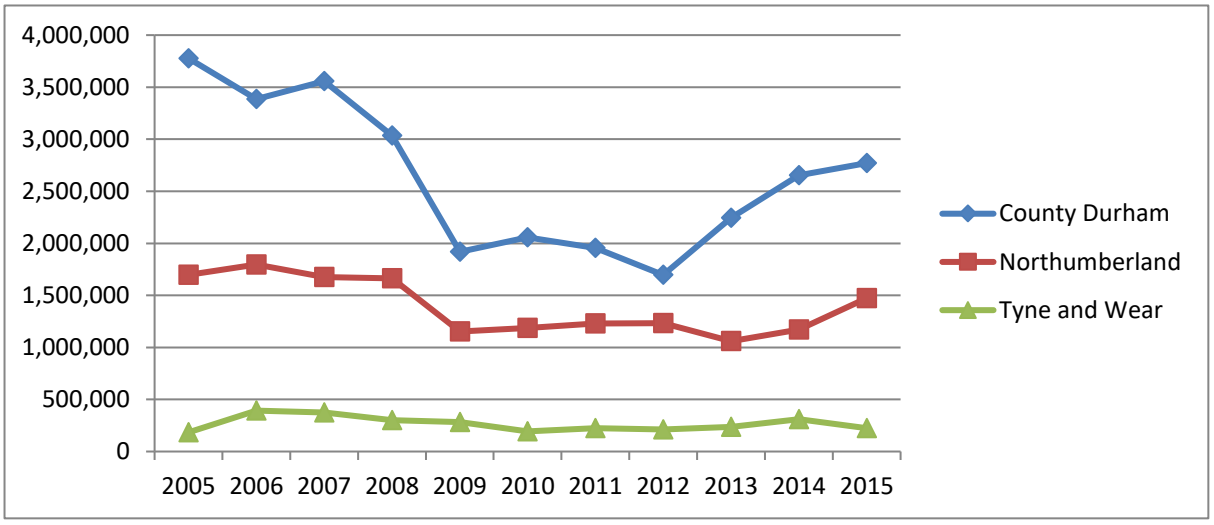

Figure 5: Crushed Rock Sales per Annum (tonnes)[16]

MW3 - Sand and gravel land bank (years) and the extent of sand and gravel reserves (tonnes) with planning permission.

9.4. Policy M1 of the County Durham Minerals Local Plan advised that as a whole that a sand and gravel landbank of at least 7 years will be maintained throughout the plan period. On 31 December 2015 County Durham's sand and gravel land bank stood at 29.7 years. This comprised 8,353,960 tonnes of sand and gravel reserves within five sand and gravel quarries.

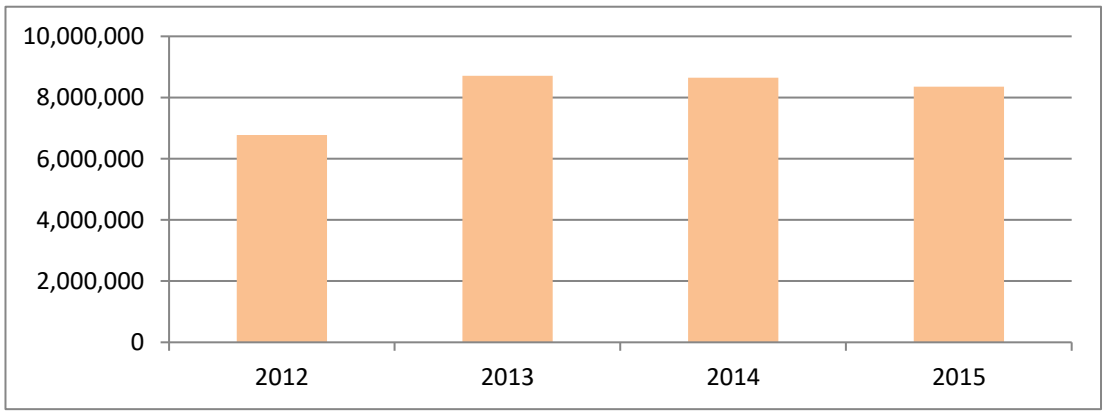

Figure 6: Sand and Gravel Permitted Reserves

[16] Source Aggregate Minerals Survey, North East Aggregates Working Party Reports and Mineral Planning Authority best estimates.

