Medway Monitoring Report 2014

Volume 1 - Main Report

December 2014

Medway
COUNCIL
Serving You

Executive Summary

Key statistics and developments in 2013-2014 include:

Monitoring theme		Headline
Demography		There was significant population growth again in 2013 with the **population** up by around 2,900 to reach **271,100**, with a rate of growth above the Kent average.
Housing		**Housing completions** were up on last year at **579** units, **64%** were completed on **previously developed land**. House prices in Medway increased above the Kent and national averages. Over 60% of new dwellings were houses, rather than flats.
New employment floor space		There has been a loss of employment floor space. The proportion of **employment floor space** completed in **previously developed land** was exceptionally high at **98%.**
Economy		The Job Seekers claimant rate has dropped in Medway over 2013/14 but remains just above the national rate in March 2014. Productivity (GVA) per head improved in 2012 having dipped in 2011. Rates of employment and economic activity fell.
Town centres		The Town Centre vacancy rate continues to be better than the national average. It stood at around 10% at the beginning of 2014, up slightly on the 2013 level, and counter to the national trend of declining vacancy rates. There was a continued decline of new retail floor space and a loss of floor space for main town centre uses.
Environment		Notification of an extended Site of Special Scientific Interest at Lodge Hill, Chattenden. Two further wildlife sites being assessed as having positive management increasing the proportion of sites in positive management in Medway to 81%. Designation of the Medway Estuary Marine Conservation Zone as one of the first in the country.
Health		Life expectancy is increasing in Medway for both males and females but remains significantly below the national level.

Introduction

This report provides monitoring information and statistical data for the period April 2013 – March 2014, with references to previous years for comparison purposes. It gives details of economic, social and environmental data to allow a measure of how Medway is performing as an area, and understanding its needs. It is a key mechanism for the Council's Planning Service in assessing the progress being made towards achieving its goals for economic growth, protecting the natural and historic environment, and meeting the needs of its communities.

The Council has followed the established protocol for producing this Monitoring Report on an annual basis in December for the preceding financial year.

This year Volume One of the report is more concise than previous years. The Planning Policy Service is at an early stage in the preparation of the new Medway Local Plan and the collection of measures has been focused on key indicators that will help to provide context for this work. Detailed data on development statistics is set out in Volume 2 that are published on the council's website.

The Local Aggregates Assessment, 2014, forms Volume 3, providing information on sales of land won aggregates, importation of sand, gravel and crushed rock, and recycled and secondary materials.

The Introduction section of this report is used to provide an update on the plan preparation process, including activities undertaken to meet the Duty to Cooperate.

Monitoring Period

The report has been informed by information gathered from planning applications determined at 31st March 2014. In addition it takes account of a number of sites that are not yet subject to a planning application but have been identified in the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA), updated in January 2014.

It should be noted that the reference period for the development data of this report is up to the end of March 2014. Events occurring after that date will be reflected in next year's report. However reports on progress on the preparation of the local plan and supporting activities in this introductory section covers up to November 2014.

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

The current Medway Local Development Scheme was approved by the council's Cabinet on 10 June 2014. This sets out a three year programme for the production of a new Medway Local Plan. The draft Medway Core Strategy was withdrawn from Examination in November 2013, following designation of land at Lodge Hill as an extended SSSI. The Council is now working on the preparation of a new local plan. The new plan will be a comprehensive planning document, including strategic level and development management policies, land allocations, minerals and waste, and a policies map, covering all of Medway. On adoption it will replace the saved policies from the Medway Local Plan 2003.

The Local Development Scheme is available at:
http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/localdevelopmentscheme.aspx

The scheme covers the timetable for the production of a Local Plan for Medway, with the following key stages:

Key Milestones	Key target dates
Issues and Options consultation	June to August 2015
Publication consultation	May to July 2016
Submission	December 2016
Hearing Session	February 2017
Inspectors Report	May 2017
Adoption	July 2017

The Council is currently working on the collation of an evidence base and assessment of land availability that will inform the scale of development needed to accommodate growth in Medway up to 2035 and the options available for a planning strategy to provide locations for homes, jobs, services and infrastructure. This will form the basis of the consultation planned for summer 2015.

Medway Statement of Community Involvement

The council adopted a revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in September 2014 replacing the previous version from 2012. The start of replacement Local Plan process was an appropriate time to review the adopted SCI so that sound principles of engagement could be built into the process.

The Council consulted on a revised draft SCI during summer 2014 and sought the views of a wide range of stakeholders. These comments were considered alongside other consultation responses in producing the final version of the updated SCI, available at:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/sci.aspx

Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA)

A new SLAA was undertaken in 2014 that is due for publication in Spring 2015. This will help to inform the development options in the new Local Plan. The SLAA will identify future land supply that is suitable, available and achievable for housing, gypsy and travellers accommodation, employment, retail, tourism, leisure, waste, minerals or a mix of these uses over the life of the plan to 2035.

http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/strategiclandavailability.aspx

Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (SHENA)

Medway Council and Gravesham Borough Council are currently progressing the joint commissioning of a Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (SHENA). This will support each Council's Local Plan programme. In conformity with the

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) the SHENA will cover the requirements for a:

- Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) i.e. a review of the local housing market to inform each LPA's Local Plan.
- Strategic Economic Market Assessment (SEMA) i.e. a review of the local economic market to inform each Council's Local Plan.
- Retail and Commercial Leisure Assessment (RCLA) i.e. a review of the needs of main town centre uses, in broadly the same way as for their housing and economic needs.

The research will be commissioned in late 2014 to report in 2015.

Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council will be preparing its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule to align to the Local Plan timetable. Preliminary work on CIL that was started alongside the now withdrawn Core Strategy has been put on hold, but will re-commence as the new plan emerges.

http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/applyforplanningpermission/developercontributions/communityinfrastructurelevy.aspx

Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders

There are no Neighbourhood Plans or Neighbourhood Development Orders underway or adopted in Medway.

Local Aggregate Assessment

In line with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework and government guidance in the Planning Practice Guidance on the Managed Aggregate Supply System, the Council has prepared a Local Aggregate Assessment covering operations and sales in 2013. This provides an assessment of the demand and supply for aggregate minerals to meet local and wider strategic needs, and any environmental and economic constraints that may influence this. This is included as Volume 3 of this Monitoring Report. The LAA has been considered by the South East Aggregates Working Party, which confirmed its support for the document.

Duty to Cooperate (at October 2014)

In support of the preparation of the new Medway Local Plan the Council is committed to *'engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis'* with other Local Planning Authorities and Public Bodies to address *'strategic matters'*. This legal obligation is known as the '*Duty to Cooperate'*.

In particular the Duty to Cooperate requires the Council to work with neighbouring authorities, including the County Council, to address strategic issues that *'cross administrative boundaries'* for example the provision of infrastructure or meeting housing needs.

Engagement with our neighbouring authorities and other public bodies takes place through a variety of different established forums and processes:

- *Consultations & Representations*
  Officers monitor publications and consultations by neighbouring authorities and other public bodies, making formal representations where appropriate; over the last 12 months Medway have made representations in respect of the following:
  - Gravesham Local Plan Proposed Modifications (January 2014)
  - Maidstone Green & Blue Infrastructure (January 2014)
  - Maidstone Draft Local Plan (May 2014)
  - Swale Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Issues & Options (April 2014)
  - Further Modifications to the London Plan (April 2014)

- *Regular Partnership Meetings*
  Alongside this regular liaison meetings take place with our neighbours through the Kent Planning Officer Group and the Kent Planning Policy Forum both of which take place bi-monthly. As well as providing a formal forum for debate, these meetings also provide an important opportunity for sharing information and holding discussions with officers from neighbouring authorities.

  Waste and minerals are of particular significance to strategic planning. The Council is an active member of the South East England Aggregates Working Party and the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group. These provide a basis for exchange of information on minerals and waste planning matters.

  On environmental issues, the council participates in the North Kent Environmental Planning Group, which seeks to develop an evidence base and integrated best practice in planning for the internationally important estuaries and marshes of the Thames, Medway and Swale. The council is also a member of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory Committee. This delivered a second review of the AONB Management Plan in 2014, adopted by all member councils, including Medway.

- *Liaison Meetings*
  Regular meetings are arranged with neighbouring authorities to discuss specific issues and share information on key stages of plan making work, major developments, and strategies being progressed by councils. This includes discussions of the potential for joint working on commissioning research studies, and developing common methodologies for technical work. Six meetings were attended with neighbouring authorities over the last 12 months.

Whilst the Council already liaises closely with neighbouring authorities, through the mechanisms outlined above, it is now seeking to put a more structured framework in place to ensure compliance with the Duty going forward in the preparation of the new Local Plan.

In line with best practice we are seeking to put a governance structure in place that involves Senior Officers and Members from Medway and from our neighbouring authorities in considering ‘cross boundary strategic issues’. Supporting administrative arrangements will also be introduced alongside these governance structures through which Planning Policy Officers can jointly progress the necessary technical work.

Options are currently being considered for discussion with members and neighbouring authorities to identify a preferred approach.

Risk management

The Local Development Scheme considered a range of possible risks that could impact on the preparation of the new local plan. The table below provides commentary on the current position. These will be kept under review, and alternative courses of action undertaken if required.

Issue	Current Position
Timescales	Research and site survey work, including SLAA and Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment underway and planned to inform Issues and Options consultation in 2015.
Resources & Staffing	Planning Policy team is fully staffed and resources committed for key evidence base documents.
Evidence base	Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment to be contracted shortly to provide comprehensive information as basis for local plan. Ongoing work on site surveys and topic based evidence collation planned
Significant external developments	Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment to specifically consider impact of major developments, eg Ebbsfleet and London Paramount in scenario testing.
Strategic cooperation	Ongoing liaison and partnership working being consolidated into formal structures to support Duty to Cooperate.
Support for plan	Member briefings and engagement throughout plan preparation process, including cross party Development Plans Advisory Group.
Legal and soundness tests	Ongoing review of work streams, supported by external experts through Planning Advisory Service.
New legislative requirements	Monitoring of policy changes and developments and reviewing work and making adaptations where necessary.

Population

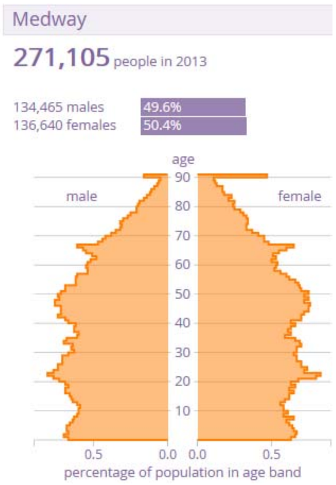
Mid year estimate 2013

The population of Medway reached 271,105 in 2013 – 2,887 persons (1.1%) above the 2012 mid-year estimate.

While population growth in 2013 (+2,900) was not as high as in 2012 (+3,300), the 2013 annual increase is another year of significant growth, which is much higher than the annual average since 2002 (+1,800).

The rate of population growth in Medway in 2013 was above that seen in Kent, across the South East and England & Wales, as was the case in 2012.

Of 346 local authorities nationally, Medway ranks in the top fifth of areas for annual population growth at +1.1%. In Kent larger population growth is seen in Dartford (+1.7%), Ashford (+1.3%), Maidstone (+1.3%) and Canterbury (+1.2%).



Population growth - 2012 to 2013
000's

	2012	2013	Rate of growth (%)
Medway	268.2	271.1	**+1.1%**
Kent	1,480.1	1,493.5	+0.9%
South East	8,724.7	8,792.6	+0.8%
England & Wales	56,567.8	56,948.2	+0.7%

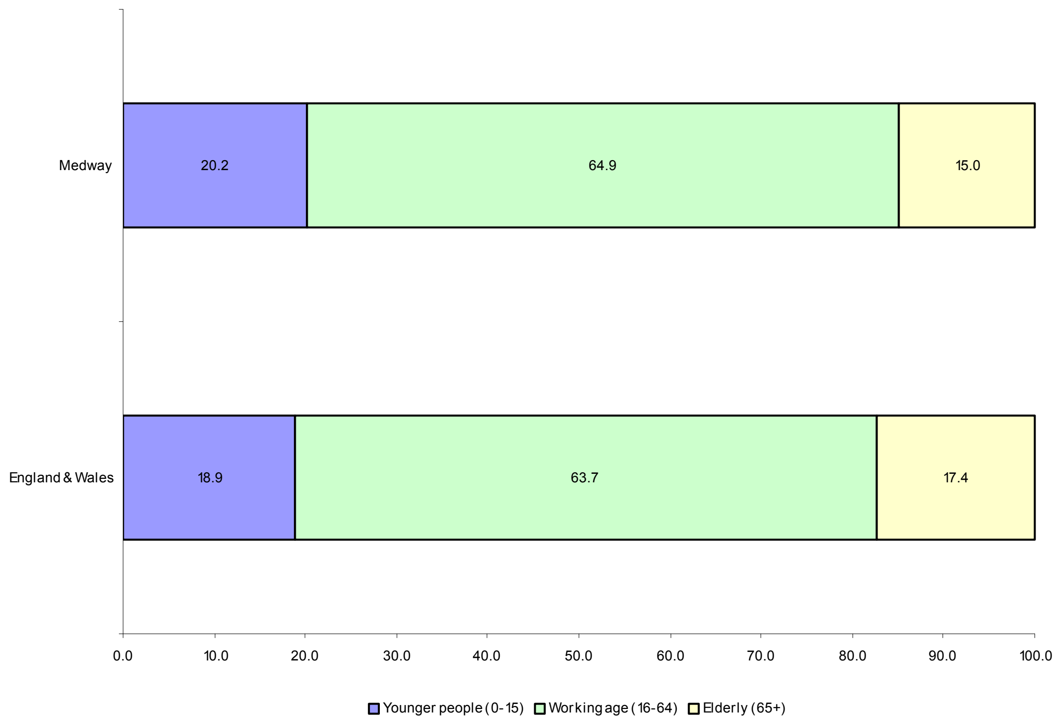
Population by broad age group – 2013

By broad age group Medway has a larger working age population at 65% than nationally (64%), a larger younger persons population (20%) and a smaller elderly population (15%).

