
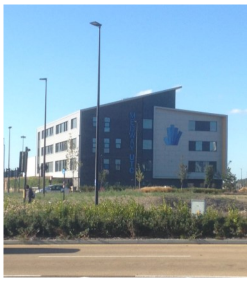


Medway Authority Monitoring Report 2016

1st April 2015 — 31st March 2016

Volume 1 - Main Report

December 2016

Medway Council

Serving You

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Executive Summary

Key information and developments in 2015-2016 include:

Monitoring theme		Headline
Demography		In 2015 the **population** reached **276,472**, with a rate of growth of 0.9% which is just below the Kent level and just above the national level.
Regeneration		University Technical College (UTC) opened in September 2015.
Housing		**Housing completions** were up on the previous year at **553** units against an annual requirement of 1,000 dwellings, **74%** were completed on **previously developed land**. **House prices have increased** in Medway over the **past 5 years** at a higher rate than both locally and nationally, although the average property price in Medway still remains below the national level. The number of completed **affordable units** stood at 172 in 2016, representing **just over one quarter** of gross **housing completions**.
New employment floor space		For the first time in four year there has been a **significant gain in employment floor space** due to a large gain in B8 floor space.
Economy		**Productivity grew** in Medway for the third year though annual growth was below the national level. The **economic activity** rate in Medway has **increased** for the second year running and now stands above the national rate. Medway Ports* is the **10th busiest port** in UK handling a fifth of the country's 'forestry products' - the largest quantity of any port in the UK.
Health		Life expectancy shows a general upward trend in Medway but remains below the national level with significant health inequalities between wards.

*Medway Ports includes Sheerness and Chatham docks

Introduction

This report provides monitoring information and statistical data for the period April 2015 – March 2016, 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.

Volume One of the report provides an overview of the key indicators of development and contextual issues in Medway. Detailed data on development statistics is set out in Volume 2 that are published on the council's website. The Planning 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.

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 data gathered from planning applications determined at 31st March 2016. 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 November 2015.

It should be noted that the reference period for the development data in this report is up to the end of March 2016. 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 cover up to November 2016.

In preparing a new Local Plan, the council has reviewed the SLAA and is publishing an updated version in January 2017, to support the Regulation 18 Development Options consultation. This will be used as the basis for monitoring in the 2017 AMR. The assessment is available at:

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

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

A Medway Local Development Scheme was approved by the council's Cabinet on 24 November 2015. It sets out a three year programme for the production of a new Medway 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 of the Medway Local Plan 2003. The council has produced a revised Local Development Scheme to update its accuracy and reflect the current position in the plan making process. This has been presented to Cabinet in December 2016.

The Local Development Scheme is available at:

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

Key milestones for Medway Local Plan

Stage	Date
Regulation 18 – Issues and Options consultation	Jan-Feb 2016
Regulation 18 – Development Options consultation	Jan-Feb 2017
Regulation 19 – Publication of draft plan	Winter 2017/2018
Submission of plan for examination	Spring 2018
Adoption (determined on outcome of Examination)	2019

The council carried out consultation on the Issues and Options stage of the Local Plan in January and February 2016, and is planning a consultation on Development Options in early 2017. Further information on the representations made to the Issues and Options consultation, and details of the Development Options consultation are available on the council's website at: www.medway.gov.uk/planningpolicy.

Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA)

In order to inform the consideration of potential development options, the council has undertaken a Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) to provide information on sites that may be suitable for inclusion as new allocations in the Local Plan. An initial 'Strategic Land Availability Assessment' (SLAA) report was published in November 2015.This has been reviewed and an updated version of the SLAA will be published in early 2017.

The overall purpose of the SLAA is to identify the supply of development land in Medway that is 'suitable', 'available' and 'deliverable'.

The preparation of the SLAA is an important element of the evidence base of the emerging Plan. As such, the Council has sought to undertake a robust and comprehensive assessment of the suitability, availability and deliverability of potential development sites in Medway, in line with government guidance. This has included engaging the development industry to source information on sites that landowners may wish to promote through the Local Plan process. The assessment process has comprised the following stages:

- Identification of potential development sites in Medway through a desktop review and a 'Call for Sites', where developers and landowners were invited to provide information on sites that they wished to see considered for their development potential;
- An estimation of how much housing potential development sites might accommodate if developed;
- An assessment of whether sites are subject to development constraints that might make them unsuitable for development;
- An assessment of whether sites are available for development

In the 2015 SLAA a total of 90 sites were identified as being suitable for accommodating housing development, with an estimated capacity of 12,808 units, of which 11,481 do not currently benefit from an extant permission. The calculation has included land at Lodge Hill being viewed as potentially suitable for development, but this is provisional and subject to the outcome of the Public Inquiry to determine its suitability.

Further work on the SLAA will be carried out throughout the plan preparation process. Full details of the work are available at:

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

Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (SHENA)

The council jointly with Gravesham Borough Council commissioned a Strategic Needs Assessment, as an integrated approach to informing development needs over the emerging plan period. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Economic Needs Assessment are available on the council's Local Plan web page. The purpose of these assessments is to identify the development needs for housing, employment and retail land and assess the viability for delivering development in Medway over the plan period. The North Kent Retail Needs Assessment will be finalised shortly to support the Development Options Local Plan consultation in January 2017.

Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council is updating its evidence base on infrastructure needs as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. The SHENA has prepared an initial assessment of viability of delivering development in Medway. Aligned to the Local Plan work, the council is considering work on preparing for the implementation of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Further decisions on the timetable and governance structures for this work will be made in 2017, informed by updated guidance and regulations anticipated from Government. The council will provide details of any updates on its website at:

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

Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders

In June 2015, a Neighbourhood Area was designated in Cliffe and Cliffe Woods for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. This is consistent with the parish boundary. Medway Council has been liaising with the Neighbourhood Plan steering group, and has shared information relating to the preparation of the new Medway Local Plan. Planning officers worked with the Neighbourhood Planning Group in holding joint consultation events in the parish in early 2016 that supported both the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan processes. Medway Council also participated in community planning workshop held in July 2016, and has regularly attended meetings of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group. The Cliffe and Cliffe Woods Neighbourhood Plan is at an early stage of its preparation, and has recently reviewed its vision for the plan and timetable to produce a draft plan.

There are no current or proposed Neighbourhood Development Orders 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 summary covering operations and sales in 2015. 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. The key information collected for 2015 is set out in the main body of this report.

This has been reviewed by members of the South East England Aggregates Working Party, and its content agreed.

Pilot Brownfield Land Register

The council took part in a pilot scheme with DCLG to establish a pilot Brownfield Land Register. The council published the draft register at the end of June 2016. The purpose of the register is to encourage use of previously developed land, and help boost the supply of housing, 42 sites have been included on the pilot Medway register. This is available to view at:
http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/brownfieldregister.aspx

Self Build and Custom Housebuilding Register

From 1 April 2016, the council has had a duty to hold a register of people and associations interested in a serviced plot of land that could be used to build their own home. In the first six months of operation, the council received 15 requests for inclusion in the register. The council will have regard to the register when preparing the local plan, and in making decisions on planning applications.

Duty to Cooperate

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 Kent County Council, to address strategic issues that *'cross administrative boundaries'* for example the provision of infrastructure or meeting housing needs.

The North Kent Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment was developed with specific reference to the Duty to Cooperate. Meetings and workshops have taken place with neighbouring local planning authorities and key stakeholders throughout the process of preparing the SHENA. This has involved sharing baseline and analytical work on development needs, and providing opportunities for neighbouring authorities to raise comments on the issues and conclusions reached by the consultants in producing the North Kent SHENA.

A key area for consideration has been the definition of the Medway Housing Market Area and calculation of Objectively Assessed Needs. In addition to the SHENA Duty to Cooperate workshops and meetings held throughout 2015/2016, Medway Council has met separately with Gravesham Borough Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Swale Borough Council to discuss these issues. This has included work in relation to the Swale Local Plan Examination, consultation on the Publication draft Maidstone Local Plan and associated matters, and development of the Tonbridge and Malling Issues and Options consultation report.

The council carried out specific activities with regard to the Duty to Cooperate, in conjunction with the Issues and Options consultation in early 2016. This included a stakeholder workshop with prescribed Duty to Cooperate bodies in February 2016. Fuller details of the Duty to Cooperate work during this consultation is set out in the Issues and Options consultation report on the council's website.

Engagement with 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 Council has made representations in respect of the draft Dartford Development Policies Plan. The council responded to the consultation on the proposals for the Lower Thames Crossing. It has also responded to a number of consultations on waste local plans, in relation to the strategic issues associated with the movement of waste across local authority boundaries, such as the North London Waste Plan.

- *Regular Partnership Meetings*
  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. Medway is a member of the Wider South East group of local authorities that provides a mechanism for engagement and information exchange in relation to strategic planning matters in London. The review of the London Plan is a key matter for consideration in assessing potential implications for the local area.

  Waste and minerals are of particular significance to strategic planning. The Council is an active member of the South East England Aggregates Working Party (SEEAWP) and the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group. These provide a basis for exchange of information on minerals and waste planning matters. SEEAWP has a role in the production of the annual Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA), and has provided a formal agreement of Medway's LAA.

  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. Work has progressed on a strategic approach to managing and mitigating the potential impact resulting from recreational disturbance to the Special Protection Areas of the Thames, Medway and Swale estuaries and marshes. This has involved working with Natural England and local authorities in north Kent. Medway Council has adopted an interim policy on this matter in November 2015, and has led on the establishment of the North Kent Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Partnership Board. The council is also a member of the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory Committee, which has been responsible for the preparation of a joint AONB Management Plan, adopted by all member councils, including Medway. In addition, Medway Council participates in work coordinating planning for the natural environment, such as Local Nature Partnerships.

- *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 developing common methodologies and approaches for technical work, such as responding to the changes in policy for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. A sub-regional group coordinating strategic work on retail has been set up. The role of Bluewater and Lakeside Shopping Centres have considered.

  The council has met with Highways England and Kent County Council in relation to transport planning and commissioning of the Strategic Transport Assessment. There has also been joint working and engagement with Kent County Council on broadband infrastructure issues.

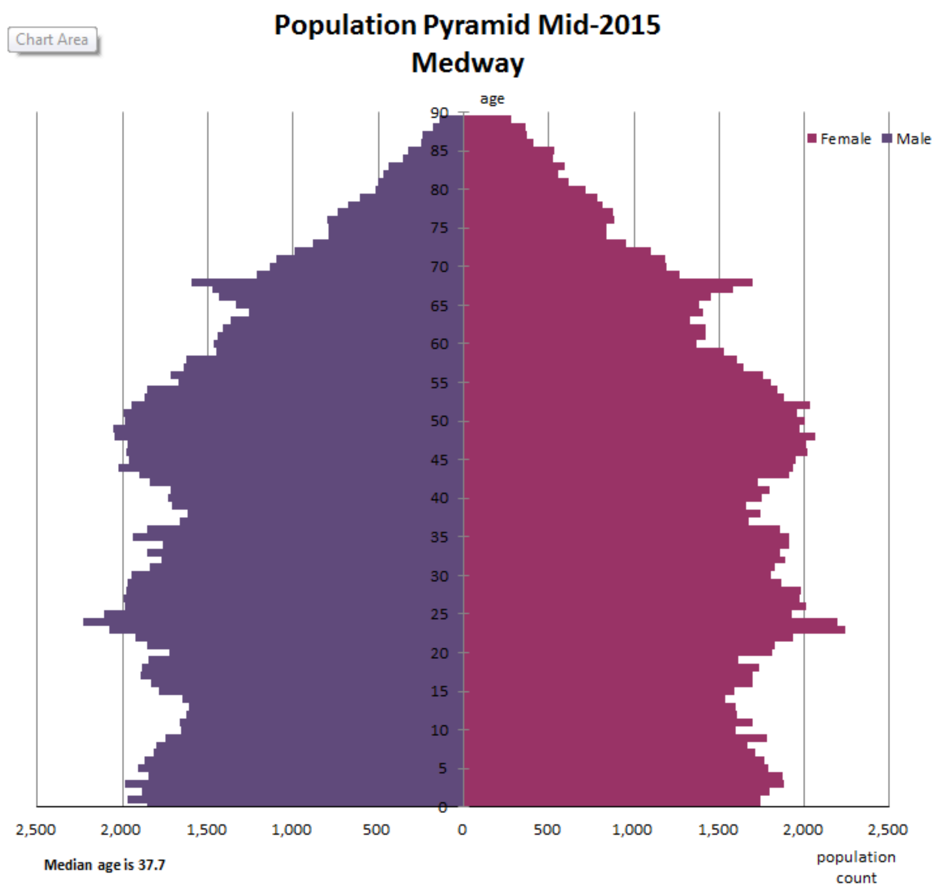
The council is establishing a framework to ensure compliance with the Duty going forward in the preparation of the new Local Plan. A Duty to Cooperate scoping statement has been prepared for discussion with neighbouring local authorities and wider Duty to Cooperate prescribed bodies.

Population

Mid year estimate 2015

The latest mid-year estimate indicates that the population of Medway reached 276,492 in June 2015 – 2,477 persons (0.9%) above the 2014 mid-year figure, which is just below the rate of growth in Kent (+1.0%) and above the rate of growth regionally and nationally (+0.8%).

The latest annual growth rate while significant is below that seen in 2014 (+1.1%).



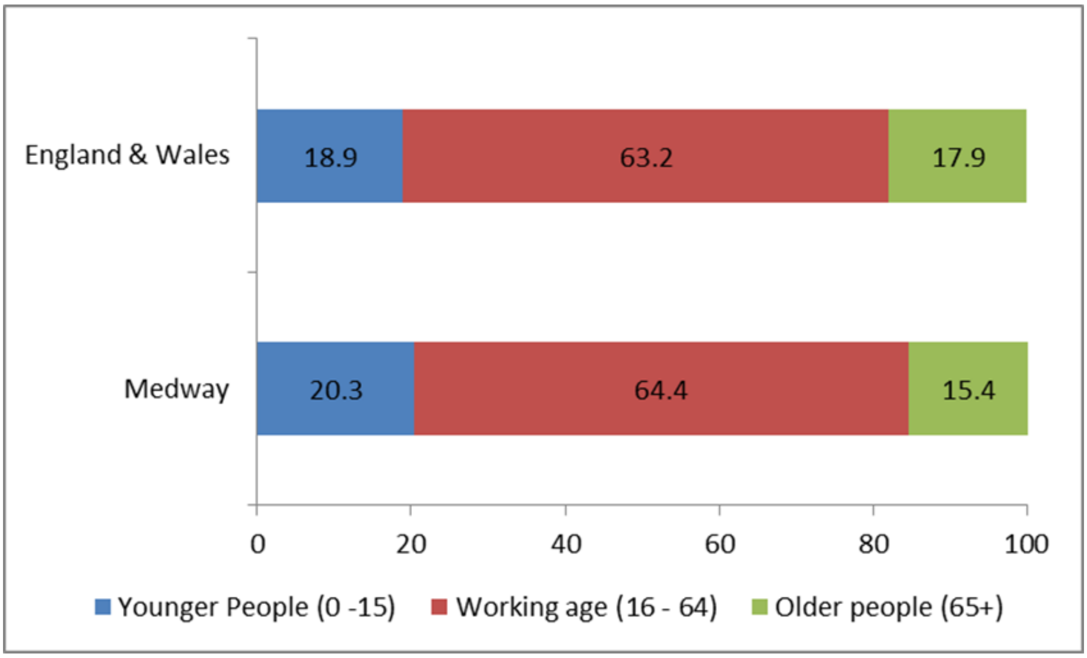
Population growth - 2014 to 2015

	2014 (000's)	2015 (000's)	Annual rate of growth (%)
Medway	274.0	276.5	0.9
Kent	1,510.4	1,524.7	1.0
South East	8,873.8	8,947.9	0.8
England & Wales	57,408.7	57,885.4	0.8

Population by broad age group – 2015

By broad age group - Medway has a larger working age population at 64% than nationally (63%), a larger younger person's population (20%) and a smaller proportion of people aged over 65 (15%).