MW4 - Sand and gravel sales per annum (tonnes)

9.5. Sand and gravel sales in 2015 were 256,000 tonnes. This is a slight fall in sales since 2014 when 276,000 tonnes were sold. Sand and gravel sales in 2015 were also higher than the ten year sales average for sand and gravel which is 230,400 tonnes. The three year annual sales average over the three year period 2013 to 2015 is 250,000 tonnes which is 1.1% higher than the ten year average sales. The last three years sales all being higher than all previous years since 2008 reflecting growth in the economy in recent years following the significant decline in sales between 2009 and 2012.

9.6. Sales in 2015, however, were still well below the annual demand requirement figure of 281,000 tonnes as set out in the Joint Local Aggregate Assessment for County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear, and the pre-recession sales figure of 411,000 tonnes in 2005.

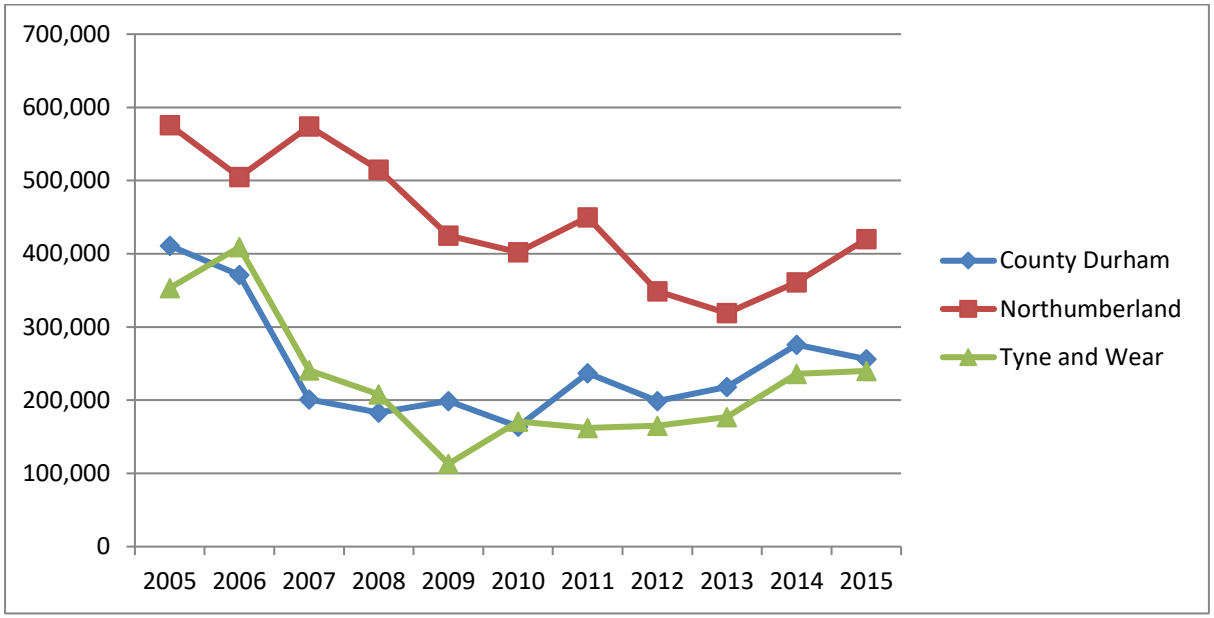

Figure 7: Sand and Gravel Sales per Annum (tonnes)[17]

MW5 - Extent of high grade dolomite (land bank in years) at Thrislington Quarry west and east of the A1(M)

9.7. Policy M1 of the County Durham Minerals Local Plan advised that as a whole that a landbank of burnt dolomite of at least 15 years will be maintained throughout the plan period. The extent of the high grade dolomite land bank at

[17] Source Aggregate Minerals Survey, North East Aggregates Working Party Reports and Mineral Planning Authority best estimates.

Thrislington Quarry is currently greater than 15 years. This landbank is contained within Thrislington East Quarry which lies east of the A1(M).

MW6 - No of years of approved reserves at Todhills, and the Union Brickworks

9.8. County Durham contains one remaining brickworks is located at Todhills near Byers Green. This brickworks is supplied by the adjacent Long Lane Quarry. County Durham supplies clay for the Union Brickworks in Gateshead, via the adjacent Birtley Quarry which is located in County Durham. Policy M1 of the County Durham Minerals Local Plan advised that as a whole that a landbank of brick making raw material of at least 15 years will be maintained throughout the plan period.

9.9. The number of years of approved reserves currently stands at the following:

- Todhills Brickworks: Less than 15 years
- Union Brickworks: Less than 15 years

**Data based on end date of planning permission*

MW7 - Quantity of new permitted reserves of coal and fireclay

9.10. There are currently 1,064,000 tonnes of coal and 83,000 tonnes of fireclay permitted in two sites in County Durham.