Population by broad age group – 2013

		0-15	16-64	65+
Medway	Nos	**54,656**	**175,880**	**40,569**
	Percent	**20.2**	**64.9**	**15.0**
Kent		19.3	61.6	19.2
South East		19.1	62.7	18.3
England and Wales		18.9	63.7	17.4

Population by broad age group - 2013



Population change

Recent population growth in Medway can be attributed to both natural growth – births exceeding deaths - and inward migration, with a fairly even split between these two components. Inward migration has become a more significant factor in Medway since 2011.

In contrast, Kent's population growth is largely driven by migration. The exception within Kent is Gravesham, which sees a similar split to Medway between natural and migrational growth.

Population trend - 2002 to 2013
(000's)

	Previous mid year estimate	Live births	Deaths	Natural change	Net migration & other changes	Annual change		Current mid year estimate
						000's	Running average	
2012/13	**268.2**	3.5	2.1	1.5	1.4	2.9	1.8	**271.1**
2011/12	264.9	3.6	2.1	1.5	1.8	3.3	1.7	268.2
2010/11	*262.7*	3.6	2.1	1.5	0.6	2.1	1.5	*264.9*
2009/10	*260.2*	3.5	2.0	1.5	1.1	2.5	1.4	*262.7*
2008/09	*258.2*	3.5	2.1	1.4	0.6	2.0	1.3	*260.2*
2007/08	*255.8*	3.4	2.1	1.3	1.1	2.4	1.2	*258.2*
2006/07	*253.5*	3.3	2.0	1.2	1.1	2.3	1.0	*255.8*
2005/06	*252.1*	3.2	2.2	1.0	0.3	1.4	0.8	*253.5*
2004/05	*251.5*	3.1	2.1	1.0	-0.4	0.6	0.6	*252.1*
2003/04	*251.2*	3.2	2.2	1.0	-0.7	0.3	0.6	*251.5*
2002/03	*250.3*	3.1	2.1	1.0	-0.1	0.9	0.8	*251.2*
2001/02	*249.7*	3.1	2.2	0.9	-0.3	0.6	0.6	*250.3*
2002-13	**-**	**40.1**	**25.3**	**14.8**	**6.5**	**21.3**	**1.1**	**-**

Further information on Medway's population is available via this webpage:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/Population%202013.pdf

Migration

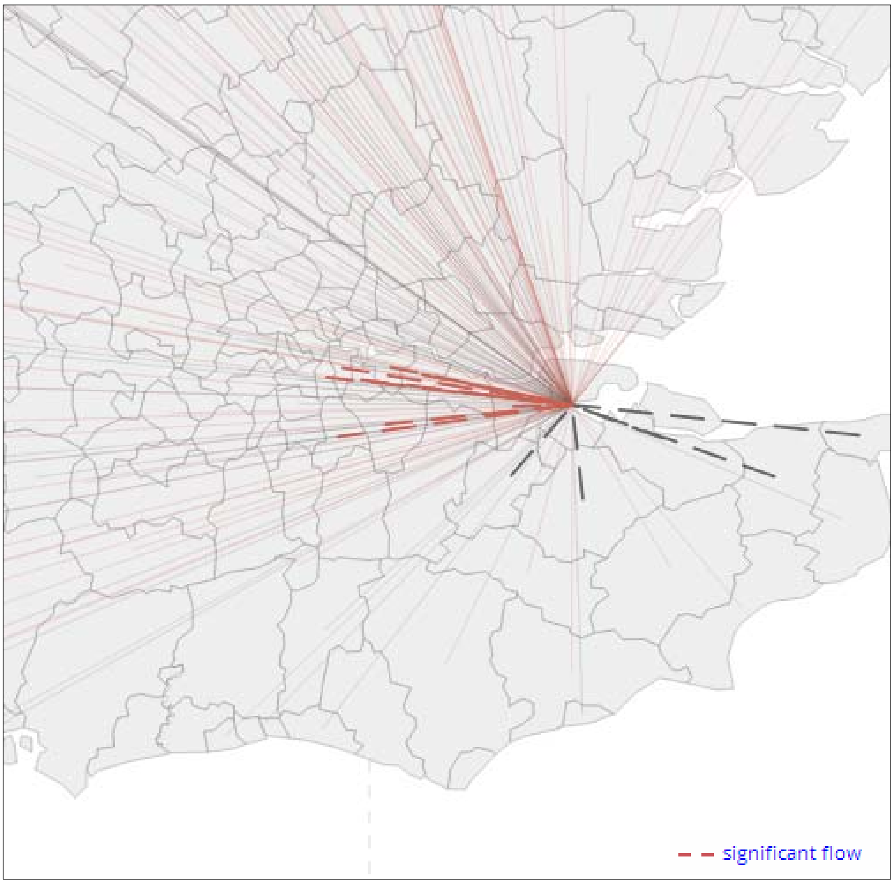
Inward migration to Medway in 2013 was largely from movements within the United Kingdom, with a little under 1,000 people moving to Medway from other parts of the country – against 300 migrants from outside the UK.

The largest inward migratory flow to Medway was from London in 2013, with an overall inward flow of +1,695. Outward flows to other parts of the country result in a lower net inward flow to Medway in 2013.

Net flows from Medway to Kent account for the majority of the outward flow from Medway across the region.

Within Kent there is a significant net inward flow from Gravesham (+300) then Dartford (+100) to Medway.

At 3.4 moves per 1000 population, Medway ranks at 121 out of 348 Local Authorities in England & Wales. However this is above the South East regional average at 2.9 net moves per 1000 population.



red lines – inward flows black lines – outward flows

Medway migration flows 2013					
Internal Migration (within England)			**International Migration**		
To Medway	**From Medway**	**Net**	**To Medway**	**From Medway**	**Net**
+11,639	-10,666	**+973**	+1,141	-834	**+307**

Medway - county and regional flows 2013			
	To Medway	**From Medway**	**Net (outflow)**
Kent	+4326	-4528	-202
South East (excl London)	+5388	-5614	-226
South East (excl Kent)	+1062	-1087	-25

Source: Internal Migration, England and Wales, Year Ending June 2013, *Office for National Statistics (ONS).*

Further information on migration is available via this webpage:

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/migration1/internal-migration-by-local-authorities-in-england-and-wales/year-ending-june-2013/stb---internal-migration-june-2013.html

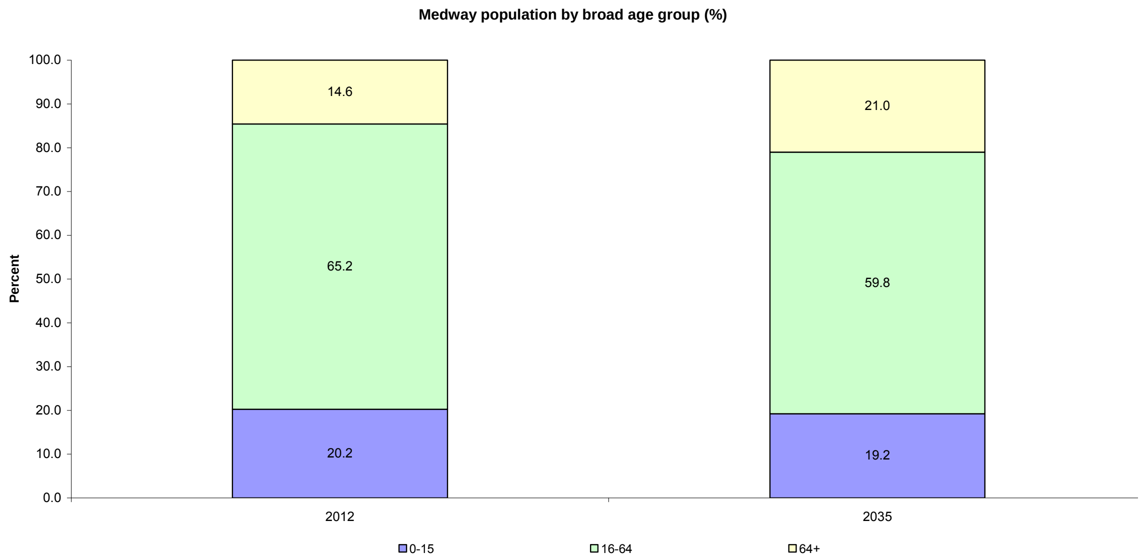
Future growth - Population projections

The population of Medway is estimated to increase from 268,200 in 2012 to 322,700 in 2035; this represents an increase of 20.3% (+54,500).

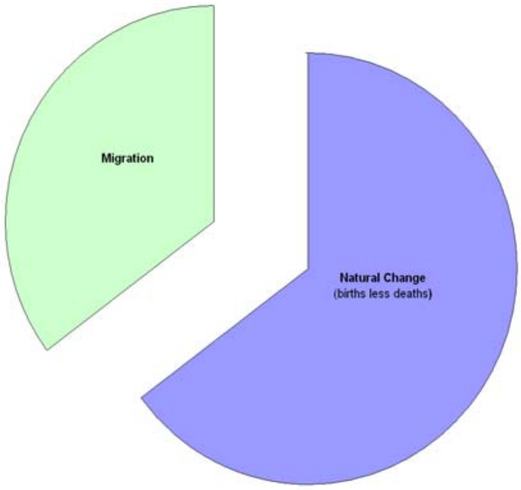
The projected population growth estimate in Medway is above the growth level for England (+15%), the South East (+17%) and Kent (+19%).

The age profile of Medway is likely to change considerably. The largest growth in the Medway population is people aged 65 and over, with this age group increasing by 73% (+28,700), 0-15's increase by 15% (+7,700) and those of working age up by 10% (+18,000).

By 2035 over one fifth (21%) of Medway's population will be aged 65 and over, up from 15% in 2012.



Population growth 2012 to 2035 (000s)	
Total growth	**54.5**
Natural Change	**35.2**
Births	87.8
Deaths	50.9
All Migration Net	**19.3**
England to Medway	261.7
Medway to England	253.7
International to Medway	33.4
International from Medway	20.7
Scotland/Wales/NI to Medway	6.9
Medway to Scotland/Wales/NI	9.2



Further information on population growth in Medway is available here:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/2012%20Population%20projection.pdf

This data sets runs from 2012 as publication was prior to the release of the Mid Year Estimate 2013 in June 2014.

St Mary's Island – Statue and housing

Regeneration and Major Development

Rochester Riverside and railway station

Formal approval was given in September 2013 to relocate Rochester's railway station. The new station buildings and longer platform due to be completed by Christmas 2015. To move the Rochester Railway Station to Corporation Street will cost around £26 million. This is part of Network Rail's East Kent resignalling programme, a large scale investment programme to improve high-speed rail services, increase capacity, improve journey times and replace outmoded infrastructure.

As well as the new station at Rochester, and improvements already made at Gillingham, there will also be improvements to Rainham and Strood stations - a total investment in Medway of £40million. This investment represents a vote of confidence in the continuing regeneration of Medway, providing a boost to flagship regeneration schemes such as Rochester Riverside.

The Development Brief and Masterplan for Rochester Riverside will now be reviewed to reflect both the positive impact of the station relocation and current market conditions. It will also ensure that it retains the flexibility to accommodate further changes in market conditions as Medway emerges from the recent recession. The remainder of the site is due to be marketed to developers towards the end of 2014.

Chatham Waters

A detailed application for phase 1 of the development was approved in September 2013.

The 14.6ha development is a £650m investment by Peel Land and Property, consisting of a mix of uses including office space, student accommodation, educational space, hotel, event complex, food store and 950 residential units.

The first phase consists of an Asda supermarket with associated car park and petrol filling station together with a landscaped area.

Work on Medway's University Technical College scheduled for late 2014 and is due to open in 2015. The college will focus on engineering and construction catering for 600 students aged 14-19 years old.

Chatham Dockyard
Plans for a Dockyard revamp are on the cards, the £8.5 million scheme has already secured £4.5 million from the Heritage Lottery fund. The project, which has been named The Command of the Oceans, will showcase the story of Chatham's Historic Dockyard's world-class naval and military history. It will take approximately three years to deliver.
Strood Riverside
This is an important waterfront regeneration site that has secured investment through the Public Sector Works Loan Board to undertake flood defence works. Further funding secured from the Local Growth Fund will deliver highway and public realm improvements in the adjacent town centre. *(see Housing Implementation Strategy for further detail)*
Former Halling Cement Works
A £75 million lakeside development is under construction on the old Halling Cement Works site. Redrow will be contributing more than £2.5 million towards the local community, including road and public transport improvements, health, nursery and primary school facilities, waste and recycling and other facilities.