Population by broad age group – 2015



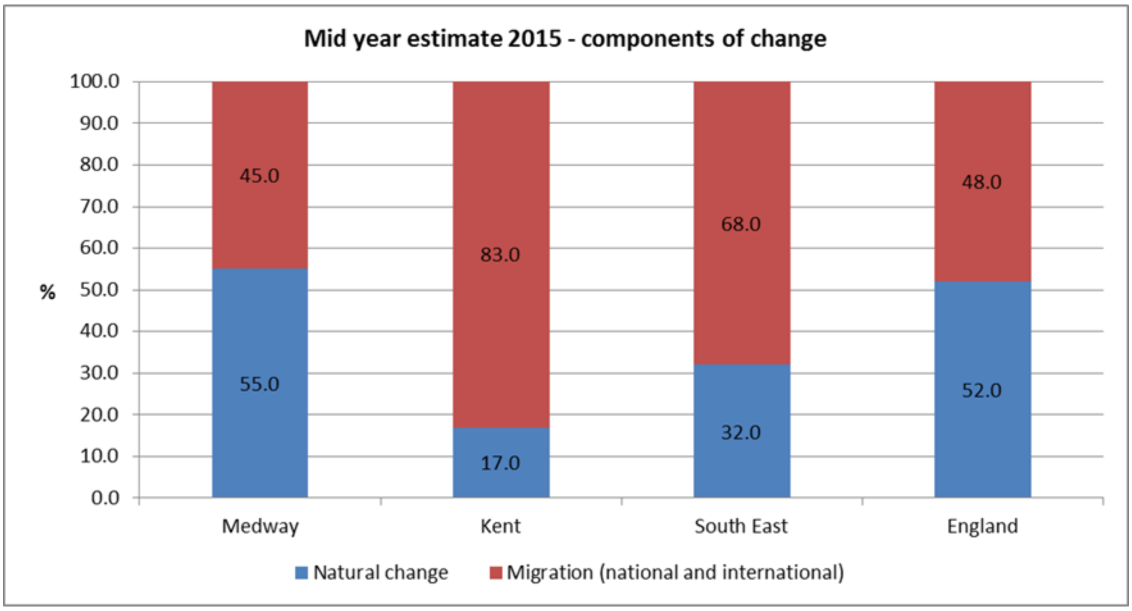
Population by broad age group – 2015

		0-15	16-64	65+
Medway	Numbers	56,000	177,900	42,500
	Percent	20.3	64.4	15.4
Kent	Percent	19.1	61.2	19.7
South East	Percent	19.0	62.2	18.8
Eng & Wales	Percent	18.9	63.2	17.9

Population change

Natural growth – births exceeding deaths – has been the main driver of population growth in recent years in Medway, which is similar to the national balance but is in contrast to the Kent and South East which see a high proportion of growth via inward migration.

Natural growth was down in Medway in 2015 due to an increased death rate, while births remained constant.



Source: Mid 2015 Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics.

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

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/Population%20June%202016.pdf

Migration

Growth arising from inward migration to Medway in 2015 was largely from movements outside the United Kingdom, with just under four fifths of the net total inward migrants coming from abroad. The much larger number moving in and out of Medway from within/to England resulted in a small net increase.

This is similar to the pattern in 2014 but is in contrast to 2013 and 2012, which saw significant inward migration from within the UK – most notably via London.

Migration flows tend to be highest among the younger age categories: this may represent young people moving in and out of Medway for higher education or work related purposes.

There is an indication that families are continuing to relocate to Medway, as over one thousand 0-4 year olds moved to Medway from within England. Evidence shows that families are moving to Medway from South East London.

Medway migration flows 2015

Internal Migration (within England)			**International Migration**		
To Medway	**From Medway**	**Net**	**To Medway**	**From Medway**	**Net**
+12,000	-11,700	**+300**	+1,600	-600	**+1,000**

Source: Internal Migration, England and Wales, Year Ending June 2015, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Further information on migration is available via:

https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration

Future growth - Population projections

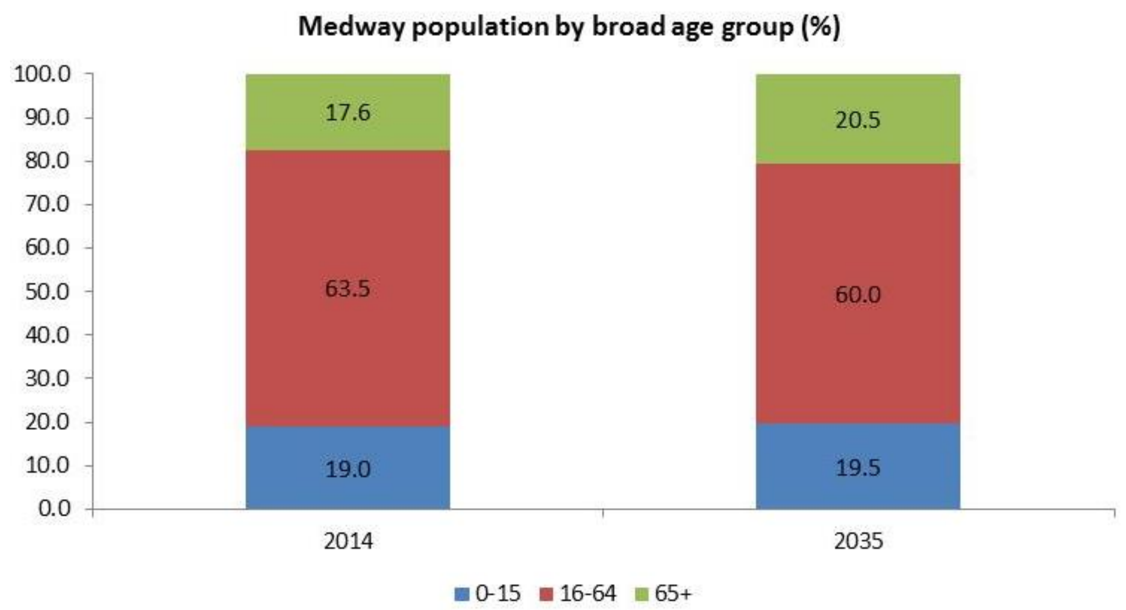
Medway's population is predicted to reach 330,200 by 2035, growing by just over 56,000 people, a growth rate of 20.5% over the projection period (2014-2035).

Medway's predicted growth stands above the regional and national level of growth.

The projected population growth estimate in Medway is above the growth level for England (+14%) the South East (+16%) 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 representing 15% of the population in 2014 increasing to just over 20% in 2035.

The working age population – based on the current definition – decreases from just under 66% of the population down to 61% in 2035. Young people also decrease from 19% in 2014 to just over 18% in 2035.



Population growth 2014 to 2035	
Total growth	**56,200**
Natural Change	**31,100**
Births	79,200
Deaths	48,100
All Migration Net	**25,000**
England to Medway	252,600
Medway to England	234,900
International to Medway	28,100
International from Medway	18,900
Scotland/Wales/NI to Medway	6,300
Medway to Scotland/Wales/NI	8,400

Further information on population growth in Medway is available here:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/Population%20Projections%202016.pdf

Regeneration and Major Development

Multiple Deprivation

The council has recognised that there are parts of Medway in need of regeneration and investment, opening up opportunities for development and improving life chances for residents. There is an established regeneration agenda that is delivering new homes, jobs, infrastructure, learning and community facilities in Medway. However there are still issues to address.

The latest Index of Multiple Deprivation was published in 2015, and showed that Medway is relatively worse off in the 2015 index - compared to the 2010 index - with a general widening and worsening of Medway's central most deprived neighbourhoods.

In the overall measure of deprivation, the most 'relatively' deprived communities are concentrated in central urban areas in Medway – most notably in Chatham Central, Gillingham North and Luton & Wayfield.

Medway is ranked 118th most deprived Local Authority of 326 in England in the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation. This is a relatively worse position than in the previous index in 2010, when Medway was ranked 136th most deprived of 325.

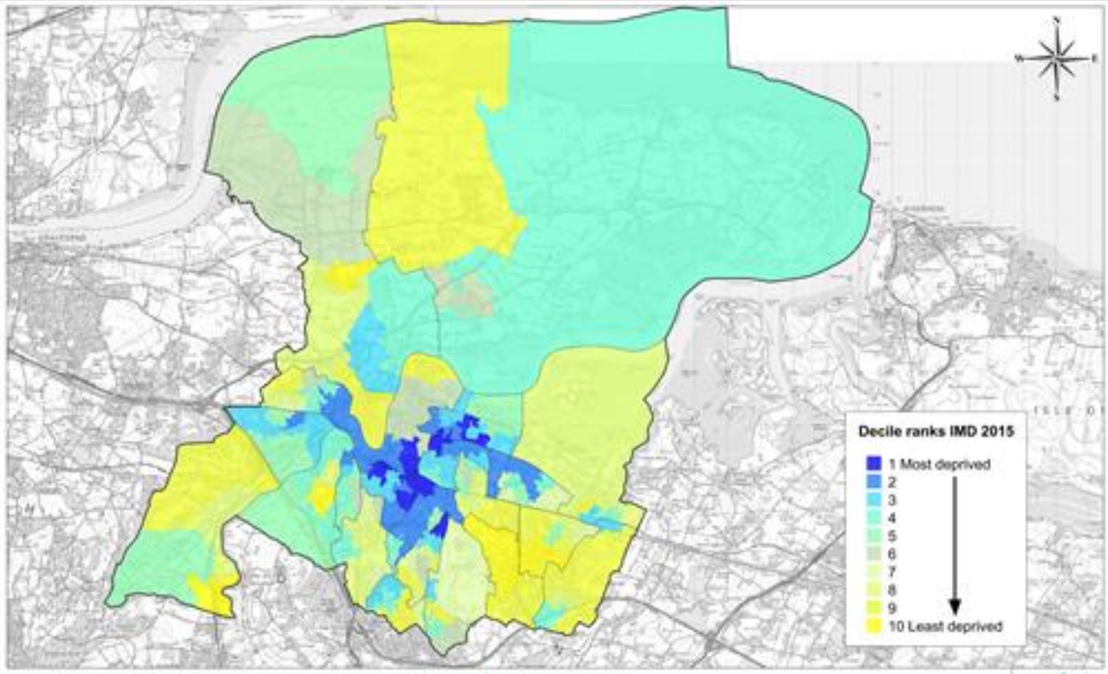
While Medway has many areas that fare poorly on income and employment deprivation - the two major themes in the multiple index - crime stands out as a particular weakness, with Medway ranking as the 53rd most deprived Local Authority in England for crime. After that 'education, skills and training' has a ranking of just 86th most deprived.

In the 2015 index - which is based mainly on measures taken from 2012/13 - Medway has thirty two neighbourhoods ranked in the 20% most deprived nationally and 12 ranked in the 10% most deprived.

Just over two-thirds of the neighbourhood areas in Medway have a relatively worse ranking than in the 2010 index.

Medway deprivation trend

	ID 2015	ID 2010	ID 2007
Medway ranking	118/326	132/325	139/325
Percentile	Within 37% most deprived LAs nationally	Within 41% most deprived LAs nationally	Within 43% most deprived LAs nationally



IMD 2015 decile ranks (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)

Deprivation by domain – ID 2015 and 2010

Medway Local Authority ranking

Number of neighbourhoods in most deprived 10% / 20%

	2015			2010		Change (*Blue –worse + Green – better -*)	
	LA Rank /326	10% most deprived	20% most deprived	10% most deprived	20% most deprived	10% most deprived	20% most deprived
Multiple deprivation	**118**	**12**	**32**	**8**	**23**	**+4**	**+9**
Income	102	10	29	6	24	+4	+5
Employment	107	9	32	7	24	+2	+8
Health & disability	140	4	12	4	15	+1	-3
Education skills & training	86	16	43	12	45	+4	-2
Barriers to housing & services	240	3	10	7	10	-4	-
Crime	86	30	51	22	36	+8	+15
Living environment	126	17	36	21	42	-4	-6
Child poverty	90	12	36	8	26	+4	+10
Elderly poverty	133	5	17	6	19	-1	-2

Rochester Riverside and railway station

A key opportunity for Medway's regeneration is in the Rochester Riverside site. Countryside and The Hyde Group have been selected by Medway Council and the Homes and Communities Agency to turn the regeneration plans for a new community at Rochester Riverside into reality. Around 1,300 new homes, of which 25 per cent will be affordable housing, will transform the 74 acre (30 hectare) site which adjoins Rochester's historic town centre and the new railway station.

The new £26 million railway station to the north of the site on Corporation Street, opened at the end of 2015. This is part of Network Rail's East Kent resignalling programme, to improve high-speed rail services, increase capacity, improve journey times and replace outmoded infrastructure.

Chatham Waters

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 consisting of an Asda supermarket and petrol filling station and opened in September 2015.

Medway's University Technical College opened in September 2015, costing £11.4 million. It is Medway's first University Technical College and specialises in construction and engineering offering 300 places to 14 to 16 year olds and 300 places to post 16's. The curriculum has a strong technical/vocational focus with the institution having a close link to industry.

Chatham Dockyard

Command of the Oceans is a major new project for The Historic Dockyard telling the story of Chatham Dockyard during the Age of Sail that opened in the Spring of 2016.

Together with a new visitor entrance there are environmental improvements to the car park and surrounds.

Hoo Peninsula

A significant increase in B8 floor space this year was down to Goodman completing 22,993 sq.m and 1,772 sq.m of B1 on plot 5, north east of Kingsnorth Industrial Estate, Hoo.

Temple Wharf, Strood
This site has been acquired by Redrow Homes. Site preparation is currently in progress.
St Andrew's Park, Halling
Development is moving on apace on the old Halling Cement Works site. Developers Redrow have almost completed a half of the dwellings. They will also be contributing to the local community, with road and public transport improvements, health, nursery and primary school facilities, waste and recycling and other facilities.