9.11. The Coal reserves are made up of:

- The Bradley surface mined coal site, near Leadgate. Planning permission was granted on 3 June 2015 on appeal and the Field House surface mined coal site, near Pittington. Planning Permission was granted 5th January 2016 on appeal.

9.12. The Fireclay reserves are made up of:

- The fireclay within the Field House surface mined coal site, near Pittington (Permission granted 5th January 2016).

MW8 - Quantity of new permitted reserves of natural building and roofing stone granted

9.13. There were no permitted reserves granted for natural building and roofing stone in the period. However, in March 2015 planning permission was issued for a 136,000 tonne extension to Dunhouse Quarry.

MW9 - Quantity of new permitted reserves granted on relic sites for natural building and roofing stone working

9.14. There were no planning permissions granted to allow the reworking of relic sites for natural building and roofing stone during the monitoring period.

MW10 - Amount of waste (tonnage) imported into/exported out of County Durham per annum and by stream

9.15. A total of 1,410,900 tonnes were imported into County Durham in 2015 (Waste Data Interrogator data from EA, 2015 latest available)[18]. Of this, 871,944 tonnes were inert wastes[19]; 531,357 tonnes were Household Industrial and Commercial (HIC) wastes; and 7,600 tonnes were hazardous wastes.

9.16. A total of 558,134 tonnes were exported[20]. Of this, 105,883 tonnes were inert wastes; 447,776 tonnes were HIC wastes; and 4,475 tonnes were hazardous wastes.

MW11 - New Capacity permitted by waste type and management type

Site	Potential Capacity	Waste Management Type
Land At Former Birtley Quarry, Station Lane, Birtley	267,600 tonnes (overall, not per annum)[21]	Inert landfill
Unit 10, Wheatley Hill Workshops, Front Street Industrial Estate, Wheatley Hill, Durham DH6 3QZ		End of Life Vehicle (ELV)

[18] This is lower than the EA Waste Data Interrogator figure as Hollings Hill Quarry landfill in Northumberland has been removed from the total figures. This was wrongly assigned to County Durham.
[19] This differs from the EA Waste Data Interrogator figure as this incorrectly identifies Hollings Hill Quarry Landfill as being in County Durham and consequently this figure is subtracted.
[20] (2015 Waste Data Interrogator data from EA, latest available)
[21] This is not included in the total capacity as it is overall, not per annum and is landfill

Durham County Council, Civic Amenity Site, The Green, Stainton Grove, DL12 8UH	3,950 tonnes per annum	Household Waste Recovery Centre (HWRC)
Eldon Brickworks, Eldon Estates, Eldon, Bishop Auckland, DL14 8EA	300,000 tonnes per annum	Municipal Solid Waste (MSW); residual Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I) and residual Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D) Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)
Kilmond Wood Quarry, Boldron, DL12 9HN	192,000m3 (total, not per annum)[22]	Inert landfill
Tonks Recycling, Tursdale Business Park, Tursdale, Durham, DH6 5PG	75,000 tonnes per annum	Inert/CDEW recycling
Total Capacity:378,950 tpa		

Table 4: Waste Capacity Permitted in 2015/16 by Waste Management Type

9.17. In the 2016-17 monitoring period, a total additional waste management capacity of 378,950 tonnes were granted approval, consisting of Non-hazardous waste recycling and inert waste recycling, and a Household Waste Recycling Centre. Whilst some landfill capacity[23] was permitted during the monitoring period, this was for importation of inert waste for site restoration. An End of Life Vehicle (ELV) site was also permitted. This shows that the saved policies of the Waste Local Plan are continuing to drive waste up the Waste Hierarchy towards more sustainable management in line with international and national policy and guidance.

MW12 - Amount of municipal and household waste arising, and managed by management type

9.18. Total municipal waste collected in the period is 249,721 tonnes:

- Landfilled: 10,132 tonnes
- Recycled: 90,326 tonnes

[22] This is not included in the total capacity as it is overall, not per annum and is landfill. It is also dependent upon the extraction and is also in cubic metres. This also does not include the 85,000 tonnes (total, not per annum) imported for restoration operations (approved under a separate application) as this is indicated as 'topsoil'.

[23] 267,600 tonnes and 192,000m^3, both total, not per annum.

