



Milton Keynes Council Corporate Plan 2012-16



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Introduction

This Corporate Plan sets out how the Council and its partners will work together to achieve our collective ambitions for Milton Keynes.

In developing this plan we have sought to articulate a vision and outcomes that will continue to make Milton Keynes unique and special and a great place to live for current and future residents. The Corporate Plan is an important vehicle for delivering the ambitions of the Core Strategy which contains the most detailed articulation of future plans for our Borough.

The Corporate Plan contains priority actions for the short-medium term (2-4 years) which we will focus on to deliver significant improvements in the outcomes for local people. We will review on a regular basis where we fall short in meeting the ambitions and needs of citizens and take action to do better.

The Corporate Plan brings together the high level content of existing major strategies and also draws on recent local assessments and consultations to identify future priorities. It is shaped by analyses of information about our fast changing community and its context which can be found in the Milton Keynes Story of Place, the headlines of which are included in Annex A.

Each year we conduct a citizens survey to ensure we keep in touch with residents' views. The 2010/11 survey asked local people about their communities.

- Asked "What is most important in making somewhere a good place to live", residents most frequently responded: the level of crime, health services, clean streets, parks and open spaces, education provision and affordable decent homes.
- Asked "What most needs improving", residents most frequently responded: road and pavement repairs, activities for teenagers and public transport.

The Corporate Plan has been developed within the context of a rapidly changing national policy framework. Major changes are underway in relation to health, policing, housing and planning. For Milton Keynes as a fast growing place, changes to spatial planning policy are especially significant and we must ensure we are able to respond effectively.

There have also been changes at a local level with the Conservatives forming a minority administration following local elections in May 2011.

The Corporate Plan describes our approach to transforming Milton Keynes Council so it is fit to meet existing and new challenges and is able to respond rapidly to the requirements of the community.

The work we need to do is in the context of a challenging financial backdrop where the expectation is that all public sector partners need to do more with less. The Corporate Plan has been shaped by the Comprehensive Spending Review settlement that has determined the Council's budget over a four year period up to March 2015. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy produces the

framework for resource allocation decisions that will support the delivery of the Corporate Plan.

1. A Vision for Milton Keynes

Milton Keynes: 'Where we think differently, create opportunity and believe in people'.

Milton Keynes has grown from a collection of small towns and villages into a significant sub-regional centre in less than 40 years. Outside the 'city', the surrounding rural area has attractive countryside with a range of villages and small towns, which provide contrast to the urban area.

Urban Milton Keynes has been built with future growth in mind and is regarded as the largest and most successful British New Town. It has a distinctive grid system and extensive green public space. It is a place fuelled by change and strong aspirations. Nothing has ever stood still in Milton Keynes; this is what makes us different. The ability to create our own future and manage change allows us to pursue new strategies and respond to the needs of investors and changing economic and social circumstances faster than older, more established cities in the UK and Europe. We have a strong track record of planning and delivery; what we can do, have done and will do.

Our vision is:

- To ensure Milton Keynes is the premier 'can do' place of the 21st century. The city, together with the rural parts of our Borough, will continue to be a wonderful place to live, work, learn, shop and relax.
- To secure sustainable housing and employment growth that is advantageous for Milton Keynes subject to the timely provision of infrastructure and proactive regeneration to ensure no areas are left behind and that a two-speed city does not result.
- That people and firms will want to move here and stay here, and visitors will want to come here and come back often. Milton Keynes will have a compelling "offer" that includes rising standards of living and a safe and good quality of life for all.
- To create homes and neighbourhoods in new areas or through regeneration that help make our compelling "offer" a reality.
- That our residents have access to all the services they need and have the support to access opportunities and enjoy a healthy and good quality of life. Above all we must ensure that Milton Keynes offers job and career opportunities for all through an enterprising and thriving economy.

The job of the Council, with its partners, is to make this vision a reality. There is much to celebrate about Milton Keynes but there are also things that need to change and improve.

Through the Corporate Plan we aim to set out our shared ambitions for Milton Keynes and to improve those elements that do not meet the high aspirations we all share for our existing and new communities.