The new Rochester Railway Station

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; twelve were assessed as having positive management in 2015/16.

These sites are 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 2014-15, 50 per cent of local sites across England were in positive conservation management*. This represents around 16,800 sites.

Local sites where positive conservation management has/is being implemented in Medway 2015/16	
Proportion	75%
Number	12 of 16

National figures not available for 2015/16.

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

Green flag awards

In 2015/16 seven sites retained the Green Flag award.

Green flag sites – year awarded		
2010/11	5	The Vines, Riverside CP, Hillyfields, Capstone Farm CP, Broomhill Park
2011/12	5	
2012/13	5	
2013/14	7	*As above plus* Great Lines Heritage Park and Gillingham Park
2014/15	7	
2015/16	7	

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.

http://www.medway.gov.uk/information/news/newsfor2015/medwayparksretaingreenflag.aspx

Use of outdoor space

The Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment (MENE) survey, provides trend data on how people use the natural environment in England. This includes visiting the countryside, enjoying green spaces in towns and cities, watching wildlife and volunteering to help protect the natural environment.

The survey covers all aspects of visits to the natural environment includes the type of destination, the duration of the visit, mode of transport, distance travelled, expenditure, main activities and motivations and barriers to visiting.

Utilisation of outdoor space for exercise/health reasons:
Proportion (%) of residents taking a visit to the natural environment for health or exercise purposes

	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014- 15	Percentage point change 2012-15
Medway	**6.6**	**7.0**	**8.1**	**12.6**	**+6.0**
Kent	13.4	10.7	12.1	18.4	+5.0
South East	14.5	15.0	18.0	20.1	+5.6
England	14.0	15.3	17.1	17.9	+3.9

Source:

Funded by Natural England, with support from Defra and the Forestry Commission.

Further information is available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitor-of-engagement-with-the-natural-environment-survey-purpose-and-results.

Great Lines Heritage Park looking towards Gillingham

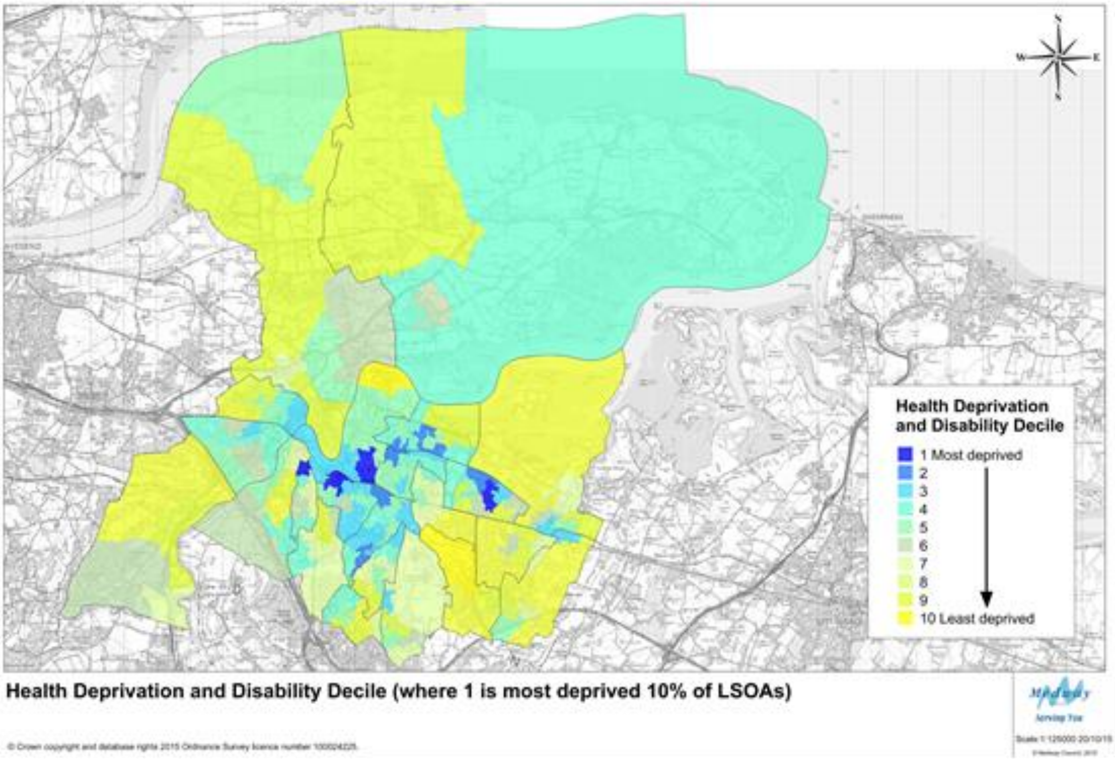
Health

Health Deprivation

Health deprivation in the 2015 Index of Deprivation related to the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health.

Medway is ranked in the 43% most deprived local authorities in England for health and disability - this is better than Medway's overall position for multiple deprivation across all measures, which is rated as being in the 37% most deprived Local Authorities in England. However this underplays the significant inequalities in health seen across Medway, and that life expectancy is below the national average.

Medway has twelve neighbourhoods ranked in the 20% most health deprived areas nationally and within those four are ranked in the 10% most deprived. Three fewer neighbourhoods are in the most deprived 20% compared to the 2010 index.



Health Deprivation and Disability Decile (where 1 is most deprived 10% of LSOAs)

Life expectancy

Life expectancy represents the average number of years a person would expect to live based on contemporary mortality rates.

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

While life expectancy decreased slightly in 2012-14 there is a general upward trend, however life expectancy in Medway consistently stands below the national level. Within Medway there is great variation in life expectancy at ward level – central parts of Medway around the town centres record the lowest life expectancy – most notably Chatham Central, River, Luton & Wayfield and Watling.

Approximately 2,300 Medway residents die each year (2,313 deaths registered in 2015). The all-age, all-cause mortality rate is statistically significantly higher in Medway than in England and the South East average.

There were estimated to be 2,587 people living with dementia with 2,523 being over 65 years old in Medway in 2012. There are a number of risk factors associated with dementia, the most important being age, others include learning disabilities, socio-economic status and alcohol.

Medway life expectancy
Years

	2008-10	2009-2011	2010-12	2011-13	2012-14
Male	77.6	78.2	78.5	78.8	78.7
Female	81.7	82.1	82.2	83.1	82.2

England authority average life expectancy
Years

	2008-10	2009-2011	2010-12	2011-13	2012-14
Male	78.5	78.9	79.2	79.4	79.5
Female	82.5	82.9	83.0	83.1	83.2

Average life expectancy 2011 to 2015 – wards		
	Male	**Female**
Chatham Central	76.4	80.0
Cuxton and Halling	83.3	87.7
Gillingham North	76.4	81.5
Gillingham South	77.1	80.7
Hempstead and Wigmore	82.6	84.8
Lordswood and Capstone	80.3	83.3
Luton and Wayfield	75.9	80.7
Peninsula	77.3	81.2
Princes Park	79.1	82.0
Rainham Central	82.3	84.9
Rainham North	78.0	84.3
Rainham South	79.5	84.5
River	74.8	82.1
Rochester East	77.6	83.3
Rochester South and Horsted	78.9	81.3
Rochester West	78.6	81.3
Strood North	78.1	80.9
Strood Rural	79.6	83.2
Strood South	77.8	82.8
Twydall	78.2	81.7
Walderslade	79.2	84.9
Watling	77.3	79.6
Medway	78.3	82.0

Source: Medway life expectancy Health Profile 2016, – Public Health England,© Crown Copyright 2016.

Life expectancy at ward level - 95% confidence intervals calculated by Knowledge Intelligence Team. Mortality data from annual death extracts (ONS). Mid-year (2010-2014) Population Estimates for England by Single Year of Age and Sex. PCMD (2011-2015) using ward populations from ONS (2010-2014).

See glossary for 'life expectancy' definition.

Mortality

The death rate in Medway as measured by the standardised mortality ratio stands above the national level. The death rate decreased slightly in 2015 having increased in 2014.

The male death rate in Medway is consistently higher than females – the 2015 death rate decreased due to a significant drop in the female death rate following what appears to be a peak in 2014. In contrast the male death rate increased in 2015.

The majority of deaths in Medway occurred during a period of chronic illness. The three main diseases which contributed to 75% of all deaths were: cancers (neoplasms) -679 deaths (32.5%); circulatory diseases- 557 deaths (26.7%); respiratory diseases -333 deaths (15.9%).

Standardised mortality ratio

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Medway	106	109	104	112	111
Kent	98	95	96	97	97
South East	93	93	93	93	92
Eng/Wales	100	100	100	100	100

Medway - Standardised mortality ratio by gender

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Male	106	110	104	109	112
Female	107	108	103	116	110

Source: Mortality data from Death Registrations Summary Statistics 2015, (Office for National Statistics (ONS)) © Crown copyright 2016.

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

http://www.medwayjsna.info/

Hot food takeaway guidance

With an estimated 30% of adults, and over 20% of children classified as obese, Medway stands above the national average. This has serious health implications for our local population. Guidance has been introduced as one part of a comprehensive package of measures to improve health in Medway, by promoting a healthier built environment.

In February 2014 Medway Council issued a Hot Food Takeaway Guidance Note. The purpose of this was to control hot food takeaways in the area, to help reduce obesity particularly among children, create a healthier environment, more vibrancy in town centres and to assist the creation of a more diverse offer in retail areas.

The guidance supports a 400m buffer around schools and the restriction on hours of operation.

The aim is to reduce the concentration and clustering of hot food takeaways in core retail areas/town centres and reduce the prevalence of takeaways to prevent proliferation.

The proposals apply to new hot food takeaways seeking planning permission after adoption of the guidance.

Use of guidance:

The planning guidance note has been used in eleven applications since it was adopted two years ago, with change of uses to hot food takeaways or from restaurants/café which wish to include a takeaway service.

The most common outcome is for planning permission to be granted with a condition, with these typically being a restriction on hours and a financial contribution to fund healthy eating initiatives in schools.

Application theme - 2014/15 - 2015/16

	New takeaway	Change of use	To extend hours	Other
Number	3	5	2	1
Percent breakdown	27	46	18	9

Application outcome - 2014/15 - 2015/16

	Approved	Approved with conditions	Refused
Number	3	5	3
Percent breakdown	27	45	27

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 was approved by Cabinet as the basis of the council's housing requirement. This has been used to present the context for housing completions in 2014-2015 in Medway set out below.

In January 2015, the council jointly commissioned a Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (SHENA) with Gravesham Borough Council. This work has produced an updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment that included the calculation of an Objectively Assessed Need for housing over the plan period (2012-2035). This was assessed to be 29,463 homes .The analysis of development needs in the SHENA is being used to inform the evidence base of the new Local Plan. As the council is still in the process of preparing the new Local Plan, it is not in a position to confirm the new housing target that will be established through the plan. In developing the plan, the council is seeking to meet the area's identified development needs.

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

In 2015/16 553 units were completed, which was below the annual requirement of 1,000.

Net additional dwellings in previous years

	Completions	Requirement	Surplus/deficit
2013	565	1,000	-435
2014	579	1,000	-421
2015	483	1,000	-517
2016	553	1,000	-447
2013-2016	**2,180**	**4,000**	**-1,820**

Number of new and converted dwellings on previously developed land

In 2015/16, 411 residential completions were on previously developed land (PDL), which represents 74% of all residential completions which is the highest rate seen in the past four years.

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

	Percent units on PDL	Units on PDL
2012/13	69%	392
2013/14	64%	369
2014/15	64%	309
2015/16	74%	411