- EFW/RDF[24]: 149,263 tonnes

9.19. The percentage of municipal waste landfilled: 4.1%.

9.20. The estimated municipal waste landfill deposits at 10,132 tonnes are a lot lower in this monitoring period compared to others (e.g. 40,944 in 2013-14), but slightly higher than last year (10,011 tonnes in 2015-16). This is likely to be down to the change in management type now that contracts are in place to use capacity at the Haverton Hill energy from waste (EFW) facility in Tees Valley. The percentage of municipal waste landfilled has also therefore decreased (16% in 2013-14 to 4% in 2015-16 and 4.1% in 2016-17). This compares to the tonnage which was sent to EFW/RDF of 149,263 tonnes, a slight increase on 149,111 tonnes in 2015-16.

9.21. This said, the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting has reduced slightly from 39.1% in 2015-16 to 36.1% in 2016-17. The reduction is mainly due to the introduction of the Green Waste charging scheme and therefore less garden waste has been collected from the kerbside. This also applies to the amount recycled and sent for re-use which has also slightly reduced from previous years for the same reason, although increasing from last year (90,326 in 2016-17, from 88,357 in 2015-16 but 95,839 tonnes in 2014-15).

9.22. These figures continue to show that wider council policy is driving more sustainable use of resources throughout the county.

10. Environmental Quality

Indicator
EQ1 - Per Capita Co2 Emissions (t)
EQ2 - Changes and condition of Areas on Biodiversity Importance
EQ3 - Renewable Energy Capacity of approved and completed schemes by type
EQ4 – Changes and condition of Heritage Assets

EQ1 - Per Capita Co2 Emissions (t)

10.1. There has been a steady decline in per capita CO2 emissions across the County is depicted with a decrease of 2.3 tonnes per capita between 2005

[24] Energy from Waste/Refuse Derived Fuel.

and 2014[25]. Emissions for the North East have also decreased overall between 2005 and 2014 but with an increase between 2011 and 2013. This may be due to the variations in economic recovery across the region.

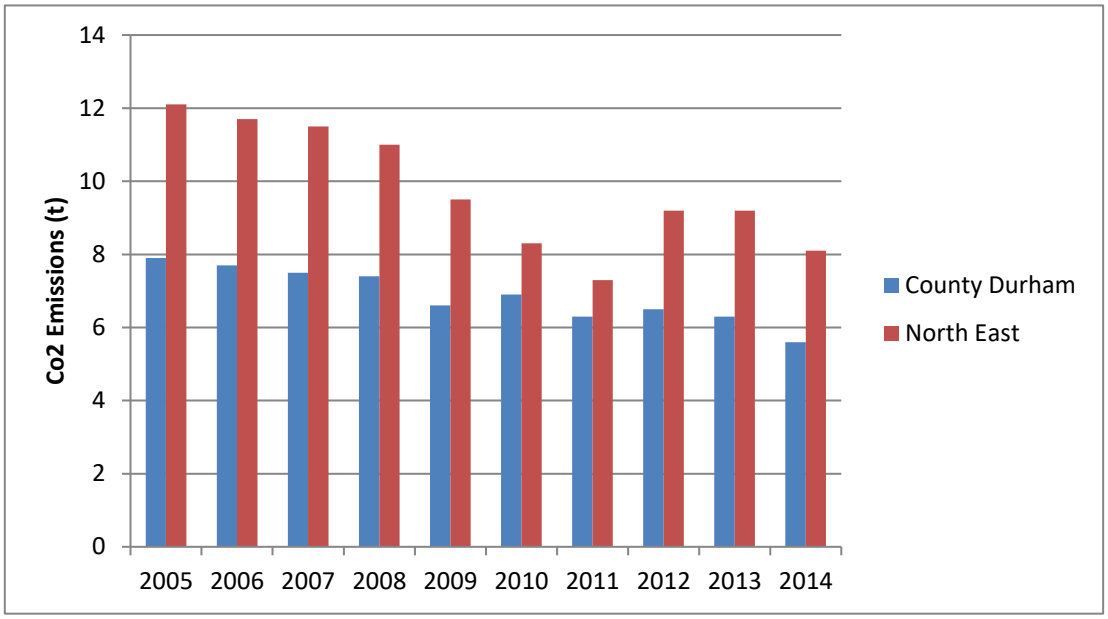

Figure 8: Co2 Emissions per Capita

EQ2 - Changes and condition of Areas of Biodiversity Importance

Special Areas of Conservation

10.2. There are currently Six Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the European Union Habitats Directive. The six SACs which are wholly or partly within the County are listed below. There have been no changes to the extent of these designations during the monitoring period. They cover an area of 44,416.9 ha in total.

SAC Site Name		
Caste Eden Dene	Moor House – Upper Teesdale	North Pennine Moors
Durham Coast	North Pennine Dales Meadows	Thrislington Plantation

Table 5: Special Areas of Conservation in County Durham

Special Protections Areas

10.3. Three Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are designated under the Wild Birds Directive. There have been no changes to the extent of these designations during the monitoring period. They cover an area of 44,983 ha in total.