No 1 Smithery – Chatham Dockyard

Environment

Changes in areas of biodiversity importance

Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has/is being implemented

There are sixteen wildlife sites within Medway monitored under this measure – of these sixteen, thirteen were assessed as having positive management in 2013/14.

This is an improvement, increasing from 2012/13 when eleven sites were in positive management.

These sites designated locally for their substantive nature conservation importance, either for wildlife or geology. Sites in positive conservation management are defined as those sites that are being managed in order to conserve their nature conservation interest in the last five years.

Assessing the extent of positive management can help to identify sites where positive management is lacking and will help to focus the efforts of Local Site Partnerships in ensuring local sites are managed and their nature conservation value is maintained or enhanced.

In 2012-13, 46 per cent of local sites across England were in positive conservation management. This represents around 20,000 sites.

Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has/is being implemented in Medway			
2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
73%	75%	69%	81%

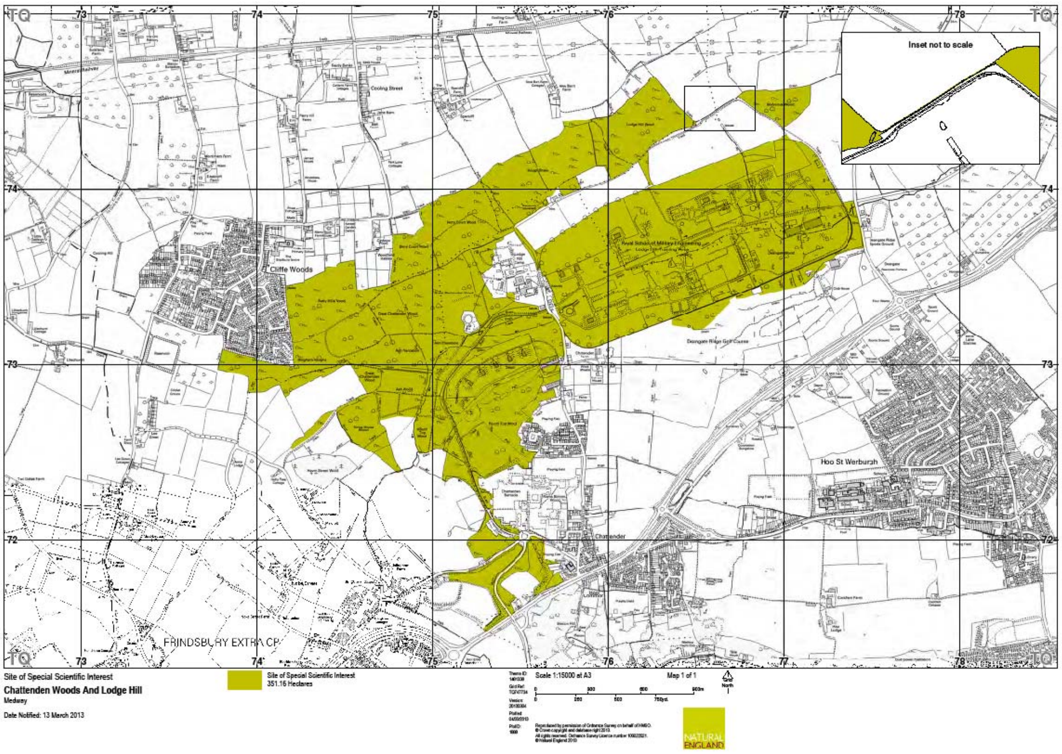
Further information:
https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-sites-in-positive-conservation-management--2

Chattenden Woods and Lodge Hill SSSI

In November 2013, Natural England confirmed the designation of an extended Site of Special Scientific Interest at Chattenden Woods and Lodge Hill. This recognised the qualities of the area as habitat for nightingales, grassland and woodland.

Further details on the notification of the extended SSSI are available at:

http://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=S2000764&SiteName=chattenden&countyCode=24&responsiblePerson

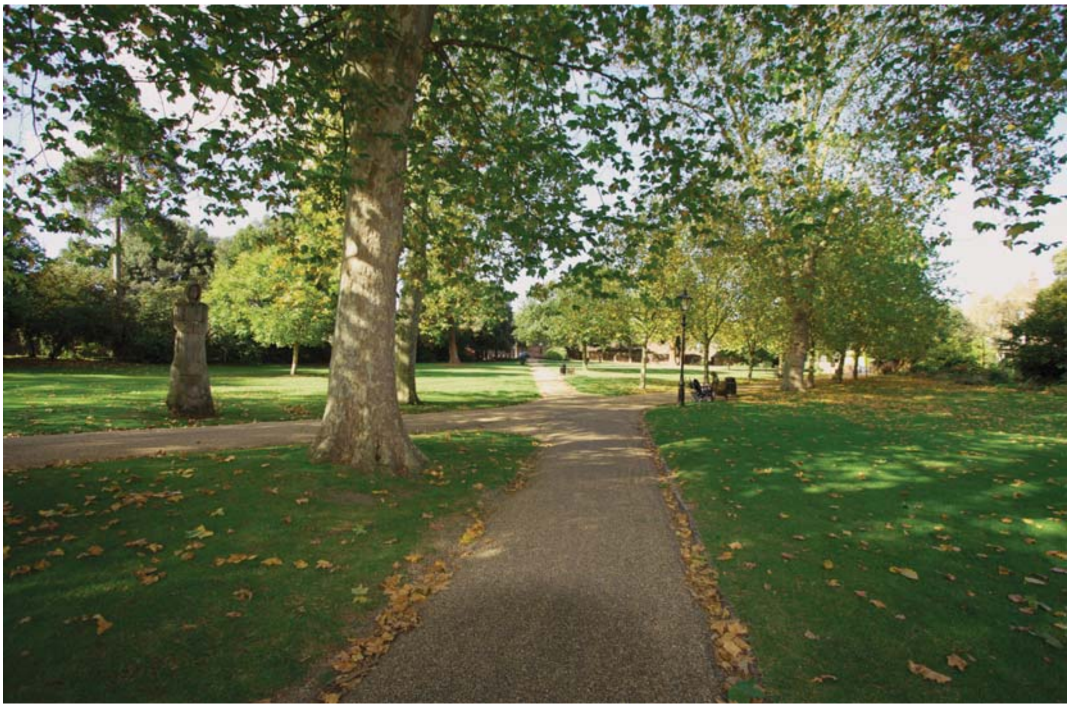


Green flag awards

In 2014 Great Lines Heritage Park and Gillingham Park received Green Flag awards, adding to the five sites that retained the Green Flag award.

Green flag sites – year awarded		
2011	5	The Vines, Riverside CP, Hillyfields, Capstone Farm CP, Broomhill Park
2012	5	
2013	5	
2014	7	*Above* +Great Lines Heritage Park and Gillingham Park

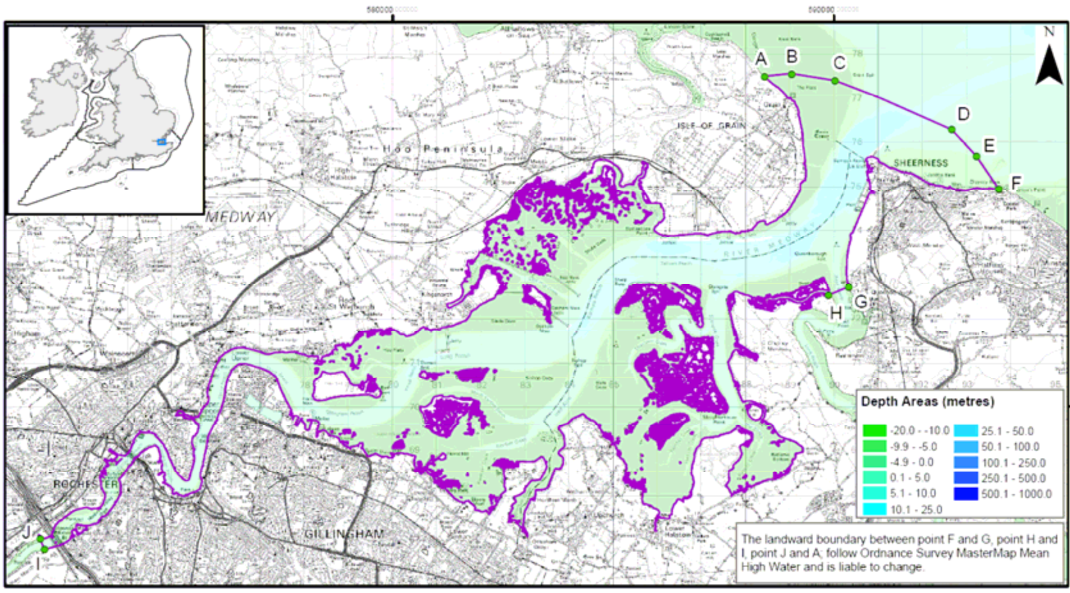
A Green Flag Award is the benchmark of a quality park or green space. Not only does a Green Flag flying overhead guarantee a public space is welcoming, clean, well-maintained, safe and secure, it also ensures it is managed sustainably and pays attention to the conservation of the natural and built environment.



The Vines - Rochester

Medway Estuary Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

Medway Estuary Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) was designated in November 2013. This MCZ is an inshore site located on the Kent coast. It encompasses the Medway Estuary from Rochester down to its mouth, and extends seaward to include an area between Sheerness and the Isle of Grain. A total area of 60 km2 is protected by this MCZ. It protects a range of marine habitats that make up the estuary, together with one specific species of fauna – the tentacled lagoon-worm.



Medway Estuary MCZ Boundary

- Marine Conservation Zone
- MCZ boundary co-ordinates
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Land

0 1 2 3 4 Km

Point	Lat	Long	Point	Lat	Long
A	51°27' 53.918" N	0°42' 40.298" E	F	51°26' 25.093" N	0°47' 9.604" E
B	51°27' 55.057" N	0°43' 11.997" E	G	51°25' 17.459" N	0°44' 9.694" E
C	51°27' 48.916" N	0°44' 2.509" E	H	51°25' 11.696" N	0°43' 45.262" E
D	51°27' 9.619" N	0°46' 17.378" E	I	51°22' 25.686" N	0°28' 16.856" E
E	51°26' 49.387" N	0°46' 45.288" E	J	51°22' 33.653" N	0°28' 12.521" E

Reference: Theme ID: 1477558
Map Projection: British National Grid

Further information on Marine Conservation Zones is available via this weblink:
http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5596204612190208?category=1721481

Health

Life expectancy

Lifestyle issues including **smoking, obesity and alcohol** are key contributors to high mortality rates of the major killers in Medway, particularly, circulatory disease, cancer and respiratory disease.

Life expectancy in Medway increased in 2010-12 but both male and female life expectancy in Medway is significantly worse than the England average.

Within Medway there is great variation in life expectancy at ward level – central parts of Medway around the town centres appear to have the lowest life expectancy – most notably Chatham Central, River and Luton & Wayfield at around 77.7 years.

Of the roughly 2,000 deaths that occur in Medway each year**, almost a third of deaths in females and half of deaths in males are premature.**

Medway life expectancy
Years

	2008-10	2009-2011	2010-12
Male	77.6	78.2	78.5
Female	81.7	82.1	82.2

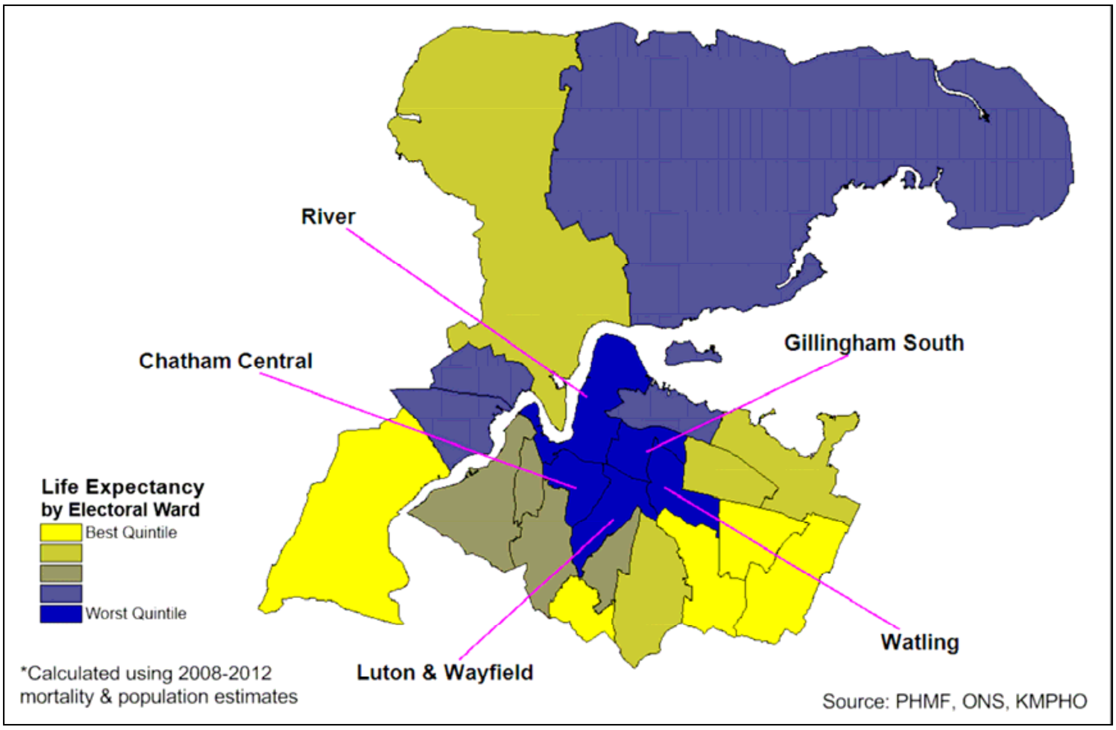
England authority average life expectancy
Years