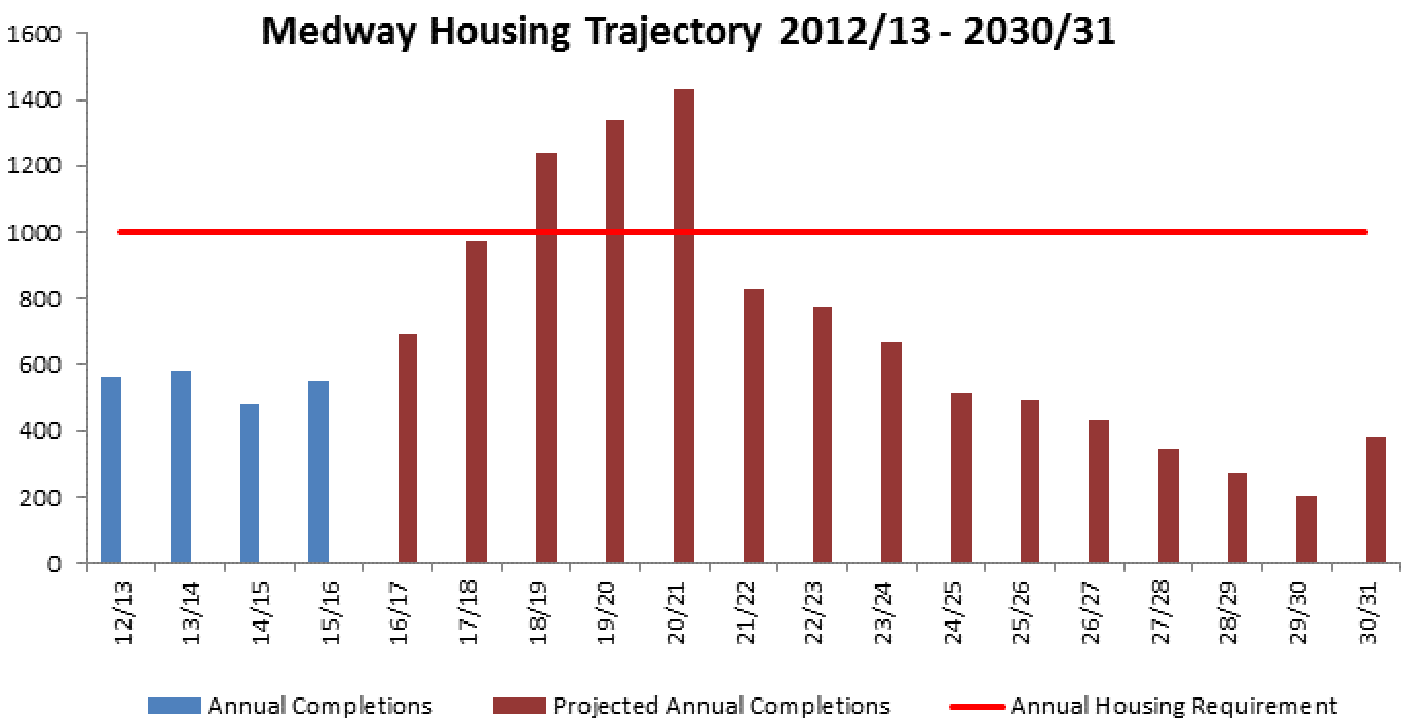
Housing Trajectory 2012/13 – 2030/31

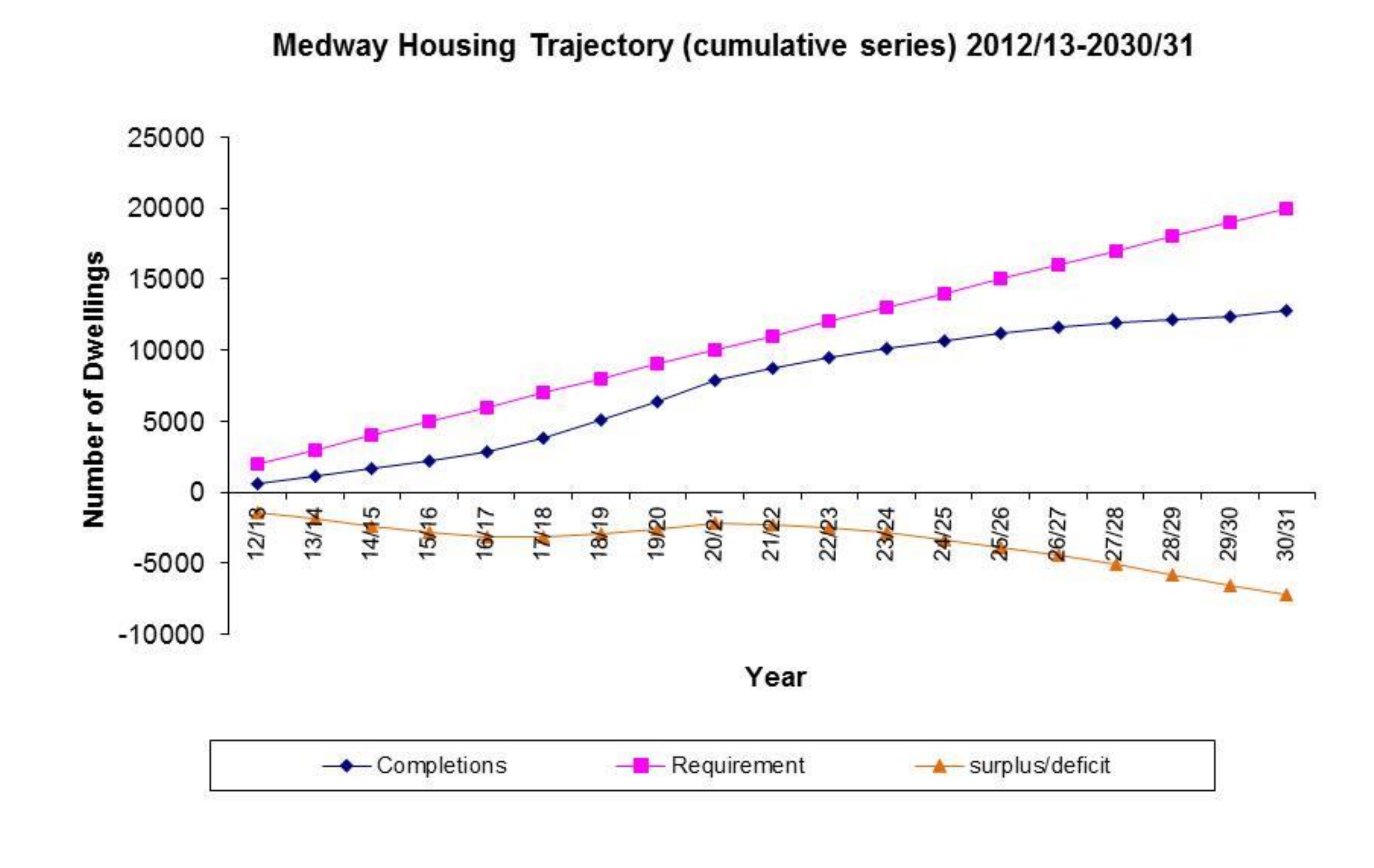
The housing trajectory shows phasing over the period 2012-2031, including contributions from past completions, sites with planning consent, local plan allocations and possible windfalls and sites that are identified in the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA) November 2015. A detailed breakdown of the trajectory is set out in Volume 2 of the AMR.

Trajectory															
12-16	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	29/30	30/31
Annual Completions															
2180															
Projected Annual Completions															
	695	974	1,242	1,340	1,432	829	775	668	514	496	432	347	270	204	384
Annual Housing Requirement															
4,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

The phasing is based upon planning officers' estimations, using their experience of past site delivery. Although historic performance is considered, current market circumstances are also taken into account. The phasing is discussed and agreed with other council officers who have more thorough knowledge of sites as a result of greater direct involvement, including the Head of Planning Service, representatives from the Housing Strategy and the Regeneration Delivery Teams. Some sites within the SLAA have been phased based upon information provided and/or discussions with the land promoters.

Please note; this trajectory is based on the position as at 31st March 2016.





St Andrews Park, former Cement works, Halling

Property prices

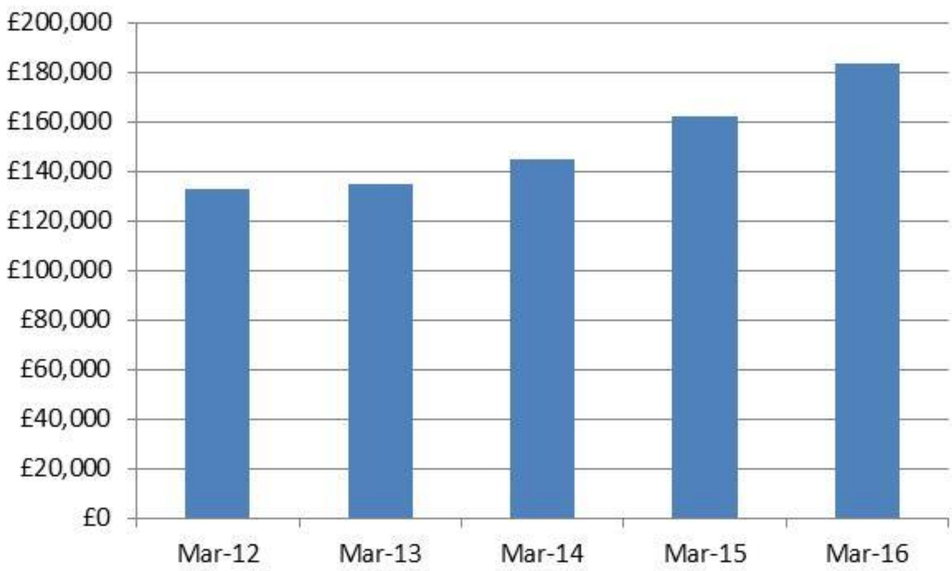
Property prices have increased in Medway over the past 5 years at a higher rate than both locally and nationally, however average property prices in Medway remain below the national level, and significantly below the local level in Kent.

Medway house prices have increased at a slightly higher rate than that seen across the wider Medway housing market area (*HMA), with Gravesham showing a marginally greater price growth than Medway, and Swale showing a lower rate of growth.

Average property price in Medway 2012-2016

Year	Medway	Kent	South East	Eng & Wales
March 2012	£132,700	£177,600	£205,000	£158,200
March 2013	£135,200	£179,000	£207,400	£159,000
March 2014	£144,900	£190,900	£221,000	£168,700
March 2015	£162,400	£208,700	£241,900	£178,000
March 2016	£183,900	£230,100	£266,700	£189,900
2012-2016 % change	38.6	29.6	30.1	20.0
2015-2016 % change	13.2	10.3	10.3	6.7

Average Medway Property Price March 2012 – March 2016



Source: Crown Copyright Land Registry Property Price data 27th May 2016

*The Medway housing market area consists of a number of local authorities that neighbour Medway to include: Gravesham, Swale, Maidstone and Tonbridge & Malling. Figures quoted for the Medway HMA are an average of these local authorities including Medway. The Medway HMA was identified in the SHMA. Further information is available at:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy.aspx within the Strategic Housing and Economic Needs Assessment section.

Housing affordability
Ratio of median house price to median earnings

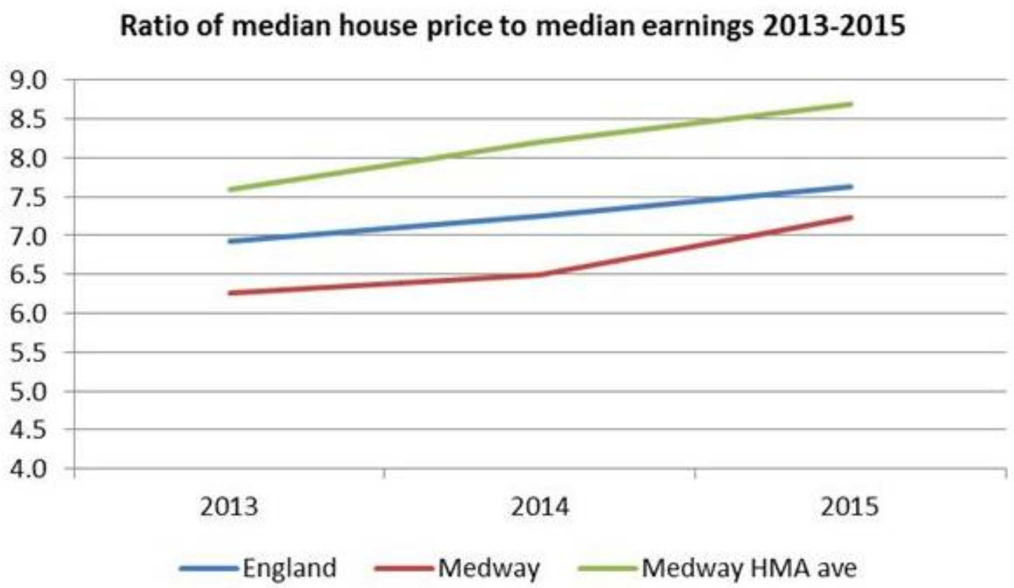
Affordability ratios provide an indication of the relative financial accessibility of an area's housing market to local workers. The average cost of a property in Medway is just over seven times the average annual salary.

Housing affordability over the past three years have worsened in all areas, however Medway remains more affordable than neighbouring authorities across the Medway housing market area (HMA*), with a below average increase in the house price to earnings ratio.

Medway's property is less affordable to local workers when compared to the national level.

Ratio of median house price to median earnings

	2013	2014	2015	Ratio change 2013-2015	
				Nos	Percent
Medway	**6.27**	**6.50**	**7.24**	**0.97**	**15.5**
Medway HMA	7.60	8.20	8.70	1.04	13.7
England	6.92	7.25	7.63	0.71	10.2



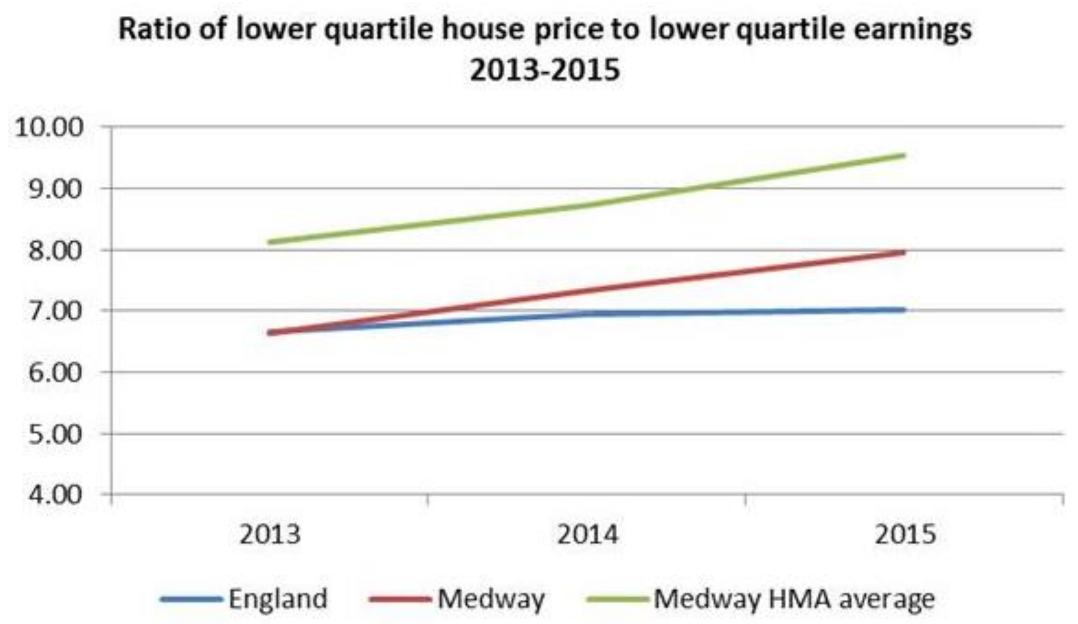
Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings

Lower quartile housing affordability in Medway has become less affordable to a greater degree than the overall median ratio, with the average property towards the 'lower' end of the market costing just under eight times the average 'lower' end annual salary.

The lower end of the market is more affordable in comparison than the level seen across the wider Medway housing market area and nationally. However the difference has narrowed over the past three years.

Ratio of lower quartile house price to lower quartile earnings

	2013	2014	2015	Ratio change	
				Nos	Percent
Medway	**6.63**	**7.33**	**7.97**	**1.34**	**20.2**
Medway HMA avg	8.13	8.73	9.55	1.42	17.5
England	6.66	6.95	7.02	0.36	5.40



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

Affordable housing continues to come forward. 172 affordable residential units were completed in 2015/16 slightly down on the previous year but above the target of 25% of all gross completions.

Affordable housing data is collected and reported by the council’s Housing Team and is reported as gross numbers. For consistency our analysis with regard to affordable housing has based on gross numbers since 2013.