[25] https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2014

SPA Site Name		
Northumbria Coast	North Pennine Moors	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast

Table 6: Special Protection Areas in County Durham

Ramsar Sites

10.4. Stretches of the Durham Coast are designated as part of two Ramsar Sites, the Northumbria Coast and the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Ramsar sites. There have been no changes to the extent of these designations during the monitoring period. They cover an area of 67 ha in total.

International Biosphere Reserves

10.5. A biosphere reserve is an area that has been recognised for its unique mix of plants and animals, valued environment and sustainable way of life of the people who live and work within the biosphere reserve. The biosphere reserves are chosen by UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) but rely on local cooperation to ensure the careful management of the resources within biosphere reserves that allow development without harming the area for future generations.

10.6. Moor House – Upper Teesdale National Nature Reserve was designated in 1976 and covers 7,386 ha. There have been no changes to the extent of this designation during the monitoring period.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

10.7. There are 85 SSSIs either wholly or partly within County Durham, covering approximately 48,053.41 ha. There have been no changes to the extent of these designations during the monitoring period.

National Nature Reserves (NNRs)

10.8. Six SSSIs in County Durham are designated as National Nature Reserves under section 19 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. There have been no changes to the extent of these designations during the monitoring period. They cover an area of 5,142.95 ha in total.

NNR Site Name		
Cassop Vale	Castle Eden Dene	Derwent Gorge & Muggleswick Woods
Durham Coast	Moor House Upper Teesdale	Thrislington Plantation

Table 7: NNR's in County Durham

Local Nature Reserves

10.9. Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are statutory designations made by local authorities under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. There are currently 36 LNRs within County Durham. There have been one Local Nature Reserve added within the period – Easington LNR. The former Easington Colliery site was reclaimed for recreation and nature conservation under the Turning the Tide Programme in 2000. In 2014 Easington Colliery Regeneration Partnership requested that the site be declared an LNR and managed in the future for biodiversity and recreation. It has high nature conservation value and supports several UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species and Durham Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats.

Local Sites

10.10. Durham has 308 Local Wildlife Sites and 68 Local Geological Sites. The number of Local Wildlife Sites has not changed (no additions or deletions) during 2016-2017. 18 Local Wildlife Sites have been resurveyed during 2016-2017 and each of these will maintain its LWS status.

10.11. Local Wildlife Sites in positive management in October 2016 stood at 80 of 378 sites; this is 21% of sites.

Condition of sites of biodiversity importance

10.12. With the exception of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), no information is currently available to indicate the health of any of these biodiversity sites.

10.13. SSSI condition – while information is not available for the end of the monitoring period, the latest information from Natural England indicates that 98.99% of SSSIs in County Durham met the PSA target[26] and[27], 12.93% were reported as in favourable condition[28], 86.06% were unfavourable but recovering[29], 0.092% were reported as in unfavourable condition with no

[26] PSA target: The Government's Public Service Agreement (PSA) target to have 95% of the SSSI area in favourable or recovering condition by 2010.
[27] Meeting the PSA target: if a SSSI unit is currently assessed as being in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition it is described as 'meeting the PSA target'.
[28] Favourable: Favourable condition means that the SSSI land is being adequately conserved and is meeting its 'conservation objectives', however, there is scope for the enhancement of these sites.
[29] Unfavourable recovering: Unfavourable recovering condition is often known simply as 'recovering'. SSSI units are not yet fully conserved but all the necessary management measures are in place. Provided that the recovery work is sustained, the SSSI will reach favourable condition in time. In many cases, restoration takes time. Woodland that has been neglected for 50 years will take several years to bring back into a working coppice cycle. A drained peat bog might need 15-20 years to restore a reasonable coverage of sphagnum.

change[30], 0.09% were reported as in unfavourable condition and declining[31] and[32].

EQ3 - Renewable Energy Capacity of approved and completed schemes by type

10.14. As at 31st March 2017 the installed capacity figure in County Durham was 199.77 MWe.

10.15. It is considered that capacity has plateaued, due in part to stricter planning controls on Wind turbines and a reduction in Government incentive schemes such as the 'Feed in Tariff', which has seen a reduction in Solar Pv installations.