	2008-10	2009-2011	2010-12
Male	78.5	78.9	79.2
Female	82.5	82.9	83.0

Average life expectancy 2008 to 2012 – wards

	Male	**Female**
Chatham Central	76.1	80.3
Cuxton and Halling	83.4	85.4
Gillingham North	77.2	81.5
Gillingham South	77.2	80.3
Hempstead and Wigmore	81.2	84.2
Lordswood and Capstone	78.8	83.5
Luton and Wayfield	75.6	81.0
Peninsula	77.5	81.5

Princes Park	78.7	82.8
Rainham Central	80.7	85.0
Rainham North	78.1	83.2
Rainham South	80.0	84.6
River	75.2	83.5
Rochester East	76.9	82.2
Rochester South and Horsted	78.2	80.7
Rochester West	79.2	81.0
Strood North	77.6	81.2
Strood Rural	79.6	81.3
Strood South	76.5	82.4
Twydall	77.4	83.7
Walderslade	80.4	83.7
Watling	77.8	80.5
Medway	**78.1**	**82.0**



Source: Life expectancy with 95% confidence intervals calculated by KITs. Mortality data from annual death extracts (ONS). Mid-year (2008-2012) Population Estimates for in England by Single Year of Age and Sex.

Mortality

In both males and females the **leading cause of premature deaths is cancer**, accounting for almost half of deaths in women and a third of deaths in men of this age. There has been a downward trend in mortality for all cancers in Medway since 1993 but cancer death rates have remained higher than in comparator groups, regional and national rates.

Smoking, obesity, alcohol and poor mental health are all key lifestyle issues which impact on health inequalities and need to be addressed.

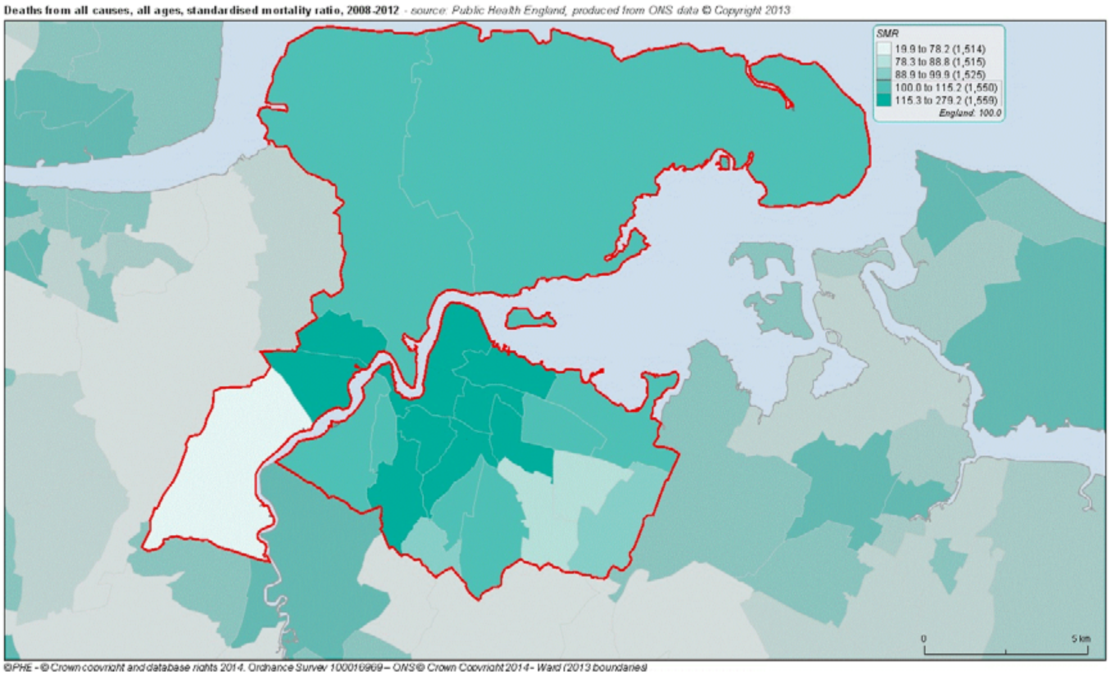
The next largest cause of death in those under the age of 75 years is circulatory disease (for example heart attacks, stroke and heart failure), accounting for 18% of premature deaths in women and 28% in men. Deaths from heart disease contribute significantly to the gap in life expectancy between Medway and England.

A further 10% of premature deaths are due to respiratory diseases, notably chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), primarily caused by chronic tobacco smoking.

There is great variation in death rates by area within Medway. Mortality rates in Medway are higher in central urban areas.

Watling, Rochester South and Horsted and Central Chatham wards have the highest mortality rates.

Standardised mortality rate 2008-2012	
Chatham Central	126.3
Cuxton and Halling	75.7
Gillingham North	116.6
Gillingham South	120.1
Hempstead and Wigmore	85.1
Lordswood and Capstone	102.0
Luton and Wayfield	118.1
Peninsula	111.2
Princes Park	101.2
Rainham Central	87.6
Rainham North	101.8
Rainham South	90.3
River	116.2
Rochester East	113.3
Rochester South and Horsted	126.4
Rochester West	111.6
Strood North	115.4
Strood Rural	105.2
Strood South	116.1
Twydall	101.1
Walderslade	92.3
Watling	127.5
Medway UA	108.1
Kent CC	96.9
England	100.0



Source: Mortality data from annual death extracts (Office for National Statistics (ONS)), deaths registered in the period 2008-2012. Mid-year (2008-2012) Population Estimates in England by quinary (5-year) Age Group and Sex, ONS.

For further more detailed information on health in Medway go to:

http://www.medwayjsna.info/

Medway Hot Food Takeaways Guidance Note

In July 2014 the council agreed to adopt new guidance in considering planning applications for new **hot food takeaways.**

Purpose

- Introduces some restrictions on the location and operating hours of new takeaways.
- Targets the issues of over-concentration of takeaways in particular areas, and in locations close to schools

Why?

1 in 4 adults in England are obese. Medway is above the national average, with an estimated 30% of adults, and over 20% of children classified as obese. This has serious health implications for our local population.

The National Planning Policy Framework has made explicit the need for Planning and Public Health to work together to take account of the health status and needs of the local population including any expected future changes and any information about relevant barriers to improving health and well being.

What does the guidance cover?

The guidance covers planning applications for **new** takeaways only. It does not apply to existing businesses. There are three main areas in the guidance:

- Limiting proximity to schools
- Avoidance of cover concentration in one location
- Section 106 agreements seeking contributions toward public health initiatives.

More information is available here:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/Hot%20Food%20Takeaways%20in%20Medway%20-%20A%20Guidance%20Note.pdf

Housing

In June 2014, the Council adopted a Housing Position Statement that included the review of its housing requirement. Work commissioned on household projections indicated that provision should be made for at least 24,000 new homes to be delivered between 2011 and 2035 - an average of 1000 a year. This figure is being used, pending the outcome of a Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment being commissioned with Gravesham Borough Council, and to report in 2015.

Net additional dwellings a) in previous years b) for reporting year c) in future years

In 2013/14 579 units were completed, which was below the annual requirement of 1000, but was above the 2012/13 AMR estimate of 516, and an increase on the previous year. This reflects the economic downturn, which has caused the construction sector to slow.

Net additional dwellings in previous years

	Completions	Requirement	Surplus/deficit
2012	809	1000	-191
2013	565	1000	-435
2014	579	1000	-421
2012-2014	**1953**	**3000**	**-1047**

Number of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land

In 2013/14, 369 residential completions were on previously developed land (PDL), which represents 64% of all residential completions.

Over the past 3 years, on average 65% of dwellings completed have been on previously developed land.

Number of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land (net)

	Percent units on PDL	Units on PDL
2011/12	62%	498
2012/13	69%	392
2013/14	64%	369

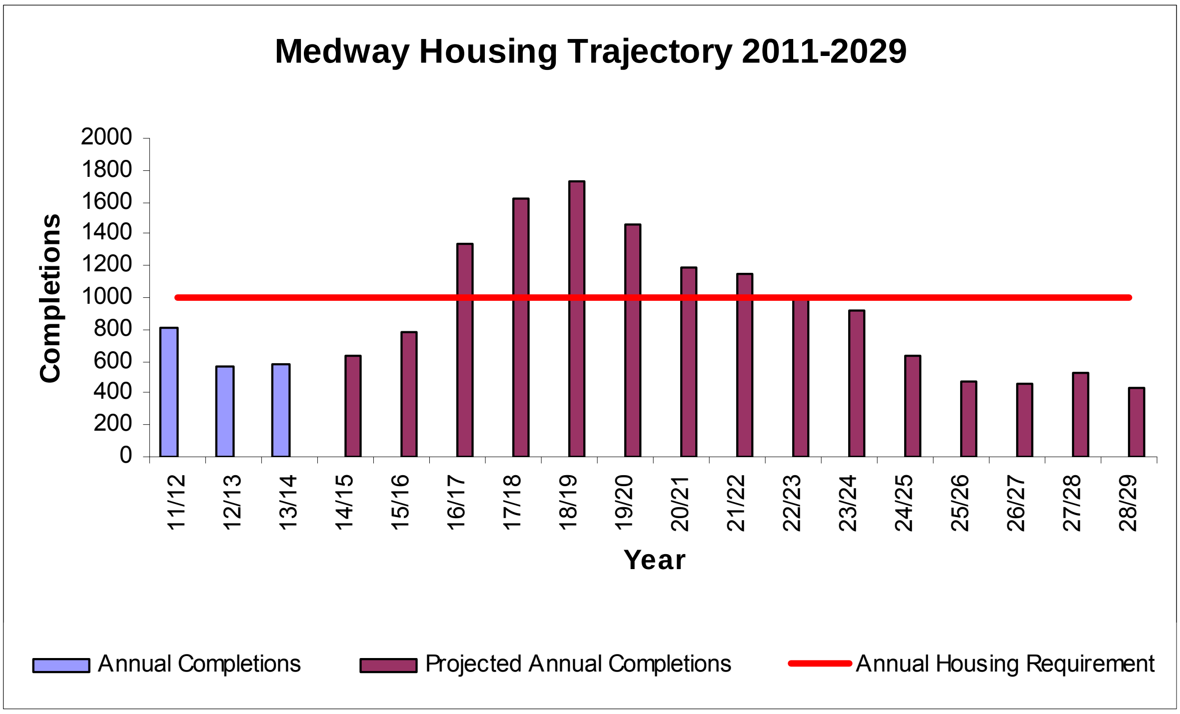
Housing Trajectory 2011-2029

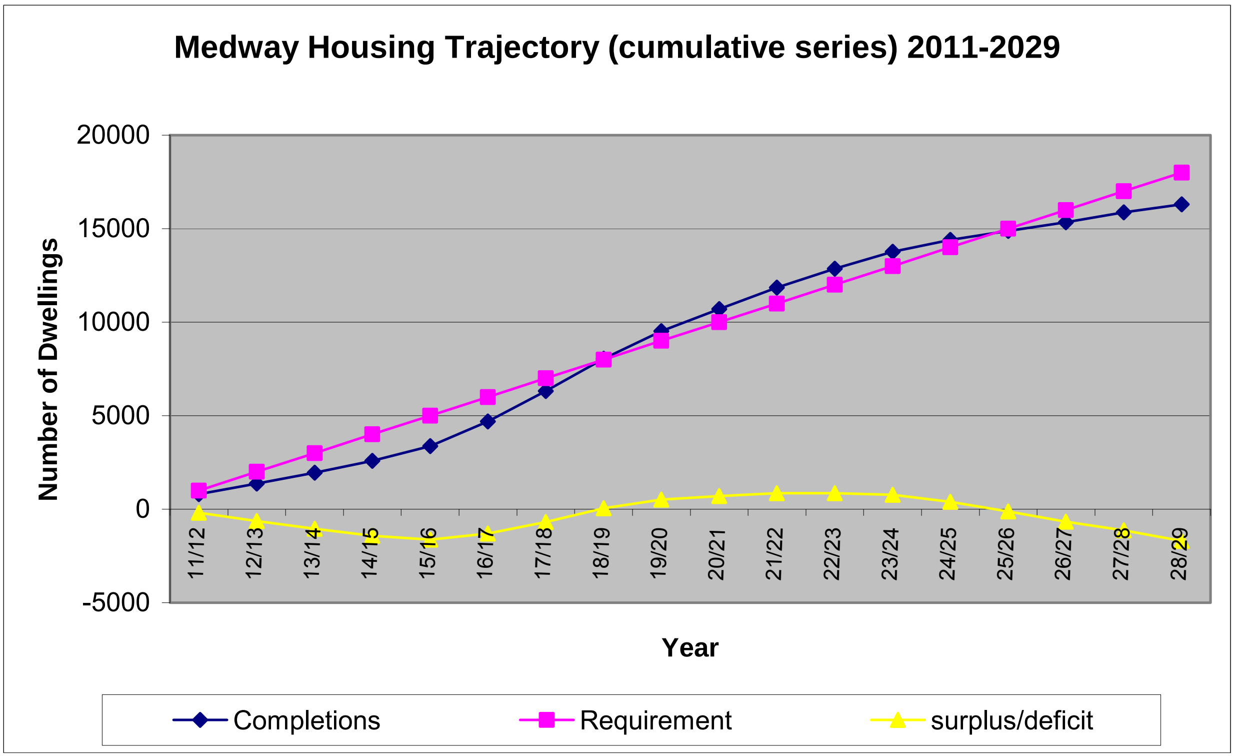
The housing trajectory shows phasing over the period 2011-2029, including contributions from past completions, sites with planning consent, local plan allocations and possible windfalls and sites that are identified in the Strategic Land Availability Assessment January 2014.