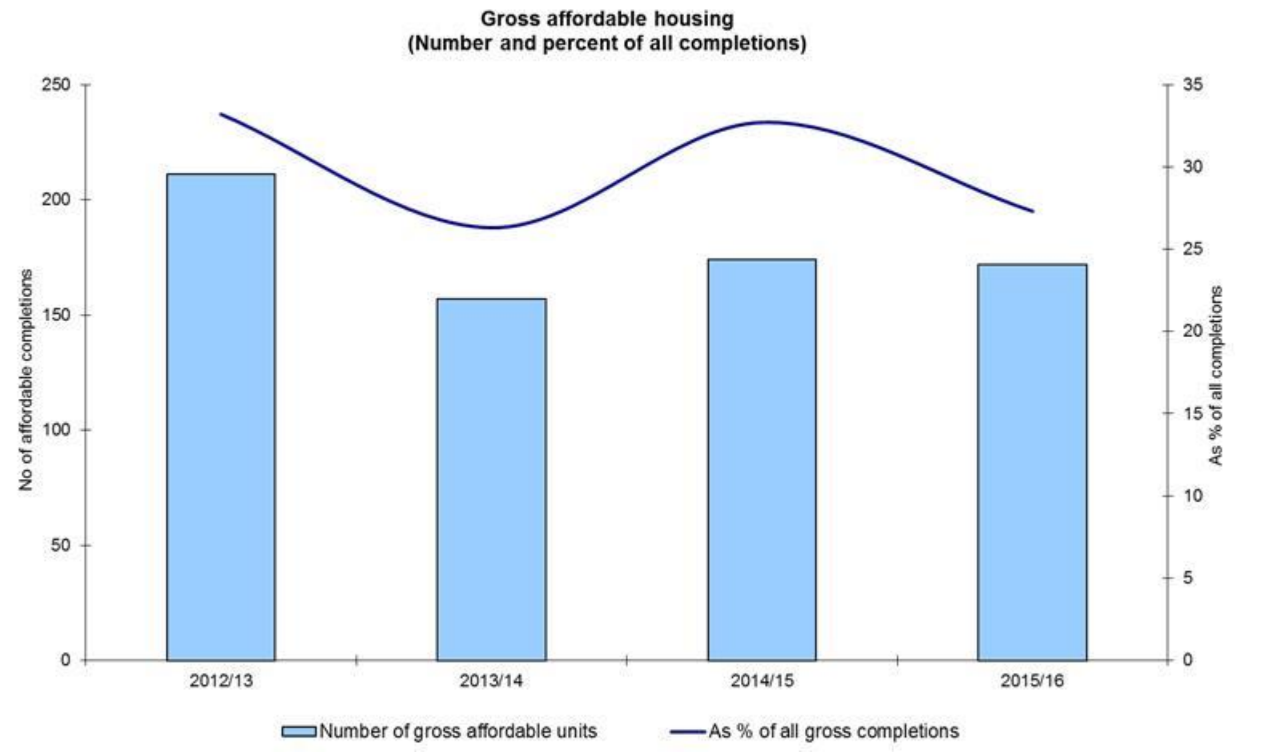
For sites built out in the year 2015/16 the breakdown of houses and flats by number of bedrooms is shown in the table below. More flats than houses were completed. The majority of new properties had 2 bedrooms.

Affordable Completions (gross) by property type and number of bedrooms 2015/16

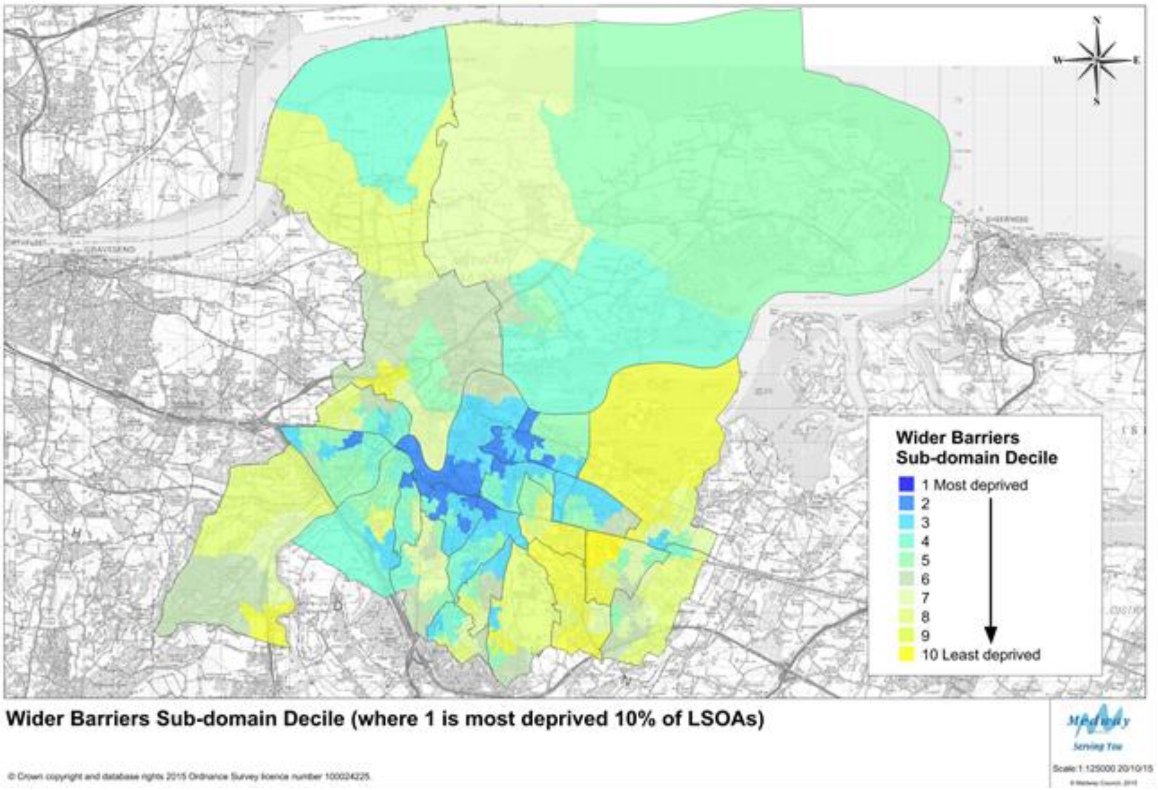
Number of bedrooms	Houses	Flats
One	7	38
Two	18	71
Three	30	0
Four or more	8	0
Total	**63**	**109**
Total % split	**36.6**	**64.4**

Gross affordable completions

	Number of gross affordable units	Number of gross completions	As % of all gross completions
2012/13	211	635	33.2
2013/14	157	597	26.3
2014/15	174	532	32.7
2015/16	172	630	27.3



Access to housing
Wider barriers - Index of Deprivation 2015



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 2015/16, 105 student rooms were under construction, with a further 34 not started.

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

Completions (gross) on large sites by property type and number of bedrooms 2015/16

Number of bedrooms	Houses	Flats
One	9	115
Two	73	185
Three	121	4
Four or more	45	2
Total	**248**	**306**
Total % split	**45%**	**55%**

'Other'

Using information gained from Council Tax records, during 2015/16, twenty houseboats moved into marinas in Medway (Port Werburgh, Port Medway Marina Cuxton and Medway Bridge), and seven moved out, leaving a net gain of thirteen houseboats.

C2 accommodation (residential institutions) saw a net change of zero 2015/16.

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 by Tonbridge and Malling, Gravesham, Ashford, Medway and Swale Councils to ensure that a consistent approach and that cross boundary issues were taken into account. In August 2015, the government issued revised policy guidance on gypsy and traveller accommodation. Medway Council is working with other planning authorities in Kent to assess the implications of the policy changes and to consider the need for reviewing the evidence base in this area.

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 2013-2028 (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 January 2015 figures show capacity of twelve rented and five privately owned caravans on authorised sites with planning permission and one caravan on an unauthorised site without planning permission totalling eighteen as has been the case over the past three years.

Gypsy site trend

	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	
2015	12	5	1	0	18
2014	12	5	1	0	18
2013	12	5	1	0	18
2012	12	0	0	2	14

During the year 2015/16 there was one refusal for a retrospective application at Matts Hill Road for the use of land for hardstanding and the stationing of one mobile home and one touring caravan.

During the previous year, 2014/15, there were 4 consents granted for gypsy caravans/mobile homes.

Economy

Medway 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 (SELEP), 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 SELEP's Local Growth Fund to deliver further infrastructure improvements in Medway.

Amount and type of completed employment floor space

In 2015/16 – although there were losses in the B1 sector overall there was a healthy net gain in employment floor space for the first time in four years. This is the result of a large gain in B8 floor space which outweighed a smaller loss in B1 floor space.

The increase in B8 floorspace this year was down to Goodman completing 22,993 sq.m and 1,772 sq.m of B1 on plot 5, north east of Kingsnorth Industrial Estate, Hoo.

Amount and type of completed employment floor space – 2015/16

	B1 (m^2)	B2(m^2)	B8(m^2)	Mixed B (m^2)	Total (m^2)
Gross	2,759	3,047	31,565	0	37,371
Net	-11,193	2,593	30,285	0	21,685

Amount of completed employment floor space (sq.m) 2012/13- 2015/16

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Gross	12,327	15,919	13,841	37,371
Net	-4,626	-11,065	-1,858	21,685

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

At 12% the proportion of employment floor space completed on previously developed land was much lower in 2015/16 than in previous years.

This was due to a significant amount of floor space being completed at 'land north of Hoo' on a greenfield site allocated in the Medway Local Plan.

Amount and type of completed floor space (gross) coming forward on previously developed land (PDL) – 2015/16

B1 (m^2)	B2(m^2)	B8(m^2)	Mixed B (m^2)	Total (m^2)
987	3,047	493	0	4,527
36%	100%	1.6%	0%	12%

Completed floor space (sq.m) on PDL (total) 2012/13-2015/16

2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
6,883	15,666	6,849	4,527
56%	98%	49%	12%

Amount and type of employment land available

The amount of available floor space for B1/B2/B8 with planning permission net of potential losses is 766,736 sq.m.

Amount of floor space for town centre uses

As in previous years, there was an overall net loss in 2015/16 in A1/A2/B1/D2 use classes.

This is largely due to permitted retail and leisure proposals in locations outside of town centres, reflecting the changing business approach of retailers. Edge-of-centre and out-of-centre locations have become much more desirable locations based on its cost-effectiveness and the provision of larger sites, which meet current market requirements. The figures below reflect a large permission in out of centre location (ASDA at Chatham Docks) and the loss of the B&Q unit in Strood. However, it is worth nothing that the B&Q unit could be replaced by retail and a small portion of leisure use. Change of use has also contributed to the loss of A1 use and the increase in A3/D1 and D2 uses, the latter (D1/D2) being more reflective of the high streets.

Floor space completed for town centre uses (A1/A2/B1/D2) – 2015/16

	A1 (m²)		A2 (m²)		B1 (m²)		D2 (m²)		Total	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Town centre	68	-1,958	245	245	36	-1,383	85	-85	434	-3,181
Rest of Medway	7,756	2,541	34	-397	2,723	-9,810	1,823	651	12,336	-7,015
Total	7,824	583	279	-152	2,759	-11,193	1,908	566	12,770	-10,196

Total floor space for town centre use 2012/13-2015/16

	Town Centres		Rest of Medway		Floor space Total	
Year	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
2012/13	2,849	1,467	4,875	-4,812	7,724	-3,345
2013/14	1,183	-4,677	3,144	-1,561	4,327	-6,238
2014/15	1,772	-3,118	5,353	-2,383	7,125	-5,501
2015/16	434	-3,181	12,336	-7,015	12,770	-10,196

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants

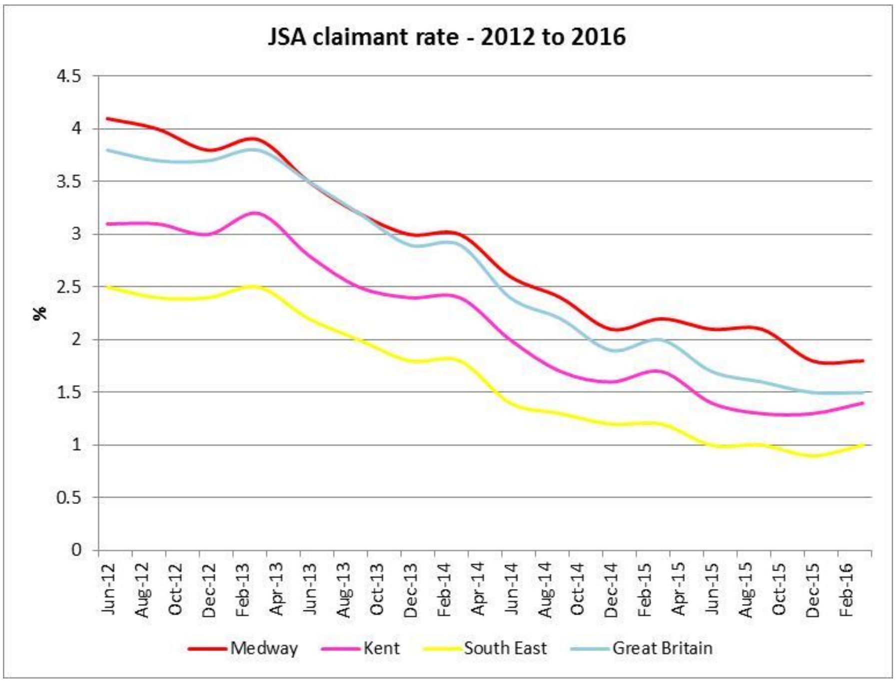
The Job Seekers claimant rate has dropped in Medway over 2015/16, but remains above the national rate in March 2016 at 1.8% against 1.5% nationally, and higher than the regional and Kent rates.

The JSA rate peaked in Medway in March 2012 with a prevailing downward trend since then.

At 1.8% the JSA claimant rate is down to levels of unemployment seen in 2001.

JSA claimant rate – 2012-2016

	Medway	Kent	South East	Great Britain
Jun 2012	4.1	3.1	2.5	3.8
Sep 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
Sep 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
Jun 2014	2.6	2.0	1.4	2.4
Sep 2014	2.4	1.7	1.3	2.2
Dec 2014	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.9
Mar 2015	2.2	1.7	1.2	2.0
Jun 2015	2.1	1.4	1.0	1.7
Sep 2015	2.1	1.3	1.0	1.6
Dec 2015	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.5
Mar 2016	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.5



Gross Value Added – productivity

In 2014 Medway's economy was worth just under £4.7bn, up on the 2013 level (+£122m) by 2.7%.

At £17,038 per head, Medway stands lowest in the South East.

Medway's productivity growth in 2014 stands below the national, regional and county growth rate, however this is the third year of productivity growth for Medway.

In 2014 GVA per head for Medway at £17,038 stood at 69.2% of the UK level (£24,616); despite Medway's continued growth in the 'per head' figure this is down from a 2012 peak of 70.7% due to larger national growth rising more quickly than Medway.

Gross value added per head of population

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Medway	14,877	16,214	16,773	17,038
Kent	18,581	19,096	19,520	20,096
South East	24,410	25,396	26,276	27,012
UK	22,336	22,929	23,750	24,616

Gross value added per head of population - indices

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Medway	66.6	70.7	70.6	69.2
Kent	83.2	83.3	82.2	81.6
South East	109.3	110.8	110.6	109.7
UK	100	100	100	100

For further information on GVA follow links:

http://www.medway.gov.uk/pdf/Gross%20Value%20Added%202014.pdf

http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/economy/national-accounts/gva/index.html

Employment

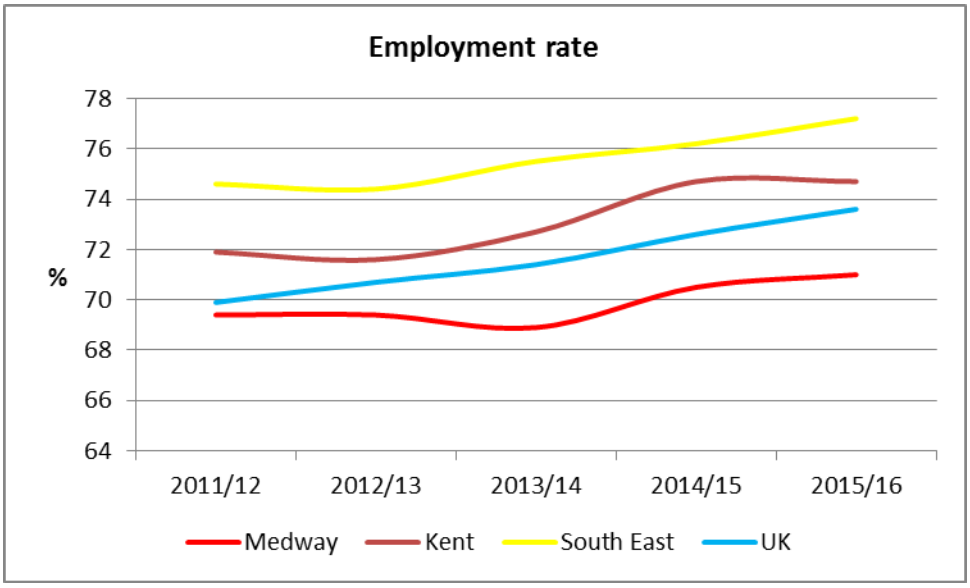
The employment rate in Medway in 2016 stood at 71%. The employment rate in Medway has increased for the last two years after a short period in which it fell.