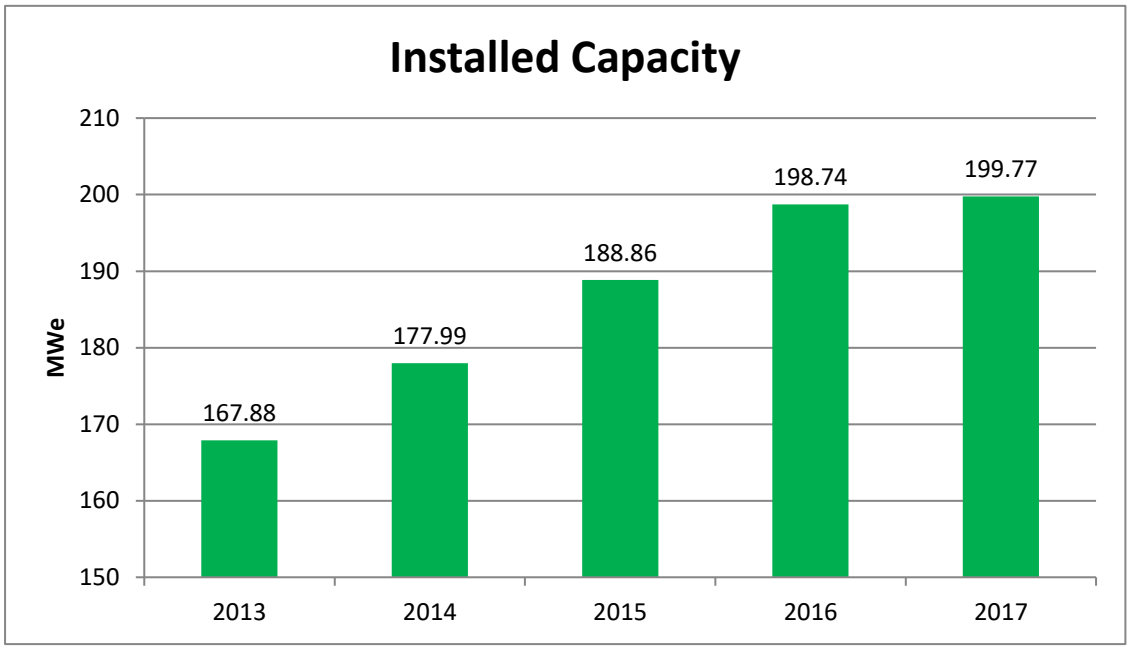

Figure 9: Installed Capacity in County Durham

10.16. County Durham has 220MWe of Operational and Approved Capacity installed within the County.

[30] Unfavourable no change: This means the special interest of the SSSI unit is not being conserved and will not reach favourable condition unless there are changes to the site management or external pressures. The longer the SSSI unit remains in this poor condition, the more difficult it will be, in general, to achieve recovery.
[31] Unfavourable declining; This means that the special interest of the SSSI unit is not being conserved and will not reach favourable condition unless there are changes to site management or external pressures. The site condition is becoming progressively worse.
[32] Source: Natural England, Nov. 2010: http:www.english-nature.org.uk/special/sssi/report.cfm?category=C.CF0

RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN COUNTY DURHAM Generation as % Electricity Use: Position at 31 March 2017					
	Installed Capacity (MWe)	Output (GWh p.a.)	% Co. Durham household electricity	% Co. Durham electricity use	Equivalent no of households
Operational					
FiT (solar)	29.512	24.79	3.08	1.26	8,329.66
Wind	138.90	328.52	40.86	16.76	92,722.78
Bio Energy	21.8	110.74	12.85	4.90	25635.19
Landfill	9.05	55.49	6.90	2.81	15,663
Hydro	0.568	1.9	0.2	0.1	547.7
Total	**199.83**	**521.49**	**63.94**	**25.83**	**142,899**
Approved					
Wind	3.88	9.17	1.14	0.47	2587.50
Bio Energy	15.5	78.74	9.14	3.48	18,226.85
Landfill	0	0	0	0	0
Hydro	1.72	5.9	0.7	0.3	1,658.54
Total	**21.096**	**93.78**	**11.01**	**4.25**	**22,473**
Operational and Approved					
FiT (solar)	29.512	24.79	3.08	1.26	8329.66
Wind	142.77	337.68	42.00	17.23	95,310.28
Bio Energy	37.30	189.48	21.99	8.38	43,862.04
Landfill	9.05	55.49	6.90	2.81	5,663.17
Hydro	2.29	7.82	0.97	0.40	2,206.24
Total	**220.92**	**615.27**	**74.95**	**30.08**	**165,371**
Planning (not Scoping)					
Wind	10.75	25.43	3.16	1.30	7177.04
Bio Energy	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
Landfill	0	0	0	0	0

Hydro	0.0235	0.08	0.01	0.00	23
Total	**10.77**	**25.51**	**3.17**	**1.30**	**7,200**
Overall: operational / approved / planning					
Overall Total	**231.70**	**640.78**	**78.13**	**31.38**	**172,571**