Trajectory																	
11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29
Annual Completions																	
809	565	579															
Projected Annual Completions																	
			629	784	1333	1622	1728	1463	1186	1151	1006	915	629	475	466	527	437
Annual Housing Requirement																	
1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000

Phasing is calculated using data from past completion rates. An annual adjustment is made taking into account other national and local factors such as current economic conditions and affordable housing funding.

Please note; this trajectory is based on the position as at 31st March 2014. More recent information is provided in the Housing Implementation Strategy published alongside the Authority Monitoring Report.





Housing at Wainscott

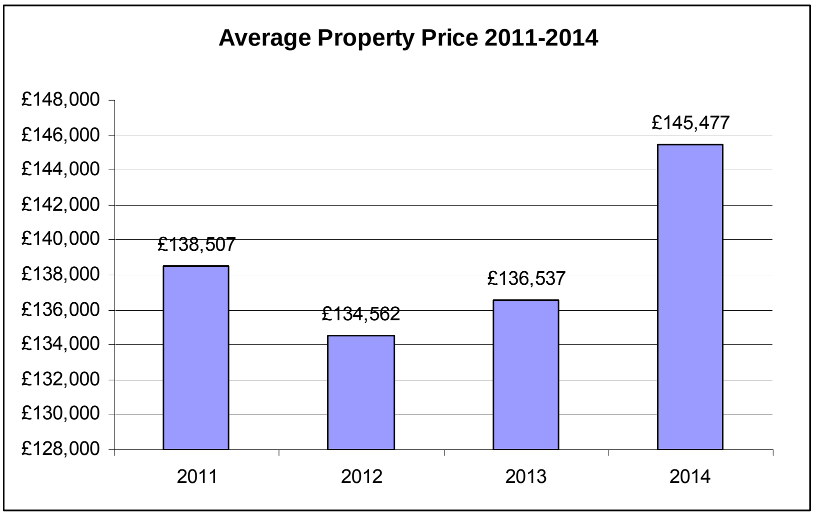
Property prices

Average property prices in Medway remain considerably below the national level.

Prices have increased in Medway over the past year at a higher rate than both locally and nationally.

Average property price in Medway 2007-2013

Year	Medway	Kent	South East	Eng & Wales
March 2011	£138,500	£182,500	£206,800	£161,700
March 2012	£134,600	£179,600	£206,900	£160,400
March 2013	£136,500	£180,600	£209,200	£160,800
March 2014	£145,500	£191,300	£221,600	£169,400
2011-2014 % change	5.1	4.8	7.2	4.8
2013-2014 % change	6.6	5.9	5.9	5.4



Source: Crown Copyright Land Registry Property Price data 11th June 2014

Affordable Housing

A significant proportion of the population is unable to afford the cost of purchasing, outright, a house or other type of residential accommodation. As such it is critically important to maintain an adequate supply of 'affordable housing' to ensure that the whole population has a satisfactory place to live.

Gross affordable completions (count)
Affordable completions as proportion of all completions

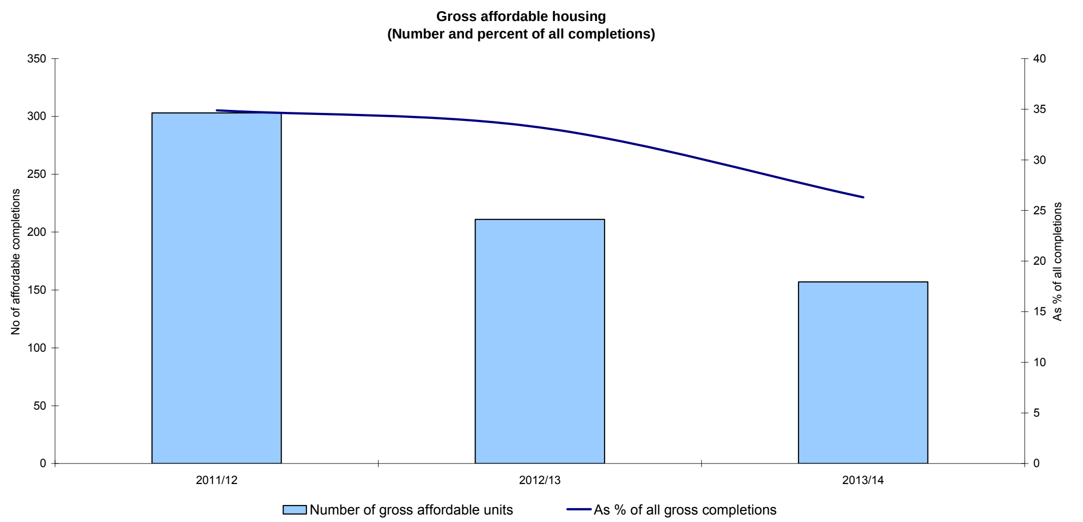
The number of affordable residential completions is down on the previous year. However the level of affordables as a proportion of all completions remains above the target of 25%.

In 2013 this measure was changed to include all gross numbers.

Affordable housing data is collected and reported by the Councils Housing Team and is reported as gross numbers. For consistency our analysis with regard to affordable housing is now based on gross numbers.

Gross affordable completions

	Number of gross affordable units	Number of gross completions	As % of all gross completions
2011/12	303	869	34.9
2012/13	211	635	33.2
2013/14	157	597	26.3



Residential completions by property type and size

Housing completions continue to show that all types of tenure are being constructed within Medway. Specialist provision is continuing to come forward for students. During 2013/14, 530 student rooms were completed.

The Chatham Waters planning permission includes 475 flats of student accommodation.

Affordable housing continues to come forward but has slowed considerably from previous years reflecting changes in funding programmes. Just over 26% of new dwellings this year being provided by the affordable housing sector.

Medway also has a good spread of new family homes, with just over 66% of completed sites this year providing 2 and 3 bedroom homes.

For large sites built out in the year 2013/14 the breakdown of houses and flats by number of bedrooms is shown in the table below. More houses than flats were completed. The majority of new property had 2 bedrooms.

Completions (gross) on large sites by property type and number of bedrooms 2013/14

Number of bedrooms	Houses	Flats
One	0	77
Two	83	103
Three	129	4
Four or more	82	0
Total	**294**	**184**
Total % split	**62%**	**38%**

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show- people

In September 2012, the Council commissioned the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford to produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (GTAA).

The report assesses requirements for the following periods:

- 2013 – 2018
- 2018 – 2023
- 2023 – 2028

The assessment was jointly commissioned with Tonbridge and Malling, Gravesham, Ashford, Medway and Swale Councils to ensure a consistent approach and that cross boundary issues we taken into account.

Summary of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show people accommodation and pitch need (2013-2028)

	Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Need Total (No. of pitches)	**Travelling Show people Plot Need Total (no. of plots)**
Current authorised residential provision (pitches/plots)	22	5
Residential need 2013-2018 (pitches/plots)	**13**	**0**
Residential need 2018-2023 pitches/plots)	4	0
Residential need 2023-2028 pitches/plots)	5	0
Residential need 2013-2818 (pitches/plots)	**22**	**0**

For further information please see the *Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment: Medway Council Final Report (September 2013).

http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/gypsiesandtravellersgtaa.aspx

Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)

Bi-annual counts of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans are published by DCLG.

The 2014 figures show capacity of twelve caravans on authorised sites with planning permission, with Council supplied figures showing that there are eleven caravans on the site at Cuxton. CLG shows a count of two caravans on unauthorised sites without planning permission.

	Authorised sites (with planning permission)		Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)		Total caravans
	Socially rented	All Private Caravans	No. of Caravans on Sites on Travellers' own land	No. of Caravans on Sites on land not owned by Travellers	
2014	12	5	1	0	18
2013	12	5	1	0	18
2012	12	0	0	2	14

During the year 2013/14 there were 2 consents granted for gypsy caravans.

- Lordswood (retrospective) for 2 caravans and 1 static unit. App 12/9/13 – temporary permission.
- Matts Hill 1 mobile unit and 1 touring caravan. App 30/1/14 – temporary consent.

http://www.medway.gov.uk/housing/affordablehousing/gypsyandtravellersites.aspx

Economy

The Council seeks the development of a dynamic and diverse local economy, to provide employment for the community as a whole, to provide greater choice for the workforce, offering an alternative to out-commuting.

Medway continues to engage in activities to deliver the potential regeneration opportunities of the Thames Gateway, through partnership working in the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, the Thames Gateway Kent Partnership in north Kent and more widely on a Kent and Medway basis to the strategy of 'Unlocking the Potential'.

Funding has been secured through the Local Growth Fund to deliver further infrastructure improvements in Medway.

Amount and type of completed employment floor space

In 2013/14 as in 2012/13, there was a net lost in employment floorspace with a large loss of B8 floorspace (-10,500 m²) on Medway City Estate.

Amount and type of completed employment floorspace – 2013/14

	B1 (m²)	B2(m²)	B8(m²)	Mixed B (m²)	Total (m²)
Gross	2693	5238	4720	3268	15919
Net	-3350	-1318	-9665	3268	-11065

Amount of completed employment floor space (sq.m) 2011/12- 2013/14

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Gross	20429	12327	15919
Net	9482	-4626	-11065

Amount and type of employment floorspace coming forward on Previously Developed Land (PDL)

The proportion of employment floor space completed on previously developed land was high in 2013/14 at 98%.

In previous years this rate was significantly lower as a number of larger greenfield sites came forward for development.

Amount and type of completed floorspace (gross) coming forward on previously developed land (PDL) – 2013/14

B1 (m²)	B2(m²)	B8(m²)	Mixed B (m²)	Total (m²)
2755	5023	4620	3268	15666
97%	96%	98%	100%	98%

Completed floor space (sq.m) on PDL (total) 2011/12-2013/14

2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
17910	6883	15666
87.7%	55.8%	97.6%

Amount and type of employment land available

The amount of available floorspace for B1/B2/B8 with planning permission net of losses is 732,211 sq.m.

Amount of floor space for town centre uses

There was a net loss in 2013/14 in A1/A2/B1a/D2 use classes as was the case in the two previous years.

Total amount of floorspace completed for town centre uses (A1/A2/B1a/D2) – 2013/14

	A1 (m²)		A2 (m²)		B1 (m²)		D2 (m²)		Total	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Town Centre	210	-2365	276	56	299	-2766	398	398	**1183**	**-4677**
Rest of Medway	642	-316	0	-638	2394	-584	108	-23	**3144**	**-1561**
Total	852	-2681	276	-582	2693	-3350	506	375	**4327**	**-6238**

Total floorspace for town centre use 2011/12-2013/14

	Town Centres		Rest of Medway		Floorspace Total	
Year	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
2011/12	1112	-4015	6627	-1076	7739	-5091
2012/13	2849	1467	4875	-4812	7724	-3345
2013/14	1183	-4677	3144	-1561	4327	-6238

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants

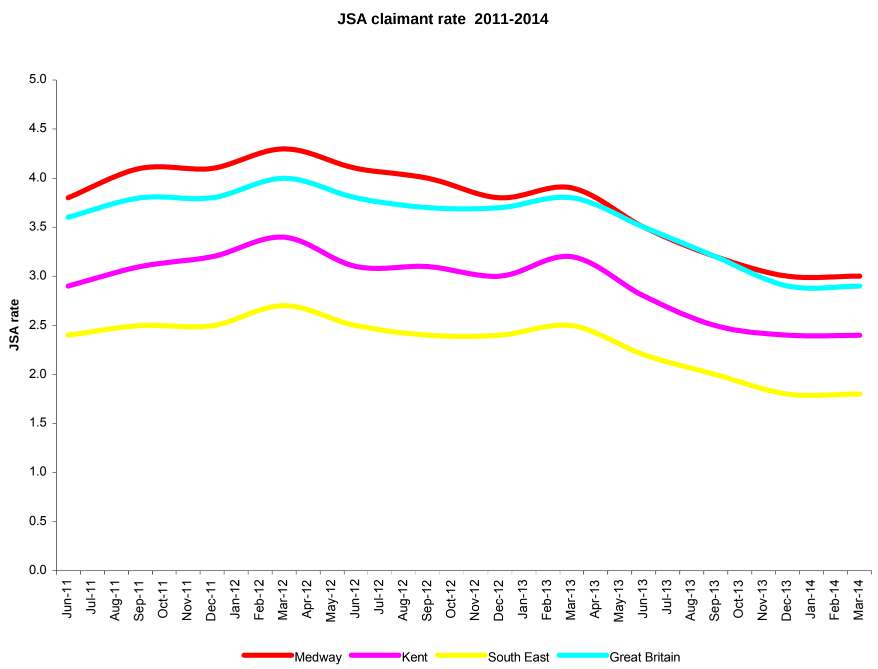
The Job Seekers claimant rate has dropped in Medway over 2013/14 but remains just above the national rate in March 2014 at 3.0% against 2.9% nationally.