The employment rate nationally at 73.6% is the highest since comparable records began in 1971. This is as a result of the number of people in work increasing, the number of unemployed people showing little change, but the number of people not working and not seeking or available to work – i.e. the economically inactive - falling.

The employment rate nationally has been generally increasing since early 2012.

Employment rate – 2012 to 2016

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Medway	**69.4**	**69.4**	**68.9**	**70.5**	**71.0**
Kent	71.9	71.6	72.7	74.7	74.7
South East	74.6	74.4	75.5	76.2	77.2
UK	69.9	70.7	71.4	72.6	73.6



Economic activity

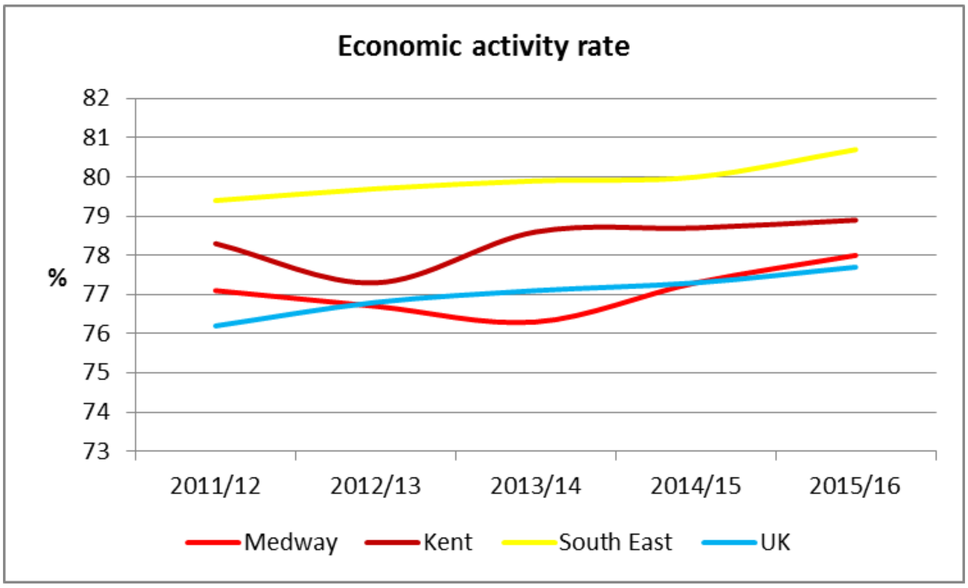
The economic activity level in Medway stood at 78% in 2016.

The economic activity rate in Medway has increased for the second year running and now stands above the national rate.

While this is a positive trend, the proportion of the economically inactive who want a job has decreased – though a higher proportion want a job than nationally.

Economic activity rate

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Medway	**77.1**	**76.7**	**76.3**	**77.3**	**78.0**
Kent	78.3	77.3	78.6	78.7	78.9
South East	79.4	79.4	79.9	80.0	80.7
UK	76.2	76.8	77.1	77.3	77.7



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 afield, particularly Bluewater.

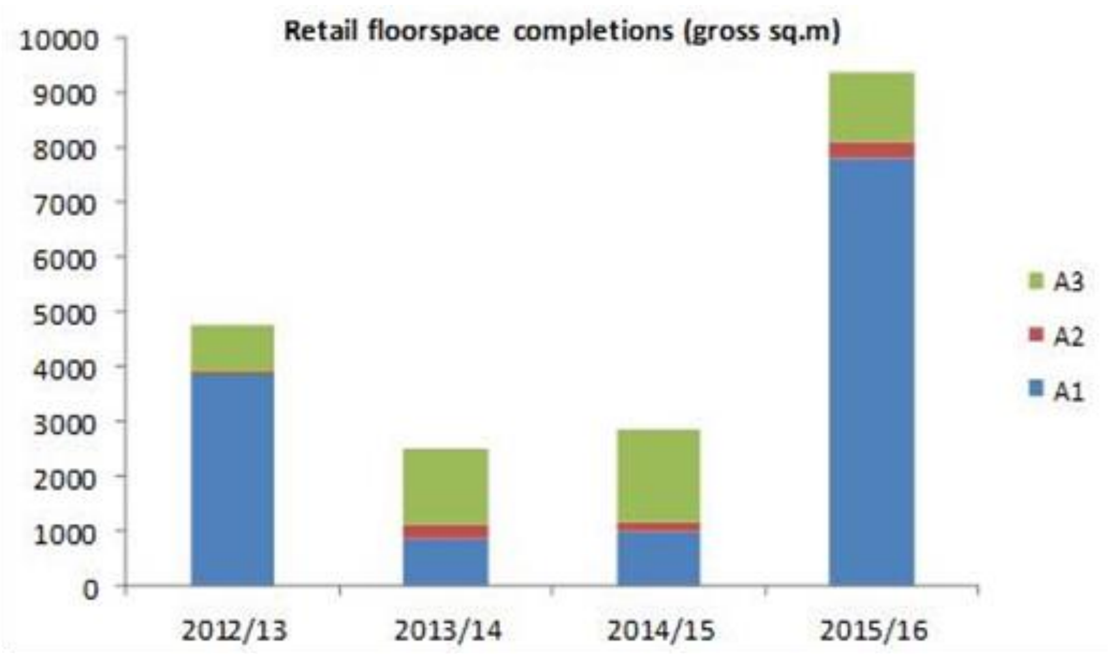
Gross completions A1-A5

There has been an increase in new retail floor space in Medway over the last year; however this is mainly due to the completion of the new Asda store on Pier Road Gillingham with accounts for 6,810sq.m.

Town Centre (TC) and non Town Centre gross retail floor space completions sq.m

		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A1-A5
2015/16	TC	68	245	1,141	273	0	1,727
	Non TC	7,756	34	123	252	234	8,399
	Total	7,824	279	1,264	525	234	10,126
2014/15	TC	259	167	644	78	147	1,295
	Non TC	704	31	1,032	254	174	2,195
	Total	**963**	**198**	**1,676**	**332**	**321**	**3,490**
2013/14	TC	210	276	161	0	0	647
	Non TC	642	0	1,232	0	493	2,367
	Total	**852**	**276**	**1,393**	**0**	**493**	**3,014**
2012/13	TC	1,815	0	470	13	25	2,323
	Non TC	2,042	60	393	136	370	3,001
	Total	**3,857**	**60**	**863**	**149**	**395**	**5,324**

New Asda at Gillingham Pier, with development at Victory Pier to the back right of image



Net completions in town centres

Despite the increases seen in new retail floor space provision in town centres there was a net loss in A1 uses. 1,958 sq. of A1 retail floor space was lost from town centres in 2015/16. Although losses were to a variety of uses, a number were to other A class activities.

Town centre development – 2015/16

Use	Losses (sq.)	Gains (sq.)	Net change (sq.)
A1	-2,026	68	-1,958
A2	0	245	245
A3	-246	1,141	895
A4	-172	273	101
A5	0	0	0
D1	-205	1,212	1,007
D2	-170	85	-85
Total	**-2,819**	**3,024**	**205**

Education

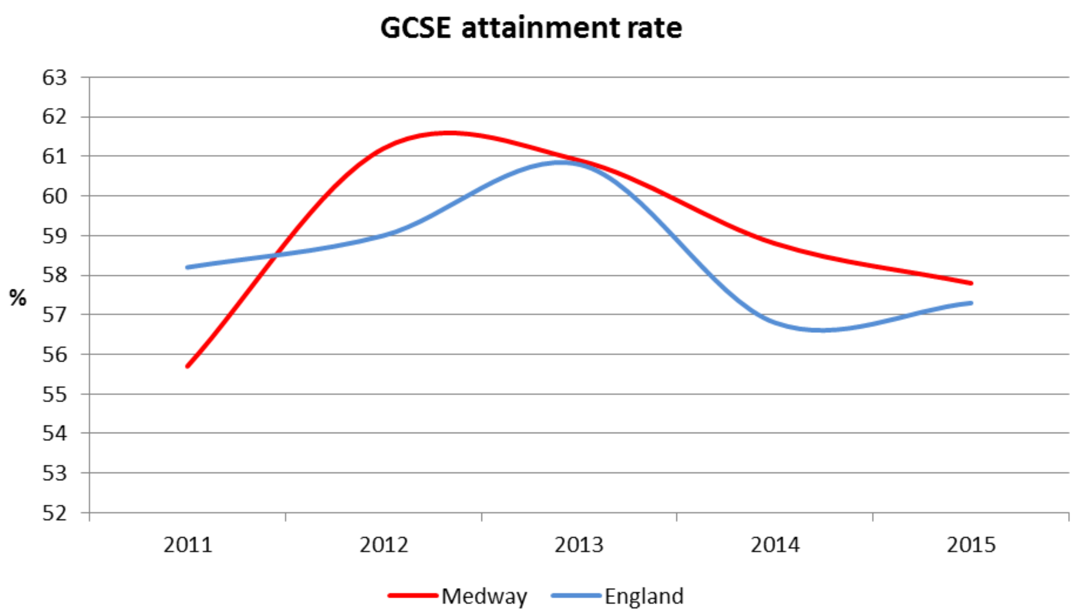
GCSE attainment rate

The GCSE pass rate in Medway decreased in 2015 to 57.8%.

The national rate increased narrowing the gap between Medway and England; however the pass rate in Medway remains above the national rate of 57.3%, which has followed a similar trend to Medway.

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

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Medway	55.7	61.2	60.9	58.8	57.8
England*	58.2	59.0	60.8	56.8	57.3



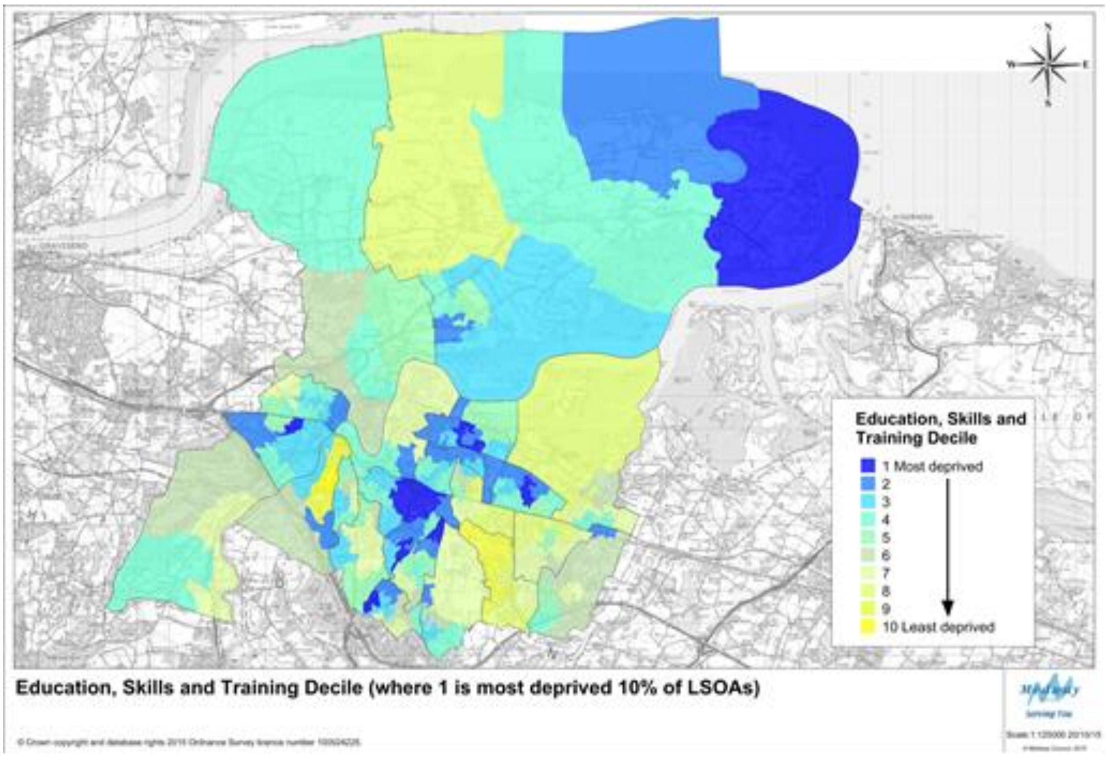
Education deprivation

The 'Education, Skills and Training' deprivation measure relates to the lack of educational attainment and skills in the local population. The pattern of deprivation on this theme is quite widely dispersed with areas across Medway being relatively deprived including areas on the Hoo Peninsula.

Medway is ranked in the 27% most deprived local authorities in England for 'Education skills and training' - this is worse than Medway's overall position for multiple deprivation being in the 37% most deprived local authorities in England.

Medway has forty-three neighbourhoods ranked in the 20% most deprived nationally and within those sixteen are ranked in the 10% most deprived. Two fewer neighbourhoods are in the most deprived 20% compared to the 2010 index, but there are extra four areas in the most deprived 10%.

Of those sixteen most deprived neighbourhoods, five are located in Luton & Wayfield, four are located in Chatham Central and two are located in Gillingham North.



Source: IMD 2015

Transport

As a transport authority, Medway Council is responsible for the local highway network, public rights of way and other transport related infrastructure. This includes 840 km of adopted highway and 293 km of public rights of way, plus the Medway Tunnel.

Local Transport Plan

Medway's third Local Transport Plan (LTP) provides the transport strategy for the period 2011 to 2026. The LTP contains five priorities, with key actions for the Council and partners under each priority:

1. Regeneration, economic competitiveness and growth
2. The natural environment
3. Connectivity
4. Equality of opportunity
5. Safety, security and public health

The LTP will be delivered through three-year Implementation Plans, which is based on available funding, financial settlements from government and other funding, such as Section 106 contributions. It is supported by strategies in relation to cycling, Public Rights of Way, active travel (schools), road safety and air quality.