Table 8: Renewable Energy Development in County Durham

EQ4 – Changes and condition of Heritage Assets

Conservation Areas

10.17. There are 93 Conservation Areas in the County and this number has remained unchanged since 2009.

10.18. Of these, there are 42 Conservation Areas with appraisals/management proposals.

10.19. There were 8 Conservation Areas on the Heritage at Risk register in 2017

Scheduled Monuments

10.20. There are 230 Scheduled Monuments in the County, this number has remained unchanged in the monitoring period

Listed Buildings

10.21. There are 3,110 listed building in the County. 18 listings have been added in the monitoring period, these mainly consist of war memorials.

10.22. The Listed Buildings consist of the following:

- Grade I – 104
- Grade II* - 161
- Grade II – 2845

10.23. There were 27 Listed Buildings on the Heritage at Risk register in 2017, the same as 2016.

World Heritage Site

10.24. The county has one World Heritage Site: Durham Castle and Cathedral.

Battlefields

10.25. The County has one Historic Battlefield at Neville's Cross.

Appendix 1

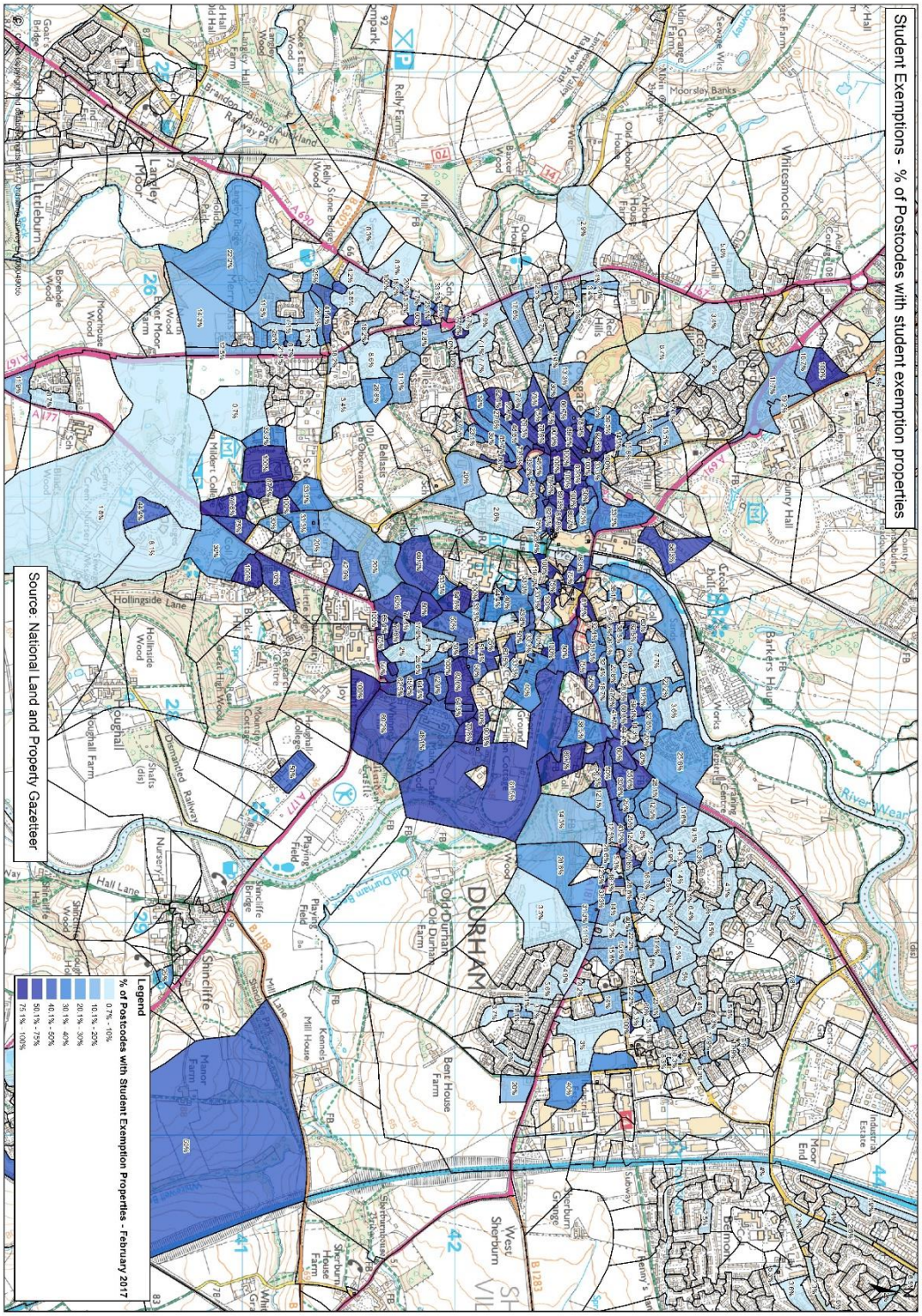

Figure 10: Student Property Postcodes February 2017

Appendix 2

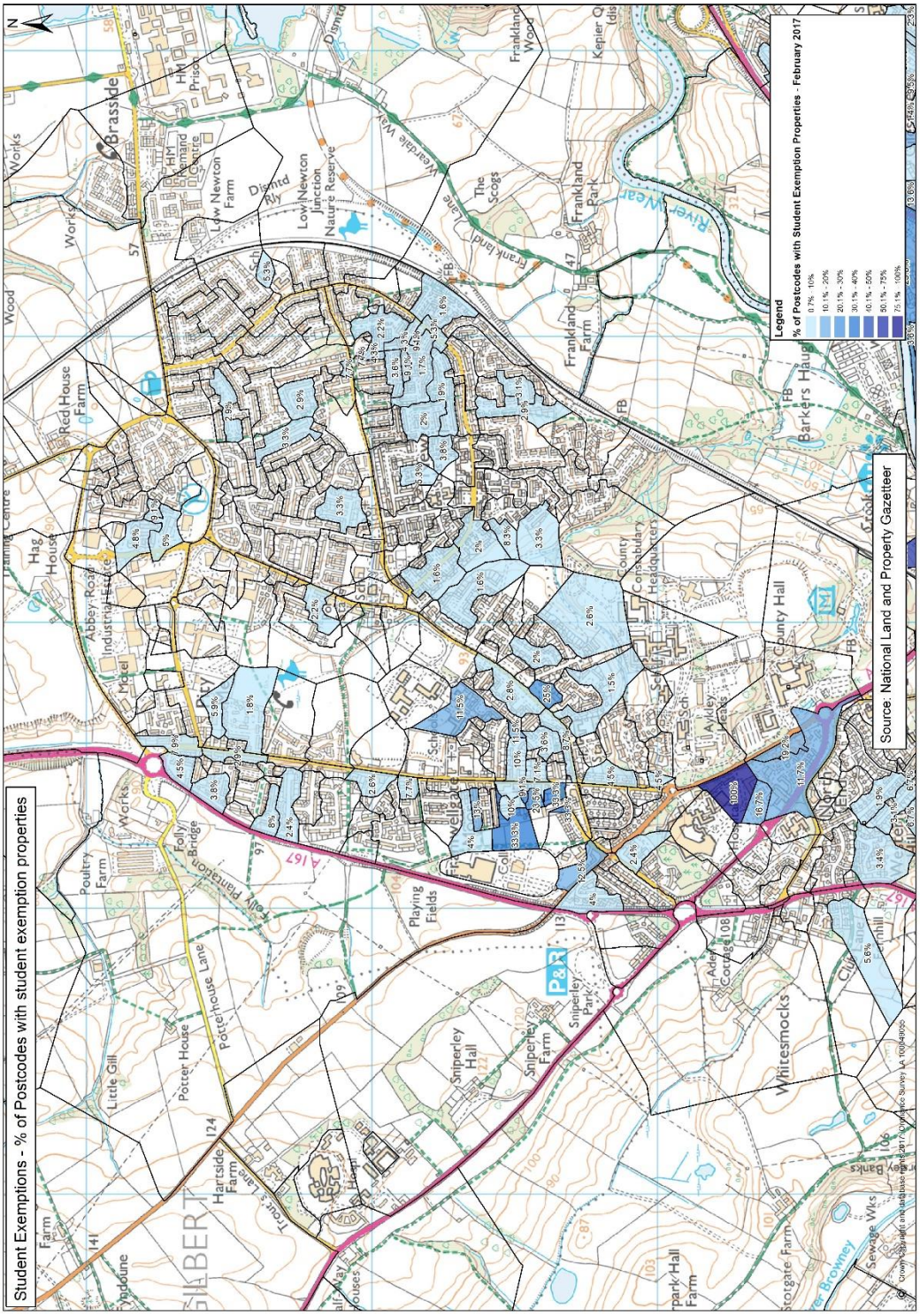

Figure 11: Student Property Postcodes June 2017: Pity Me, Framwellgate Moor and Newton

Durham County Council

Spatial Policy Team

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