In a modern setting, where the development and provision of services is open to a wide variety of providers and solutions, we will seek to ensure high quality and efficient services through all the means at our disposal. This will include influence, persuasion, policy-making and the commissioning or direct provision of services.

The Council will listen to and work with everyone to make Milton Keynes a great place for all.

Corporate Plan 2012-16 Vision, Themes and Outcomes

Level 1:
Corporate Plan
Vision

Milton Keynes

Where we think differently, create opportunity and believe in people

Level 2:
Themes

WORLD CLASS MK

LIVING IN MK

WORKING
IN MK

VISITING MK

CLEANER, GREENER
SAFER, HEALTHIER MK

Milton Keynes will be recognised internationally for:

- Its distinctive and flexible urban design
- Being a leading city for new approaches and technologies
- Being a premier sporting city
- Being an exemplar for building and supporting new communities
- Its distinctive arts and heritage

Everyone, in Milton Keynes will:

- Be satisfied with their area as a place to live
- Enjoy happy and fulfilled lives
- Be safe from harm and neglect
- Achieve their full potential
- Experience choice and control
- Enjoy personal dignity and respect

Milton Keynes will have:

- A mix of businesses that give a thriving and resilient economy
- High levels of inward investment and business growth
- Excellent opportunities to access training to improve skills
- High levels of employment opportunities for current and potential residents
- Support that ensures businesses and residents can best survive economic difficulties

Milton Keynes will have:

- A strong reputation as a visitor destination, nationally and internationally
- A strong leisure, retail and cultural offer, including a safe and vibrant night time economy
- Excellent transport links to all parts of the UK
- Efficient, accessible and integrated internal transport

Residents of Milton Keynes will:

- Be healthy and have a sense of well-being
 - Occupy fit for purpose housing that meets individual needs.
- Milton Keynes will be a place which:**
- Is safe and with a low fear of crime
 - Is clean and has high quality open, green public space and buildings
 - Minimises waste
 - Is committed to implementation of a low carbon agenda

Level 3:
Outcomes

Cross-cutting priorities and activity to enable delivery of outcomes

Organisational Transformation Programme.

Build the council's capacity to provide good quality, efficient and effective services, enabling delivery of outcomes and organisational transformation

1. Public Access
2. Children and Families
3. Health & Wellbeing

4. Alternative Models of Service Delivery
5. Organisational Structure and Processes
6. Business Opportunities

Equality and Cohesion

Make Milton Keynes a place where opportunities are created and barriers to achievement are removed

2. Themes, Outcomes and Priorities for Milton Keynes

Outcomes have been established to give focus to delivering our vision. The outcomes have been brought together within a framework of themes to help communicate our ambitions for Milton Keynes. All public services contribute to the themes and outcomes, as do community and voluntary sector organisations and businesses.

To provide focus in the medium term a series of priority actions have been proposed for the next 2 - 4 years. Progress will be monitored regularly against them and reported publicly.

2.1 Theme - World Class MK

Ambition

We aim to increase the international and national standing of Milton Keynes through a focus on distinctive issues that give definition to our “offer”. These include a dynamic economy, thriving communities and a safe and high quality environment.

We will make links with key cities, companies and other organisations around the world to seek out inspirational ideas, to share best practice and to make strategic links, thus ensuring Milton Keynes’ central place on the world stage.

Milton Keynes is growing in terms of its population and economy. We must continue to build on our strengths and unique qualities so that businesses and people are attracted to live and work here as well as stay.

Civil society - the voluntary and community sector - has a key role to play in building and supporting our communities.