The JSA rate peaked in Medway in March 2012 with a downward trend since then. At 3% the JSA claimant rate is back down to levels of unemployment seen in late 2008.

The JSA claimant rate has dropped further since March 2014.

JSA claimant rate – 2011-2014

	Medway	Kent	South East	Great Britain
Jun 2011	3.8	2.9	2.4	3.6
Sept 2011	4.1	3.1	2.5	3.8
Dec 2011	4.1	3.2	2.5	3.8
Mar 2012	4.3	3.4	2.7	4.0
Jun 2012	4.1	3.1	2.5	3.8
Sept 2012	4.0	3.1	2.4	3.7
Dec 2012	3.8	3.0	2.4	3.7
Mar 2013	3.9	3.2	2.5	3.8
Jun 2013	3.5	2.8	2.2	3.5
Sept 2013	3.2	2.5	2.0	3.2
Dec 2013	3.0	2.4	1.8	2.9
Mar 2014	3.0	2.4	1.8	2.9



Gross Value Added – productivity

In 2012 Gross Value Added per head for Medway at £14,356 stood at 67.4% of the UK level.

This is an improvement on the 2011 level and is almost back up to the 2010 level *(indices).*

Medway has the second lowest GVA per head in the South East at £14,356, after the Isle of Wight (£14,023). East Sussex follows at £14,556 per head.

Factors such as 'out-commuting' and less higher value business activity will be contributing to Medway's relatively lower GVA level.

Gross value added per head of population

	2010	2011	2012
Medway	**14,091**	**13,599**	**14,356**
Kent	17,667	17,927	17,909
South East	22,456	22,664	23,221
United Kingdom	20,740	21,077	21,295

Gross value added per head of population - indices

	2010	2011	2012
Medway	**67.9**	**64.5**	**67.4**
Kent	85.2	85.1	84.1
South East	108.3	107.5	109.0
United Kingdom	100.0	100.0	100.0

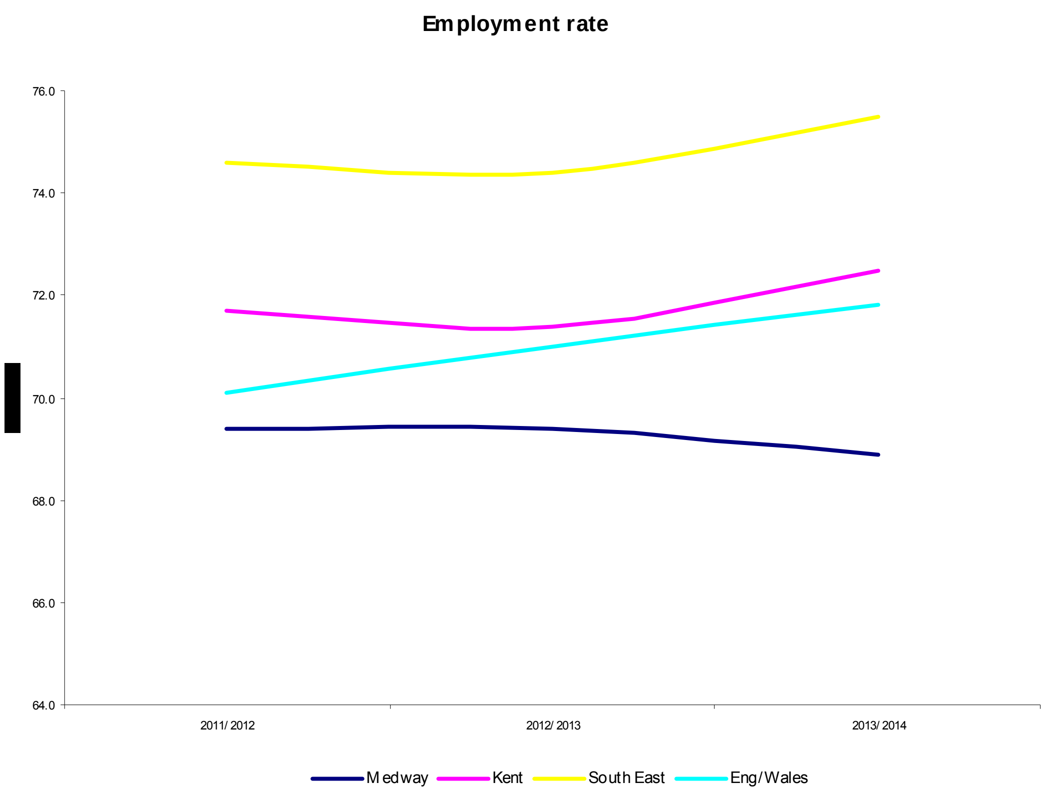
For an overview of GVA follow link:
http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/economy/national-accounts/gva/index.html

Employment

The employment rate in Medway has dropped over the last three years, this is in contrast to Kent, South East and United Kingdom which have seen an improvement over this period.

Employment rate – 2012 to 2014

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
Medway	**69.4**	**69.4**	**68.9**
Kent	71.7	71.4	72.5
South East	74.6	74.4	75.5
United Kingdom	70.1	71.0	71.8



Economic activity

The economic activity level in Medway has dropped to 76.2% in 2013/14 which remains below the national level of 77.4%.

Economic activity levels are lower if the economically active population increases.

The economically inactive are those who are not in the work force. It includes students, those looking after family or home, the sick, the 'early retired' as well as those who want to work but are not able to and those who do not want to work.

Economic activity rate

	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014
Medway	**77.0**	**76.6**	**76.2**
Kent	78.1	77.1	78.4
South East	79.4	79.4	79.9
United Kingdom	76.4	77.1	77.4

Chatham Waterfront

The River Medway - Port cargo traffic

While freight handled by all UK ports was stable in 2013, in Medway cargo tonnage was down significantly, following an earlier drop in 2012.

Since 2011 cargo tonnage has dropped by almost 50% in Medway; this compares with a reduction of 3% for all UK major ports and an 11% decrease for London ports.

London Thamesport on the Isle of Grain can handle a variety of deep and shallow-drafted vessels; other ports in Medway include Chatham Dock, Scotline Terminal on the Medway City Estate and the National Grid's Liquefied Natural Gas Importation terminal at Grain.

Medway sends and receives cargo from all over the world. The Medway ports service all Africa, America, Canada and Europe.

London Gateway on the Thames at Stanford-le-Hope started operating in November 2013. With six deep-water berths, it can handle the world's largest container ships. This is likely to have had an impact on the traffic through the Medway Ports.

Further information on the importation of aggregates through Medway's wharves – crushed rock and sand and gravel, including from marine dredged sources – is given in the Local Aggregate Assessment set out as Volume 3 of the Monitoring Report.

Medway port traffic cargo – tonnage (000's)

	2011	2012	2013
All traffic	**16,076**	**12,649**	**8,384**
Inward	13,903	10,933	7142
Outward	2,173	1,717	1,242

All Major UK ports traffic cargo – tonnage (000's)

	2011	2012	2013
All traffic	**506,996**	**489,450**	**491,402**

Retail and Town Centres

Medway Council seeks to maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of its network of urban and rural centres and support the delivery of appropriate comparison and convenience retail, office, leisure, community, entertainment and cultural facilities. In line with national changes, the town centres in Medway have faced a number of challenges in recent years, with competition from online retailers and larger retail centres further a field.

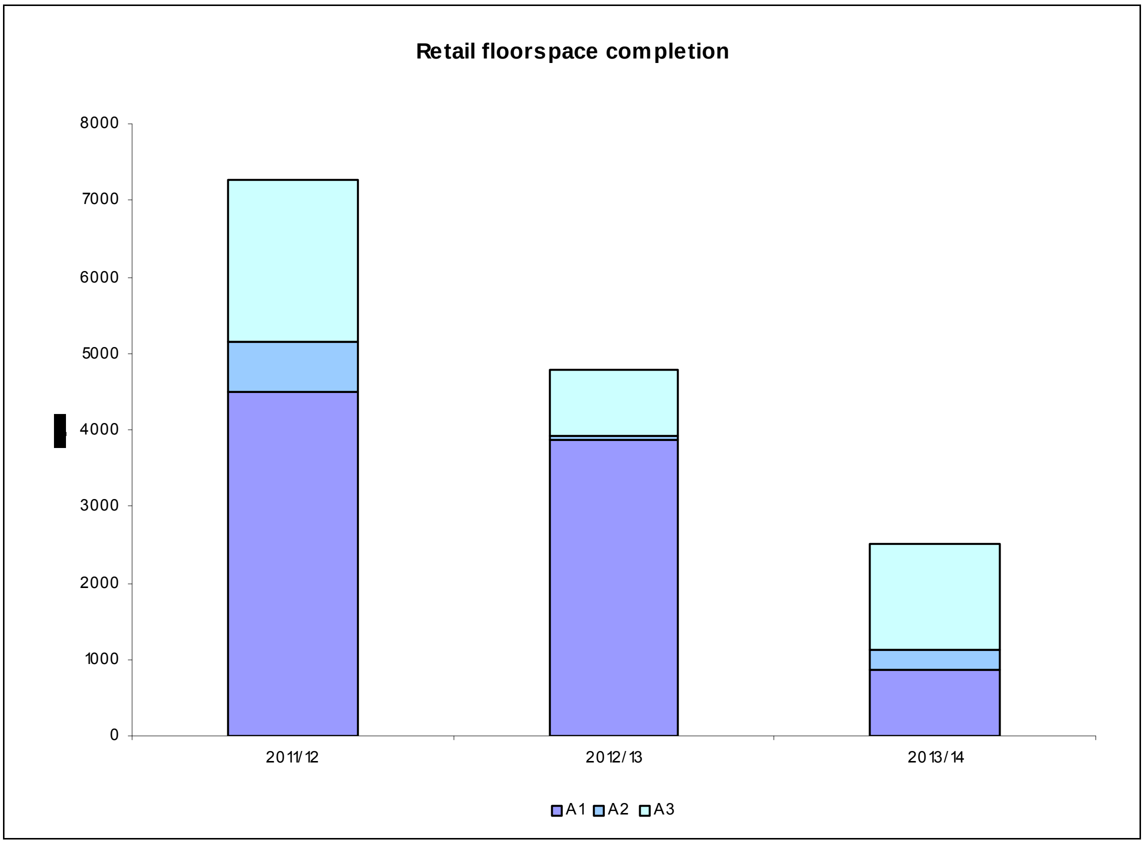
Gross completions A1-A3

The amount of new retail floor space declined in 2013/14 with 2,521 sq.m being developed. This trend has been evident over the three years.

Town Centre and non Town Centre retail floorspace completion

		A1	A2	A3	A1-A3
2013/14	TC	210	276	161	647
	Non TC	642	0	1232	1874
	Total	**852**	**276**	**1393**	**2521**
2012/13	TC	1815	0	470	2285
	Non TC	2042	60	393	2495
	Total	**3857**	**60**	**863**	**4780**
2011/12	TC	235	462	845	1542
	Non TC	4261	199	1262	5722
	Total	**4496**	**661**	**2107**	**7264**

Chatham Town Centre



Net completions in town centres

4,465 sq.m of retail floorspace was lost in town centres in 2013/14 due to large losses of A1 and D1 floor space.

The largest single loss of A1 was in Chatham, where the old retail units totalling 740 sq.m (along with some A3 and SG uses) were demolished to make way for part of the new Chatham Waterfront development. When constructed this will deliver 31 flats, 1280 sq.m of retail uses, 256 sq.m of employment use, 256 sq.m of D1 community use and an 86-bed hotel. The other part of the Chatham Waterfront, when constructed, will deliver a further 80 flats, 227 sq.m of D1 community use and 1362 sq.m of commercial floor space.

The large loss of 2291 sq.m of D1 was the closure of the Adult Education centre in Gillingham, which is making way for 97 student bedrooms. However, a small portion of adult education has still been retained in Gillingham, with the completion of 98 sq.m of D1 in Canterbury Street.

Town centre development – 2013/4			
Use	Losses (sq.m)	Gains (sq.m)	Net change (sq.m)
A1	-2575	210	-2365
A2	-220	276	56
A3	-481	161	-320
A4	0	0	0
A5	0	0	0
D1	-2291	57	-2234
D2	0	398	398
Total	**-5567**	**1102**	**-4465**

Town centre vacant retail units

The proportion of retail units standing vacant varies greatly by town centre in Medway.