Local Enterprise Partnership Funding

Five schemes in Medway – to commence in 2015/16 – have been granted a total of £ 28.6 million of Local Growth Fund finance, as shown below:

Local Enterprise Partnership Funding

Scheme	Grant
Chatham Town Centre and Public Realm Package	£4 m
A289 Four Elms Roundabout to Medway Tunnel Journey Time and Network Improvements	£11 m
Medway City Estate Connectivity Improvement Measures	£2 m
Strood Town Centre Journey Time and Accessibility Enhancements	£9 m
Medway Cycling Action Plan	£2.5 m

Subsequent iterations of the AMR will provide updates on the status of these schemes.

Estimated traffic flows for cars and all vehicle types

Medway has seen a lower rate of growth in car usage over vehicle usage, with a lower level of growth in the last year than over the past four years.

Car traffic accounts for a slightly higher proportion of all vehicle miles in Medway with car miles accounting for around eighty percent of vehicle miles (against 78% nationally).

Medway has seen a rate of growth in vehicle usage over the past four years higher than the national level. In the last year the level of growth has been lower than the national level.

Car Traffic – Million miles

	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent change	
					2014-15	2012-15
Medway	**674**	**690**	**703**	**705**	**0.3**	**4.6**
Kent	6,942	6,850	6,946	7,097	2.2	2.2
South East	41,650	41,399	42,198	43,025	2.0	3.3
England	205,994	205,599	209,815	212,197	1.1	3.0

Motor vehicle Traffic – Million miles

	2012	2013	2014	2015	Percent change	
					2014-15	2012-15
Medway	**835**	**853**	**874**	**882**	**0.9**	**5.6**
Kent	8,890	8,806	8,996	9,254	2.9	4.1
South East	51,561	51,476	52,792	54,082	2.4	4.9
England	259,144	259,891	266,660	271,092	1.7	4.6

This is a measure of the level of usage of roads in Medway, rather than a reflection of vehicle ownership amongst Medway residents.

Source: DfT transport statistics

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/road-traffic-statistics#publications-2016

Passenger journeys on local bus services

8.9 million bus passenger journeys were made in 2014/15 in Medway.

Medway has seen a slight drop in bus usage over the past three years, in a period in which regionally and nationally there was growth.

Passenger journeys on local bus services - millions

	2012/13	**2013/14**	**2014/15**	**Percent change 2013-15**
Medway	**9.0**	**8.9**	**8.9**	**-1.4**
Kent	60.5	62.3	57.9	-4.1
South East	346.0	355.8	356.1	2.9
England	4,590.0	4,674.1	4,647.4	1.3

Source: DfT transport statistics :
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bus-statistics

The River Medway - Port cargo traffic

Medway built up around the river and its estuary, and its history and industries reflect these links. Although some traditional industries have declined, there are still a number of marine based businesses active in Medway.

The docks and wharves around Medway support local businesses and provide a strategic role for the movement of goods and materials. This includes the importation of aggregates that support the construction industry. London Thamesport on the Isle of Grain can handle a variety of deep and shallow-drafted vessels; other ports in Medway include the Scotline Terminal on the Medway City Estate and the National Grid's Liquefied Natural Gas Importation terminal at Grain.

Data is published for Medway Ports that include Chatham Docks and the port of Sheerness, both managed by Peel Ports. Together these are ranked as the 10th busiest of UK major ports – with the cargo handled representing just under 3% of UK cargo handled at major ports.

Medway Ports handle just over a fifth of 'forestry products' handled by major UK ports-the most handled by any port in the UK. This type of cargo represents just under 15% of the cargo for the Medway Ports.

While freight handled by all UK major ports declined slightly in 2015 (-1.2%), in the Medway Ports cargo tonnage was up (+7.6%), the first notable increase following significant decreases in tonnage in 2012 and 2013. Port activity in the Medway and Swale area peaked in 2011 having dropped since a peak of 2006.

Nationally the impact of the recession can be seen around 2008/9 when freight traffic dropped by 11%.

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Medway Ports are part of the 53 major ports network in the UK that handle around 98% of all traffic.

The main cargo handled by UK ports is called 'liquid bulk' which includes liquefied gas, crude oil and other oil products. In contrast 'dry bulk' is the largest cargo category handled by Medway Ports including ores and coal and agricultural products.

Liquid bulk constitutes just over a quarter of all traffic tonnage handled at Medway ports, however dry bulk is more significant in local ports which constitutes just over one third of all freight handled. Dry bulk includes Ores, Coal, Biomass fuels - typically in the form of wood pellets and wood chips - and other agricultural products.

Medway Port traffic cargo – tonnage (000's)					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
All traffic	**16,076**	**12,649**	**8,384**	**8,447**	**9,091**
Inward	13,903	10,933	7142	7,482	7,979
Outward	2,173	1,717	1,242	965	1,112

All Major UK ports traffic cargo – tonnage (000's)					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
All traffic	506,996	489,450	491,755	491,856	485,729

Bulk type Medway Ports – 2015			
	Tonnage (000's)	**Percent of UK major port total**	**UK ranking** (of 53)
Forestry products	1,331	22.7	1
Liquefied gas	1,155	7.6	4
Iron and steel products	387	4.4	9

Source: DfT Port Freight Statistics, 2016

Further information available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maritime-and-shipping-statistics#publications-2016

Minerals – Local Aggregate Assessment 2015

As a unitary authority, Medway Council has responsibility for minerals planning. This includes the production of an annual Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA), in line with the requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and in the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). The LAA provides information on aggregate monitoring figures to support an analysis of supply and demand of materials.

Reflecting the size, geology and location of the borough, there are two quarries with permitted reserves, and three active wharves along the River Medway and the Thames Estuary, used for the importation of aggregates. The only land won aggregates extracted in the district are sand and gravel. However, extraction is restricted due to the high level of environmental designations (33%) and urban coverage (19%) within the district. Other aggregates are either imported, including crushed rock and marine dredged aggregates, or derived from secondary or recycled sources.

The small number of minerals sites and wharves mean that there are a number of areas where it is not possible to publish information at the level of this individual minerals planning authority. This follows the agreements made with industry to respect commercial confidentiality.

Supply/Demand

The present permitted reserve of sand and gravel is 1.3 million tonnes. This is derived from Kingsnorth Quarry to the south east of the village of Hoo St Werburgh, and at Perry’s Farm, Grain.

Kingsnorth Quarry has planning consent for the extraction of 1.195 million tonnes of sand and gravel. The plan is to extract minerals in phases at a rate of approximately 120,000 tonnes a year, over 10 years. The period for the commencement of the development has been extended until 1 May 2017 and it is understood that the company intend to start works by this date.

There is a small amount of remaining permitted reserves from works at Perry’s Farm, Grain, but these are considered as uneconomic and are therefore not considered as available reserves.

Due to the limited number of quarrying sites in Medway, it is not possible to publish annual levels of sales of locally won sand and gravel. This adheres to the confidentiality agreements set between the aggregates industry and mineral planning authorities. However the council has been able to use data provided to the annual Aggregates Monitoring survey have been used to produce a 10 year and 3 year average figure.

The 10-year average of sales from quarries in Medway is 9,147.1 tonnes pa. The 3-year average of sales is 3333.3 tonnes pa, however this is from existing reserves and not extraction. Therefore overall the demand appears to be very low for land won resources in Medway, with no recent extraction activity and alternative sources of supply being of continued importance. The reserve provides a landbank for land-won sand and gravel of 143 years, based on a 10-year sales average. This is significantly above the 7-year landbank required in the NPPF. However, the 3 and 10 year sales average has limitations in its effective use for assessing mineral provision in Medway and its wider contribution to the wider south east market due to the scale of the area.

Medway has three active wharves that play an important role in the importation of aggregates, including crushed rock and marine dredged aggregates. Both of these resources make up a significant proportion of the aggregates supplied in the district and into Kent. The Medway wharves reported an increase in total imports in 2015 from 2014 levels.

It is considered that there is currently a steady supply of marine dredged aggregates. The Crown Estate owns almost all of the sand and gravel resources (marine aggregate) lying off the coast of the UK and they award and manage commercial agreements for companies to extract it.

London and the South East are supplied by three main regions of marine aggregates: the East Coast, Thames Estuary and East English Channel. As of 2014, these areas held reserves of 224.86 million tonnes and had a combined 10-year average extraction rate of 9.11 million tonnes per year, providing a total of 24.7 years aggregate production.

Through 2015, the marine aggregates industry has been involved in a major statutory relicensing programme, which has resulted in the renewal of more than half of The Crown Estate production licenses for a further 15 years. As part of this, the Thames Estuary area licensed for marine aggregate extraction was increased by 19.41m^2, and the East Coast area increased by 91.31km^2. This could indicate that Medway's wharves which import materials from these licensed areas, may be of ongoing importance. This could be heightened through the removal of wharf capacity elsewhere, such as in Kent where wharves may be closed following waterfront regeneration.

Imports of sand and gravel and crushed rock come from Belgium and Scotland as well marine dredged aggregates from UK waters. As of 2014, most of the imports remain in Kent and Medway (80%) or the wider south east region - including Kent and Medway - (89%), but a significant proportion goes to London (11%). Data for 2015 is not currently available.

Medway also has several sites that have the potential to supply secondary and recycled aggregates to the market. The 10-year average of sales from secondary and recycled aggregates in Medway was 57,075 tonnes pa.

The Council has analysed several external sources to project any trends that may be emerging that would influence demand. Medway's population is predicted to increase by 22% to 2037 and house builders are reporting increased workloads and planning permissions granted nationally indicating a potential increase in demand over the coming years, but this appears not yet to have significantly affected the market.

In July 2016, Kent County Council adopted the Kent Minerals and Waste Plan 2013-30. It is expected that the contents of the plan will help inform aggregates policies in the emerging Medway Local Plan through cross-border strategic planning under the Duty to Cooperate. The Kent Minerals and Waste Plan 2013-30 is available to view at the following address: http://consult.kent.gov.uk/file/4073744

A summary of the aggregate supply in Medway for 2015 can be found in table 6 in Volume 2 of the Medway Authority Monitoring Report 2016 (page 201).

Notable developments and Medway news during the year
Strood
• A local company on Medway City Estate rice supplier Veetee upped its operating profits thanks to increased sales and cost saving programmes. The company employs around 135 people. • An electrical goods supplier Trade Electricals Direct opened a new branch on the Medway City Estate creating 8 jobs.
Rochester
• Food and drink establishment expand with the Crepe and Co Pancake Parlour opening and £1.5m expansion and refurbishment of the Golden Lion Weatherspoons pub in Rochester. • Work excavating the crypt in Rochester Cathedral commenced. The £5.7 million regeneration project will allow collections of artefacts to be seen by the public. The crypt will become exhibition space. • Britain's first Huguenot Museum opens in Rochester; it is housed on 2 floors of the Visitor Information Centre in the High Street The Grade 1 listed Guildhall Museum in Rochester is under renovation. • The new Rochester Station opens in Corporation Street, replacing the old High Street Station. The old structures around the former Rochester station are being removed. The station building will remain as it is a listed building. • St Bartholomew's Hospital in Rochester is to close because it is no longer fit for purpose, services will be moved elsewhere. • Countryside Properties have won the contract to develop Rochester Riverside with 1300 homes, a school, a nursery, hotels, restaurants, a gym and offices. Construction could be underway by the summer of 2017 and completed around the summer of 2028.
Chatham
• Colonial House, a large office building at Chatham Maritime, gets planning permission for demolition and to be replaced with flats. • Kitchener Barracks in Dock Road Chatham, is a surplus Ministry of Defence site, Sandhurst Block has gained permission for conversion to residential flats whilst the other buildings on site will be demolished and replaced with three apartment blocks. • Permission has been granted to convert a dis-used swimming pool and bowling alley at the Chatham Maritime Campus into a student hub, which will serve the 10,000 students at the Universities of Kent and Greenwich. The centre will include a café/bar, entertainment and social activity space and a home for the students union. It is expected to open in September 2016. • Subway has opened at the Spar convenience store in Silverweed Road, Chatham, it will create at least 12 new jobs.

- Creams Café at Chatham Maritime proved so popular that less than nine months after it opened it was extended into an adjoining unit effectively tripling its size.
- An old pub, the Magpie Tavern, has been transformed into a Community Centre, renamed the Magpie Centre. It will provide support, activities and events for the local population.
- Significant works on the river walk at Chatham Waterfront have been completed this year, including resurfacing, new lighting, street furniture and planting. Further works in the vicinity are planned as part of the Chatham Regeneration programme.
- Film crews returned to the Dockyard for the latest series of Call the Midwife. There is now a 90 minute tourist attraction Call the Midwife tours, where visitors can take a trip around the filming locations.
- The old Dockyard church gets a new lease of life as it is transformed into a 300 seat lecture theatre for use by University students, staff and the wider community.
- An old Victorian pump house at Chatham Maritime is about to be converted into a gin distillery, open to visitors for tours Medway Council's Gun Wharf offices were fitted with almost 400 solar panels. It is thought to be the largest such installation on a listed building in the UK.
- A former council office has been taken over by Nucleus Arts and turned into a studio for budding musicians. The building located in Dock Road, Chatham has been named Riverside One Studios.
- Chatham's Pentagon Shopping Centre has been bought for more than £42 million. It will be brought up to date by UK firm Ellandi, a community shopping centre specialist.
- Wetherspoons has invested £2.2 million in refurbishing the Old Post Office in Railway Street, Chatham into the Thomas Waghorn pub.
- The 'Mega growth' table lists the 50 fastest growing privately owned companies in Kent. 12 of the top 50 are in Medway. The top Medway Company is ranked 5th on the list - Dovetail Games - computer games makers located in Chatham.

Gillingham

- Gillingham Station is upgraded.
- A new 80 bed hotel opened at the end of the May 2015. The Premier Inn at Victory Pier, Gillingham has created 35 jobs.
- Costa Coffee opened a new store in Gillingham High Street, creating 8 jobs.
- A new style college costing £11.4 million opened in September 2015. It is Medway's first University Technical College and specialises in construction and engineering for 14-19 year olds.
- A new Sainsbury's Local opens in Gillingham Road, creating up to 25 jobs.
- Britain's largest council built bungalow development for the elderly and disabled has commenced. The site in Beatty Avenue, Gillingham when complete will have 32 one and two bed bungalows for rent.
- The new Asda store and petrol filling station opens at Chatham Waters.