Strood has the highest vacancy rate in 2014 having seen a significant increase to 14%; in contrast Chatham has seen a significant decrease dropping to 13%. Other than Chatham most town centres in Medway have seen an increase in vacancies. As a result there has been a small increase at Medway level to around 10.2%, which remains below the national vacancy rate of 13.9%.

Town Centre vacancy rates			
	2012 (March)	2013 (Jan)	2014 (Jan)
Chatham	14.0%	16.0%	13.0%
Rochester	6.3%	7.0%	9.0%
Gillingham	5.9%	6.5%	6.5%
Rainham	4.1%	4.0%	5.0%
Strood	7.1%	8.8%	14.0%
Medway	**8.7%**	**10.0%**	**10.2%**
UK	14.5%	14.2%	13.9%

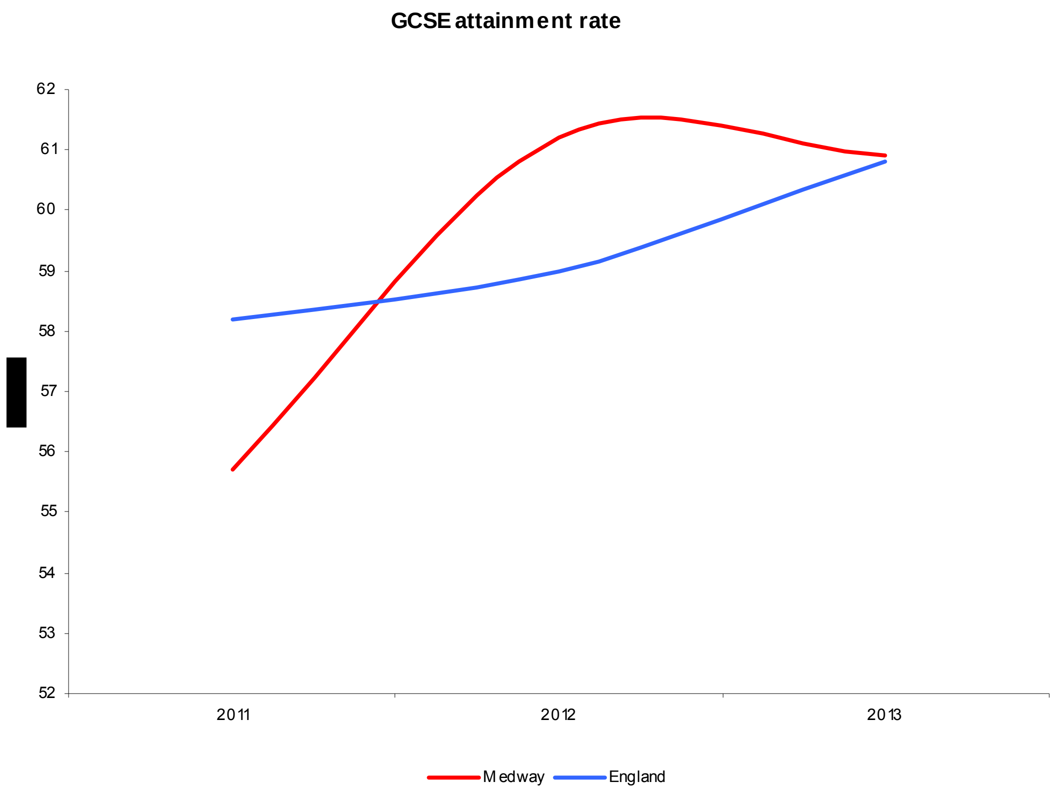
Education

GCSE attainment rate

The GCSE pass rate in Medway dipped slightly in 2013, down to 60.9%, this remains just above the national rate of 60.8%.

Percent of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving 5+A*-C (and equivalent) including English and maths GCSEs

	2011	2012	2013
Medway	55.7	61.2	60.9
England*	58.2	59.0	60.8



Notable developments and Medway news during the year
Strood
• Crispin and Crispianus a 17th century pub ravaged by fire in 2011 has been restored. • A pilot scheme has been set up in Strood to improve safety for pedestrians and help the traffic flow by removing clutter. A budget of £50,000 has been set aside for the work, affecting the area between Gun Lane and Station Road. • A former garage site in Station Road, has been redeveloped with 68 flats. • Building at Wainscott is moving at a fast pace with 146 dwellings completed during the year.
Rochester
• Proposals for a paved runway at Rochester Airport and a new business hub formed the basis of an adopted masterplan in January 2014. The scheme could create 1,000 jobs and provide a new concrete runway at a cost of around £4.5 million. • Borstal Recreation Ground in Manor Lane has received £30,343 to install new railings, an entrance sign, tables, seats and laying paths. • BAE gives 15 jobs to apprentices. • Plans were approved in November 2013 for a new Fire Station at the former park and ride site in Marconi Way. The programme for the work to be complete in December 2014. The park and ride site had been running at a loss. • The scheme at Ruxton Square (former Rochester Police Station) is well underway with all dwellings either complete or under construction.
Chatham
• The Chatham Historic Pumping Station has finally reopened to the public after 6 years of repair and renovation • 40 Riverside flats are under construction next to Anchorage House in Chatham High Street. • The RSME Bicentenary Bridge connecting Fort Amherst and the Inner Lines is one of the 8 projects across the SE put forward for the Institute of Civil Engineers excellence awards. • Fort Amherst received a grant of £17,863 to make improvement to the public areas including seats and picnic tables, creating toilets and repairing the brick courtyard floor outside the guardhouse. • Dickens World has undergone a makeover and re-pricing. So far the re-launched attraction is proving very popular. • Dockside Outlet Centre is celebrating its 10th anniversary. After an initial struggle in the early days it is now a thriving part of a leisure hub. The

success is due to the introduction of free parking for 3 hours and the opening of the homeware and DIY superstore. The extension to the Range has increased the units floorspace to 65000sq.ft.

- Plans for a Dockyard revamp are on the cards, the £8.5 million scheme has already secured £4.5 million from the Heritage Lottery fund. The project has been named The Command of the Oceans.
- The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall visited the Historic Dockyard. Prince Charles is the patron of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.
- Cast and crew returned to Chatham's Historic Dockyard for the filming of the second series of Mr Selfridge. More filming at the Dockyard, Warner Bros Shot The Man from UNCLE and Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe was spotted filming his latest movie Frankenstein. Meanwhile the cast and crew of Call the Midwife returned for series three. Finally Hollywood for the filming of the movie Suffragette.
- Sadly Chatham's Historic Dockyard and Defences failed in its bid for World Heritage status.
- Two neglected buildings in Chatham High Street are to be given a new lease of life the old Theatre Royal and Bank next door seek to be converted into restaurants, drinking establishments and flats.
- Developers behind the world's leading train simulator for the home PC – Railsimulator.com has leased the entire 1st floor of The Observatory building at Chatham Maritime.
- The Rochester Diocese has applied for planning permission to remove the 8 bells from St Marys Church Chatham. This has sparked speculation over a possible new tenant for the empty building.
- Repairs to Sun Pier in Chatham have been completed.
- Houses at Carpeaux Close Chatham are to be completed next year.
- A 24-hour Fitness Centre opens at the Pentagon Shopping Centre, Chatham.
- Planning permission has been granted to change 94-100 High Street Chatham into a 31-bed Hotel.
- The new extension to Medway Crematorium has been put forward for a top architecture award.

Gillingham

- A £5 million mosque is to be built in Railway Street Gillingham
- More than 120 jobs have been created by Crossrail, a new factory in Chatham Docks producing 110,000 concrete segments to line the new tunnels being constructed in London.
- Graphic Packaging's International plant at Gillingham Business Park is due to close in September putting 170 jobs under threat.
- Discussions are underway to move the physiotherapy unit from Medway Hospital to Gillingham Business Park.
- The redevelopment of the Brompton Academy is ahead of schedule, when finished it will include an all weather sports pitch, a scientific lecture theatre, drama theatre, sports hall, fitness suite and coffee bar.
- Complete Professional Care Ltd a care company for elderly and disabled people over 30 has moved its day centre to new premises in Hempstead Road, Gillingham. This will enable it to offer a wider range of services.

Rainham
• The former police station in Birling Avenue Rainham is demolished to make way for flats. • A new dementia service will start at a Rainham Care Home later in the year. • Work has started on the £16 million redevelopment of Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre. • A new Iceland opens at Gillingham Business Park creating 22 jobs. A drive through KFC also opened in Gillingham creating jobs for a further 80 full and part time staff.
Hoo Peninsula and the Isle of Grain
• The Power Station at Kingsnorth is decommissioned with the loss of 65 jobs. • Transnordic based in Hoo have received an interest free From the TIGER fund (Thames Gateway Innovation Growth and Enterprise) loan of £35,000 to spend on new equipment and The Food Machinery Company has been lent £197,000 to build a new factory at Fenn Corner. • Permission has been granted for the redevelopment of an MoD site at Upnor. The proposal is to convert 3 existing buildings for light industrial use, the mine store will become a restaurant and 20 new homes will also be erected.
Medway Valley
• Creating 85 jobs Coast to Coast a new restaurant at Medway Valley Park, welcomed its first customers.

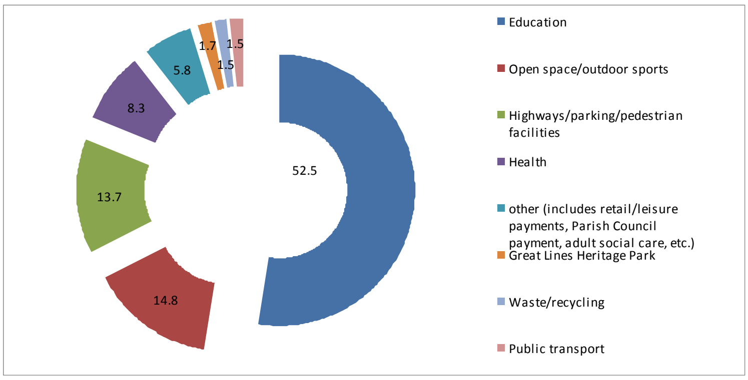
Developer Contributions

Developers will be required to make provision for infrastructure where the need arises directly from development.

In 2013/14 twenty- one Section 106 agreements were signed. Just over half of the total funding went towards education related schemes, then open space/outdoor sports facilities (15%) and highways, parking and pedestrian schemes (14%).

Section 106 Agreements 2013/14	
Number signed	21
Wards: 11 wards out of 22	Hempstead & Wigmore, River, Rochester West, Rochester East, Gillingham North, Gillingham South, Watling, Strood North, Strood South, Strood Rural, Peninsula, Cuxton & Halling
Amount of Funding Received during the year	£3,404,329.98

Section 106 agreements 2013/14 by broad category



It is central to government policy that new development should be sustainable, which includes that it should provide capacity and new facilities to meet the needs of new residents.

Section 106 of the [Town and Country Planning Act 1990] allows anyone with an interest in land to enter into a planning obligation, which is enforceable by a local planning authority.

Developer contributions are required for developments of 10 or more residential units and certain other forms of development. Details below show how much revenue came from Section 106 agreements in 2013/2014. Details of the types of schemes are listed in Volume 2 of the Annual Monitoring Report.

Further details on 106 agreements are available via link below to Medway Council's Guide to Developer Contributions (SPD)

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/GUIDE%20TO%20DEVELOPER%20CONTRIBUTIONS%202014.pdf

Development Management Planning Statistics

Planning applications

2013/14

During the year 2013/14 the Council determined 1,562 planning applications with 85% of applications being dealt with in the statutory timescales.

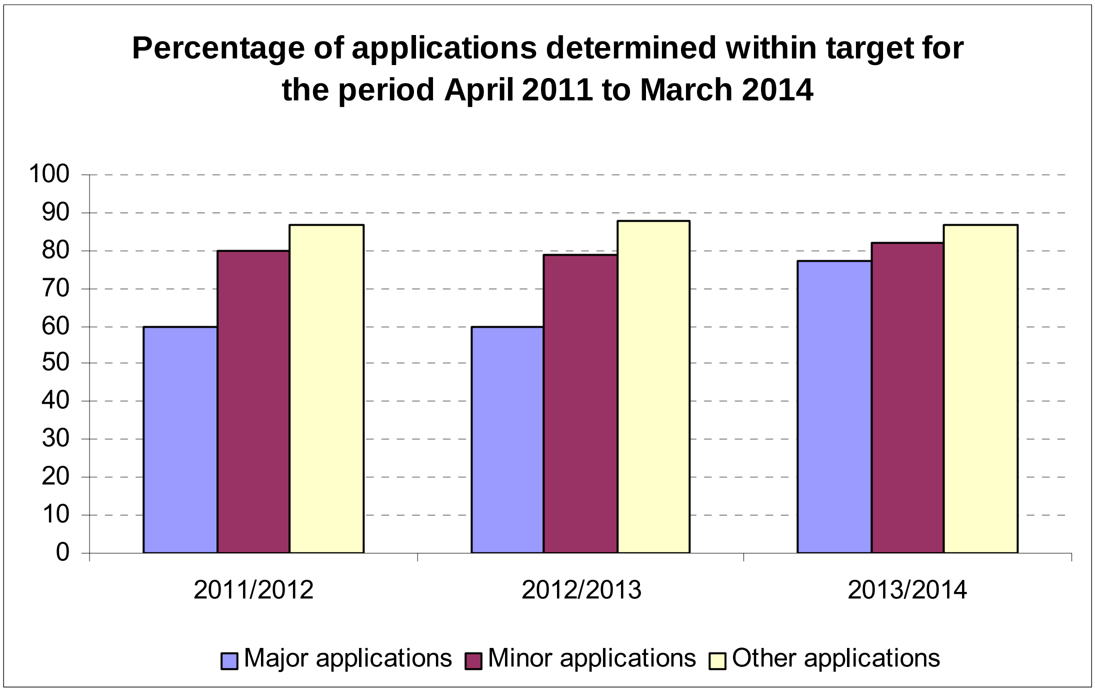
There were 57 major applications determined in the year 2013/14 and 77% of these were determined within the 13 week target.

During this period 370 minor applications were determined and 82% of these were determined within the 8-week target.

There were 1,118 other applications determined during the year and 87% of these were determined within the 8-week target.

Number of applications determined and percent processed within the statutory timescale (see above)

	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14	
	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%
Major	50	60%	53	60%	57	77%
Minor	368	80%	361	79%	370	82%
Other	890	87%	927	88%	1,118	87%
Total	1,308	84%	1,341	84%	1,562	85%



Major

- *Large-scale major developments - where the number of residential units to be constructed is 200 or more or 1,000 square metres of industrial, commercial or retail floor space.*
- *Small-scale major development - where the number of residential units to be constructed is between 10 and 199 inclusive.*

Minor

Is where the number of dwellings to be constructed is between 1 and 9 inclusive. A site area of less than 0.5 hectares should be used as the definition of a minor development. For all other uses, a minor development is one where the floorspace to be built is less than 1,000 square metres or where the site area is less than 1 hectare.

Other

Covers minerals processing, change of use, householder developments, advertisements, listed building consents, conservation area consents, certificates of lawful development and notifications

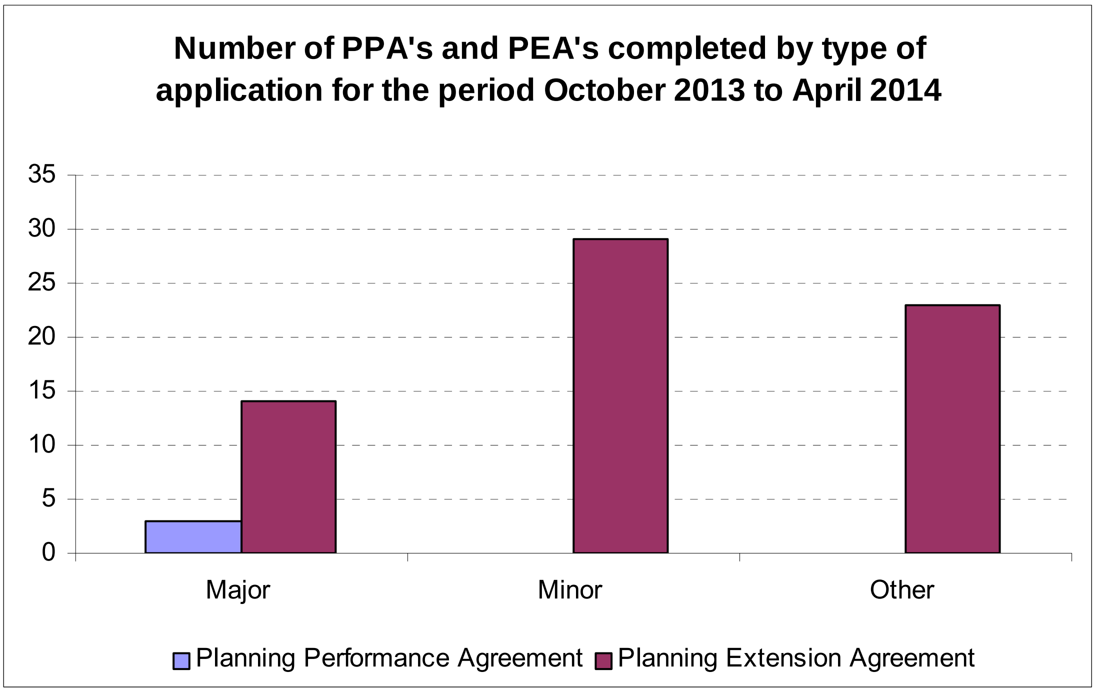
Extensions of time

Planning Performance Agreement (PPA)

A PPA is a framework agreed between a local planning authority and a planning applicant for the management of complex development proposals within the planning process. A PPA allows both the developer and the local planning authority to agree a project plan and programme, which will include the appropriate resources necessary to determine the planning application to an agreed timetable.

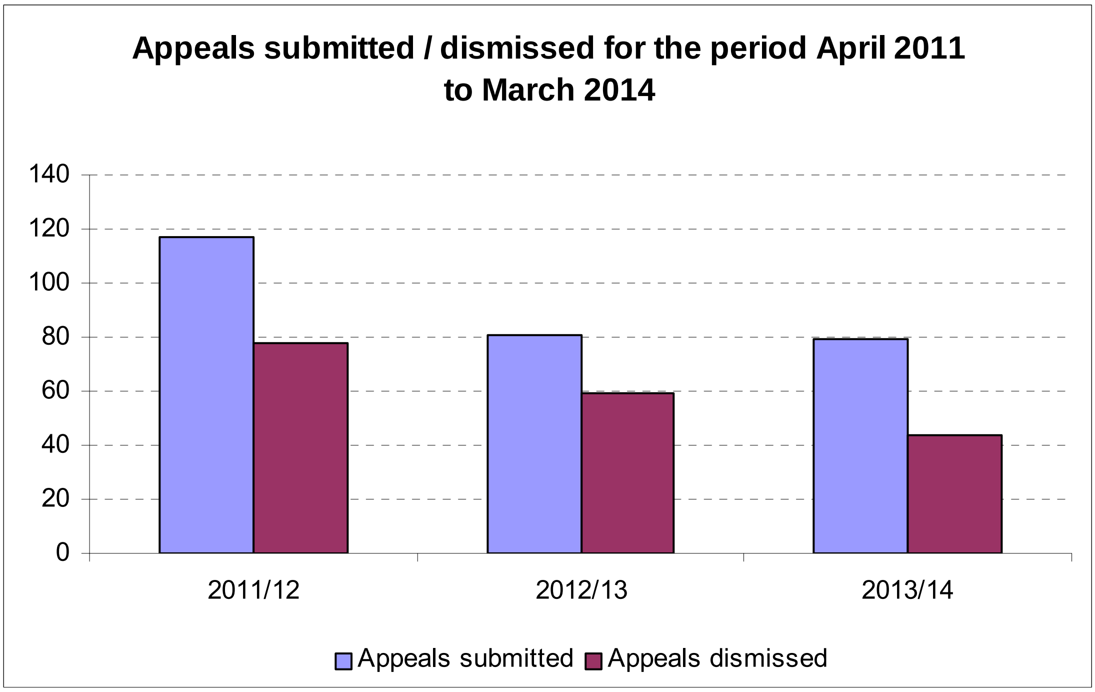
Planning Extension Agreements (PEA's)

A PEA is used to develop a bespoke timetable, whereby the timetable can be extended beyond 8, 13 or 16 weeks so long as the council and the applicant agree. Provided the council is able to meet the new agreed date, an application will be counted as satisfying the timeliness requirement for applications.



Appeals against planning decisions

During the year 2013/14, 79 appeals against the Council's decisions were submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate dismissed 56% of the appeals.



Glossary

Affordable Housing - Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing should include provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.

Biodiversity - The whole variety of life encompassing all genetics, species and ecosystem variations, including plans and animals.

Change of Use - A change in the way that land or buildings are used (see Use Classes Order). Planning permission is usually necessary in order to change from one 'use class' to another.

Commitments (or committed development) - All land with current planning permission or allocated in adopted development plans for development (particularly residential development).

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - is a system of securing developer contributions from planning permissions which local authorities are empowered but not required to charge on new development in their area. The levy is to be used to support growth and is in effect a tax on development.

Duty to cooperate - was created in the Localism Act 2011, and amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils in England and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local and Marine Plan preparation relating to strategic cross boundary matters.

Employment Land Availability (ELA) - The total amount of land reserved for industrial and business use awaiting development.

Employment rate - The number of people in employment in the UK is measured by the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and consists of people aged 16 and over who did paid work (as an employee or self-employed), those who had a job that they were temporarily away from, those on government-supported training and employment programmes, and those doing unpaid family work.

English indices of deprivation - identify the most deprived areas across the country. The indices combine a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. The indices are used widely to analyse patterns of deprivation, identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives or programmes and as a tool to determine eligibility for specific funding streams.

Greenfield Land or Site - Land (or a defined site) usually farmland, that has not previously been developed.

Gross Value Added (GVA) - This is the value of goods and services produced by an area, sector or producer minus the cost of the raw materials and other inputs used to produce them. For sub-national GVA, ONS uses an income-based measure. GVA is mainly composed of the income made by employees (earnings) and the business (profits/surplus) as a result of production.

Life expectancy - at birth is chosen as the preferred summary measure of all cause mortality as it quantifies the differences between areas in units (years of life) that are more readily understood and meaningful to the audience than those of other measures. All cause mortality is a fundamental and probably the oldest measure of the health status of a population. It represents the cumulative effect of the prevalence of risk factors, prevalence and severity of disease, and the effectiveness of interventions and treatment. Differences in levels of all-cause mortality reflect health inequalities between different population groups, e.g. between genders, social classes and ethnic groups.

Localism Act 2011 - introduced in November 2011. The aim of the act was to devolve more decision-making powers from central government back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils.

Outline application - A general application for planning permission to establish that a development is acceptable in principle, subject to subsequent approval of detailed matters. Does not apply to changes of use.

Mixed Use - Developments or proposals comprising more than one land use type on a single site.

National Planning Policy Framework - sets out the government's planning policies for England. It is an important part of the government's reforms to make the planning system less complex easier to understand. It vastly reduced the number of policy pages about planning.

Neighbourhood Plans - A plan prepared by a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

Planning Permission - Formal approval sought from a local planning authority allowing a proposed development to proceed. Permission may be sought in principle through outline planning applications, or be sought in detail through full planning applications.

Previously Developed Land or 'Brownfield' land - Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy - Includes energy for heating and cooling as well as generating electricity. Renewable energy covers those energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment – from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass and deep geothermal heat. Low carbon technologies are those that can help reduce emissions (compared to conventional use of fossil fuels).

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) - A site designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as an area of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features (plants, animals and natural features relating to the Earth's structure).

Super Output Areas (SOAs) - a geography designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. They are used on the Neighbourhood Statistics site and across National Statistics. Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which deprivation is based on were originally built using 2001 Census data from groups of Output Areas and contain on average 1,500 residents.

Supplementary planning document (SPD) - provides additional information on planning policies in a development plan.

Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) - assesses the suitability, availability and deliverability of sites to meet Medway's requirement for residential, employment, retail and other uses.

Sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) - surface water drainage systems which consider quantity, quality and amenity issues.

Use Class - classes of land and building use as categorised by the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 as amended. The various classes and categories appropriate to that class are as follows:

A1 Shops for the sale, display or provision of goods and services (except hot food) to visiting members of the public - includes hairdresser, funeral director, post office, dress or DIY hire shop, ticket and travel agency, internet cafe, sandwich bar, dry cleaner and pet shop.

A2 Financial or professional services (other than health or medical services) - includes betting shop, building society office, estate agent and bank.

A3 Restaurant and cafe.

A4 Drinking establishment – includes public house and wine bar.

A5 Hot food takeaway

B1 Business - includes office (a), research and development premise (b) and light industry which can be carried out in a residential area (c).

B2 General industry - any industrial use not covered by B1.

B8 Storage and distribution – includes wholesale warehouse (but not retail warehousing), distribution centre and repository.

C1 Hotel – includes boarding house and guesthouse.

C2 Residential institution – includes residential school and college and training centre, hospital and convalescent/nursing home.

C2a Secure residential accommodation – includes prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, custody centre, secure hospital and military barracks

C3 Dwelling house, communal housing of the elderly and handicapped.

D1 Non-residential institution - includes place of worship, law court, church hall, clinic, health centre, crèche, day nursery, consulting room, museum, public hall, library, art gallery, exhibition hall, non-residential education and training centre.

D2 Assembly and leisure –includes cinema, music and concert hall, dance hall, bingo hall, sports hall, swimming bath, skating rink, gymnasium and other indoor and outdoor sport or recreation.

Sui Generis (SG) Uses not falling within any of the above classes - includes theatre, night club, casino, sale of motor vehicles, sale of motor fuel, taxi service, launderette, hostel, live/work unit and motor sport or firearm activities.

Windfall Site - Sites which have not been specifically identified as available in the Local Plan process. They normally comprise previously-developed sites that have unexpectedly become available.