Rainham
• Rainham Station receives an upgrade. • The £16 million facelift at Hempstead Valley is rapidly taking shape, with the new restaurants and cafes opening. Kent Reliance also relocated from within the centre to a new unit within the latest development. • The next phase will focus on the old food court to be replaced with a 20,000 sq.ft. store. • A 16th century cottage in Lower Rainham Road has been moved back 6 metres away from the road. The timber framed building needed a 100 ton crane to lift it. Restoration is likely to run into 2016. • Micropubs are proving very popular in Medway, the fourth, The Prince of Ales opened in Rainham.
Hoo Peninsula and the Isle of Grain
• Medway's 8th foodbank officially opened at Lower Stoke Methodist Church in Avery Way, to help those in need on the Hoo Peninsula. • Various buildings, boiler houses and structures have been demolished at the former Grain power station, the penultimate demolition taking place with the blowing up of 2 boiler houses. The 244m chimney demolition and the remainder of the whole project is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. • The 35 metre Turbine Hall and 4 other buildings at Kingsnorth Power Station are also blown up. • Fruit growers A C Goatham and Son start work on a £9 million expansion. The plans will double the capacity for fruit cold storage and packing at Flanders Farm.
Medway Valley
• Construction work on the new bridge over the River Medway to link new development in Tonbridge and Malling and join the A228 at Halling.

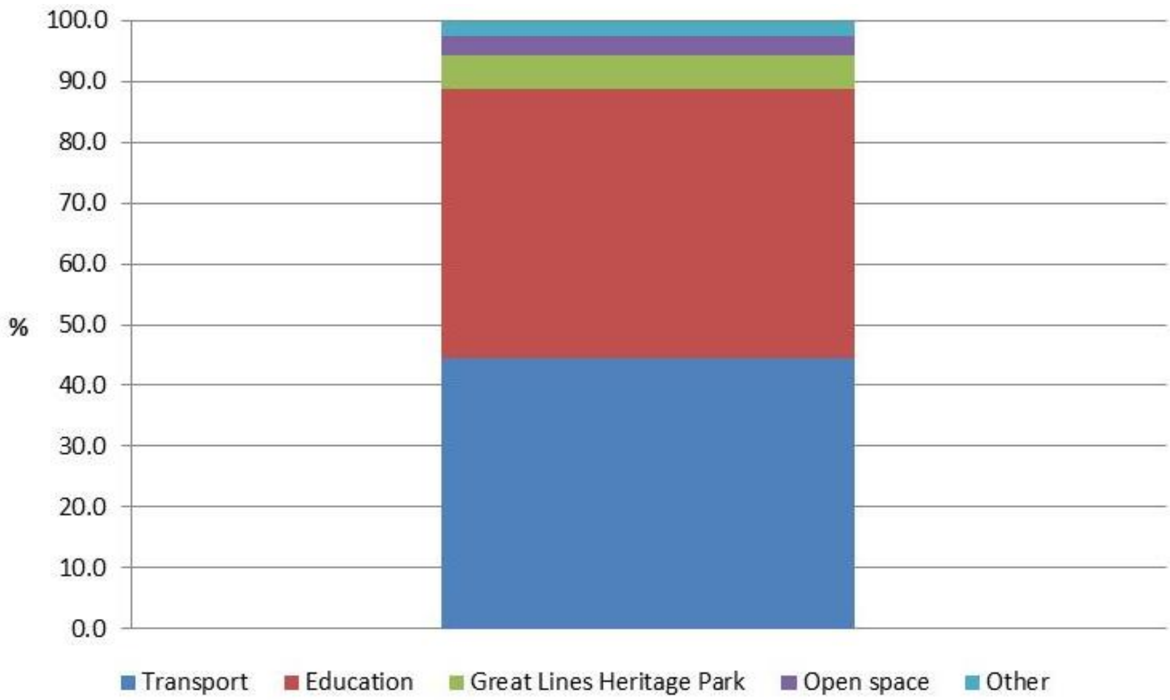
Developer Contributions

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

In 2015/16 funding received through Section 106 agreements amounted to approximately £1,892,000. Just under 89% of the total funding went towards education or transport/highways related schemes, with a equal split between these to major funding themes.

Section 106 Agreements 2015/16	
Amount of Funding Received during the year	£1,892,031

Section 106 agreements funding received 2015/16 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. Further details on 106 agreements are available via link below which includes Medway Council's Guide to Developer Contributions (SPD).

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

Development Management Planning Statistics

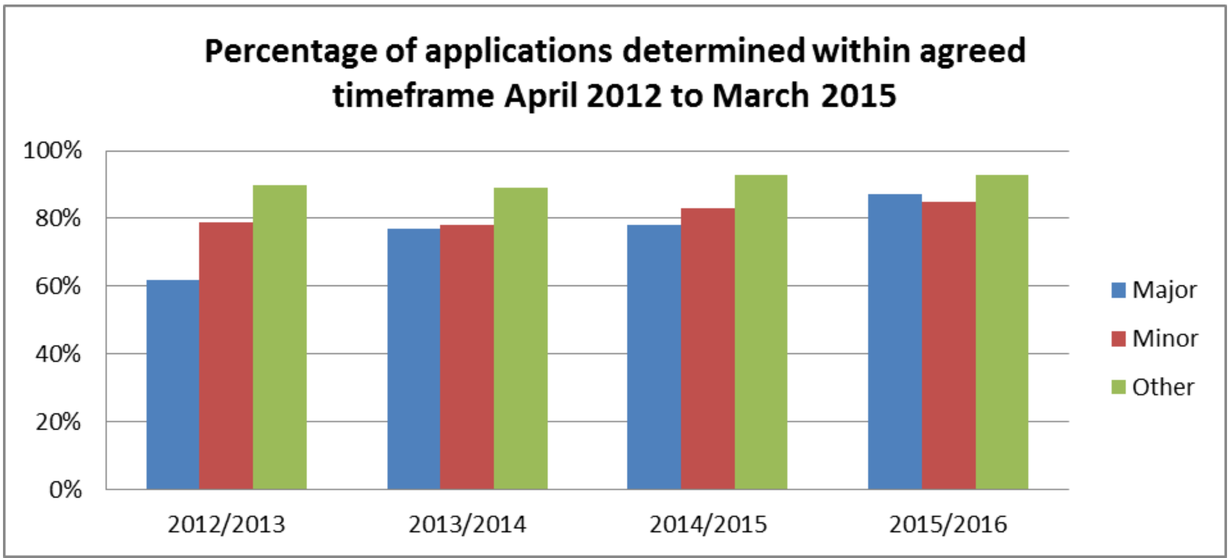
Planning applications

In 2015/16 1,322 planning applications were determined, with 1,192 approved (90.5%).

The statistics below show the number of applications determined within the statutory or the agreed timeframe.

Number of applications determined and percentage processed within the statutory timescale

	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16	
	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%	Nos	%
Major	56	62	74	77	56	78	54	87
Minor	361	79	350	78	369	83	285	85
Other	1105	90	1105	89	908	93	983	93



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 floor space 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

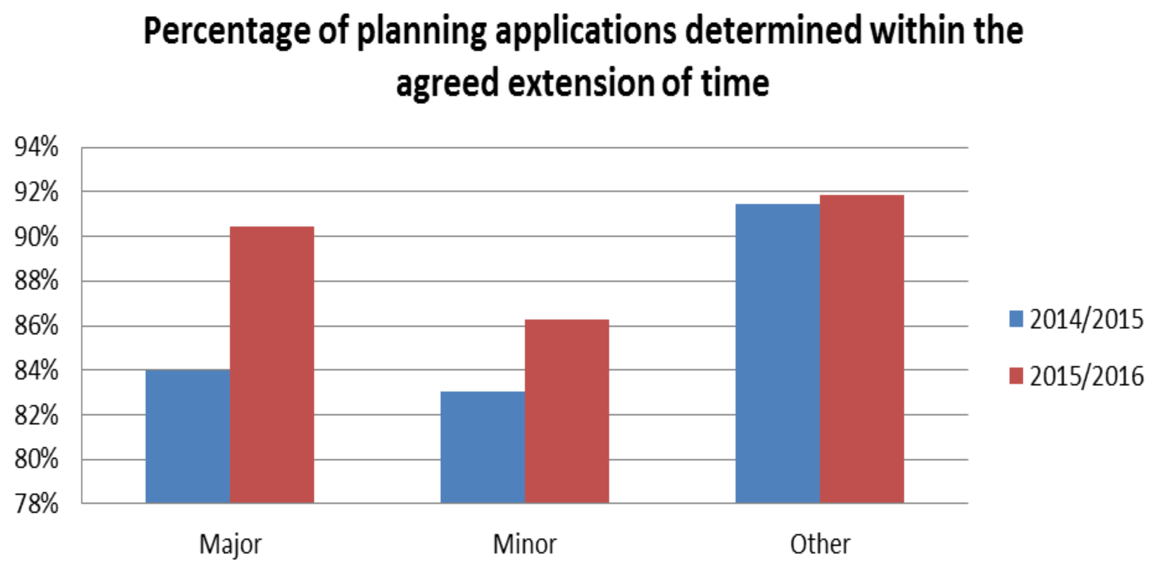
The general view when processing planning applications is to focus on achieving a positive, pro-growth planning system. It is considered better to take extra time and get a better quality result, than to rush the decision and get a poor result. The Government introduced the use of Planning Performance Agreements (PPA's) and Planning Extension Agreements (PEA's), whereby applicants and Local Planning Authorities can agree an appropriate timeframe for the determination of an application, subject to there being a programme and clear end date for the determination.

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.

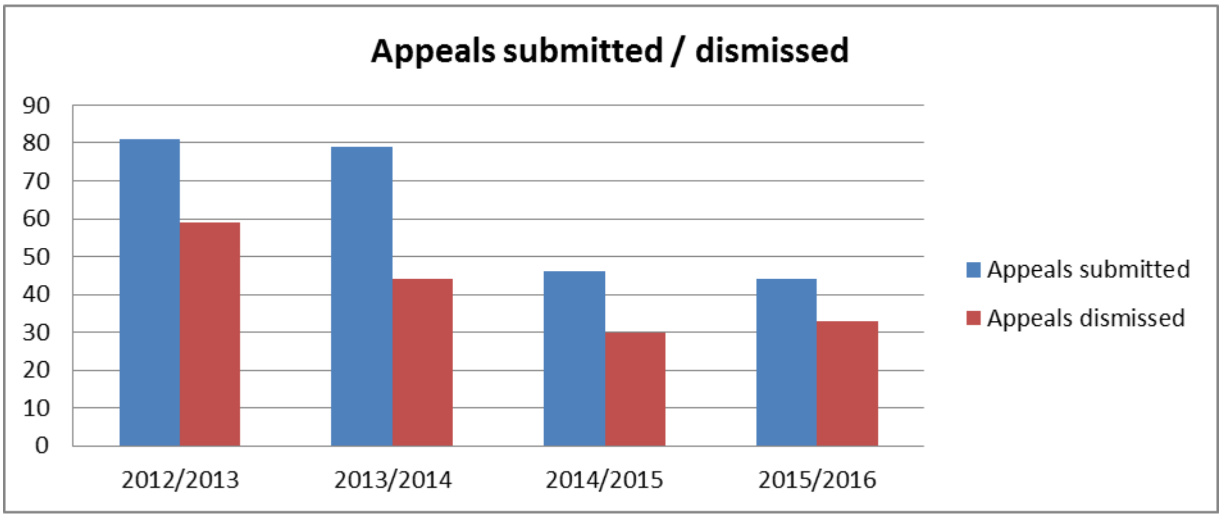
Planning Extension Agreements (PEA's)

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 2015/16, 44 appeals against the Council's decisions were submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate dismissed 75% 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.

Duty to cooperate - was introduced 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.

Economic activity - A person is economically active if they are either employed or unemployed i.e. in work or looking for work. A person is economically inactive if they are either not seeking work or are unavailable to start work. This includes people who are looking after a family and people who are on long term sick leave.

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 – published in 2012, it sets out the government's planning policies for England.

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, as amended).

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).

Standardised mortality ratio – The SMR is a comparison of the number of the observed deaths in a population with the number of expected deaths if the age-specific death rates were the same as a standard population. SMRs equal to 100 imply that the mortality rate is the same as the standard mortality rate. A number higher than 100 implies an excess mortality rate whereas a number below 100 implies below average mortality.

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 are used as the unit to present data on deprivation, 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 a 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 -** Shops, retail warehouses, hairdressers, undertakers, travel and ticket agencies, post offices, pet shops, sandwich bars, showrooms, domestic hire shops, dry cleaners, funeral directors and internet cafes.
>
> **A2 Financial and professional services -** Financial services such as banks and building societies, professional services (other than health and medical services) and including estate and employment agencies. It does not include betting offices or pay day loan shops - these are now classed as “sui generis” uses (see below).
>
> **A3 Restaurants and cafés -** For the sale of food and drink for consumption on the premises - restaurants, snack bars and cafes.
>
> **A4 Drinking establishments -** Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments (but not night clubs).
>
> **A5 Hot food takeaways -** For the sale of hot food for consumption off the premises.
>
> **B1 Business -** Offices (other than those that fall within A2), research and development of products and processes, light industry appropriate in a residential area.
>
> **B2 General industrial -** Use for industrial process other than one falling within class B1 (excluding incineration purposes, chemical treatment or landfill or hazardous waste).
>
> **B8 Storage or distribution -** This class includes open air storage.

C1 Hotels - Hotels, boarding and guest houses where no significant element of care is provided (excludes hostels).

C2 Residential institutions - Residential care homes, hospitals, nursing homes, boarding schools, residential colleges and training centres.

C2A Secure Residential Institution - Use for a provision of secure residential accommodation, including use as a prison, young offenders institution, detention centre, secure training centre, custody centre, short term holding centre, secure hospital, secure local authority accommodation or use as a military barracks.

C3 Dwellinghouses - this class is formed of 3 parts:

- C3(a) covers use by a single person or a family (a couple whether married or not, a person related to one another with members of the family of one of the couple to be treated as members of the family of the other), an employer and certain domestic employees (such as an au pair, nanny, nurse, governess, servant, chauffeur, gardener, secretary and personal assistant), a carer and the person receiving the care and a foster parent and foster child.
- C3(b): up to six people living together as a single household and receiving care e.g. supported housing schemes such as those for people with learning disabilities or mental health problems.
- C3(c) allows for groups of people (up to six) living together as a single household. This allows for those groupings that do not fall within the C4 HMO definition, but which fell within the previous C3 use class, to be provided for i.e. a small religious community may fall into this section as could a homeowner who is living with a lodger.

C4 Houses in multiple occupation - small shared houses occupied by between three and six unrelated individuals, as their only or main residence, who share basic amenities such as a kitchen or bathroom.

D1 Non-residential institutions - Clinics, health centres, crèches, day nurseries, day centres, schools, art galleries (other than for sale or hire), museums, libraries, halls, places of worship, church halls, law court. Non residential education and training centres.

D2 Assembly and leisure - Cinemas, music and concert halls, bingo and dance halls (but not night clubs), swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums or area for indoor or outdoor sports and recreations (except for motor sports, or where firearms are used).

Sui Generis Certain uses do not fall within any use class and are considered 'sui generis'. Such uses include: betting offices/shops, pay day loan shops, theatres, larger houses in multiple occupation, hostels providing no significant element of care, scrap yards. Petrol filling stations and shops selling and/or displaying motor vehicles. Retail warehouse clubs, nightclubs, launderettes, taxi businesses, amusement centres and casinos.

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.