Outcomes

Milton Keynes will be recognised internationally for:

- Its distinctive and flexible urban design
- Being a leading city for new approaches and technologies
- Being a premier sporting city
- Being an exemplar for building and supporting new communities
- Its distinctive arts and heritage

Priorities

- Revise the Central Milton Keynes Framework that guides future development of the city centre

- Establish exemplar projects to position Milton Keynes as a leading Smart City and low carbon economy
- Enable Next Generation Access broadband and improve digital infrastructure for residents and businesses
- Foster the growth of a thriving knowledge led economy
- Expand university education and research in Milton Keynes
- Deliver projects that establish Milton Keynes as an International Sporting City
- Increase social capital within new and regeneration communities
- Enable, support and celebrate a flourishing civil society

2.2 Theme – Living in MK

Ambition

We wish to create a Milton Keynes “offer” that articulates those things that make the Borough of Milton Keynes so attractive to existing and new residents. We will be guided by this offer, in both new areas and regeneration areas.

All those living in Milton Keynes should enjoy happy and fulfilled lives, and be safe from harm and neglect and achieve their full potential. We aim to have strong communities with a sense of pride. People in urban and rural areas should be satisfied with Milton Keynes as a place to live and be effectively supported through high quality and efficient services, including those they develop and manage themselves.

The work across all the themes will aim to achieve this. We must continually review how well we are meeting the ambitions and needs of local citizens and work hard to do better where we fall short.

Outcomes

Everyone, in Milton Keynes will:

- Be satisfied with their area as a place to live
- Enjoy happy and fulfilled lives
- Be safe from harm and neglect
- Achieve their full potential
- Experience choice and control

- Enjoy personal dignity and respect

Priorities

- Articulate the Milton Keynes “Offer” – the key things that make Milton Keynes unique and special and a great place to live for current and future residents – and implement plans to improve those aspects of Milton Keynes that are not yet consistent with the aspirations of the “Offer”
- Encourage the building of a mix of sizes, types and tenures of homes, including social rented accommodation, that will meet the needs and aspirations of Milton Keynes’ existing residents and the new residents we wish to attract
- Raise active participation and the opportunities to take part in sport, leisure and cultural activity and volunteering
- Support the project to deliver the Bedford and Milton Keynes Waterway
- Encourage local communities and the voluntary and community sector to become involved in managing community assets
- Develop and maintain strong local partnerships to improve outcomes for children and young people
- Challenge all schools, settings and services to be outstanding, enabling them to take the lead in driving up standards and safeguarding children and only intervening when outcomes are not good enough
- Develop and maintain effective services and interventions that enable those children and young people who face barriers to participation to successfully overcome them
- Develop and maintain effective services and interventions that keep the most vulnerable children and young people safe and prevent them from experiencing additional difficulties
- Develop cost effective models of support and care for vulnerable people that ensure they regain and maintain independence
- Deliver choice and control for individuals requiring support by providing preventative, community based approaches and outcome focused personalised care and support

2.3 Theme – Working in MK

Ambition

We aim to bring people, jobs and industries to Milton Keynes to improve the strength and resilience of the local economy. We will target in particular those business

sectors that will help achieve the economic mix we believe is right for our future prosperity.

We also aim to improve the skills and opportunities of all people in Milton Keynes and help them into work in addition to attracting and retaining businesses to provide those opportunities.

Outcomes

Milton Keynes will have:

- A mix of businesses that give a thriving and resilient economy
- High levels of inward investment and business growth
- Excellent opportunities to access training to improve skills
- High levels of employment opportunities for current and potential residents
- Support that ensures businesses and residents can best survive economic difficulties

Priorities

- Encourage inward investment in target sectors and provide support and advice to businesses moving/recently established in Milton Keynes
- Create an environment that will support business start ups and growth, including a full range of business support services
- Increase everyone's career opportunities by improving the overall skills and qualifications profile of the resident population
- Improve access to training and job opportunities, especially for those with no skills or low skill levels focussing specifically on training, job search and work experience opportunities for the low skilled, those in regeneration areas and the 16-24 age group
- Establish Central Milton Keynes as a Business Neighbourhood Plan "Frontrunner"
- Direct resources to ensuring businesses and residents can best survive the current economic difficulties and emerge from the downturn in a stronger position

2.4 Theme – Visiting MK

Ambition

We aim to make Milton Keynes a premier visitor destination with a safe and effective transport system which is easily accessible regionally, nationally and internationally. We want people to come here from farther afield; we want them to visit more places here, stay longer, enjoy a safe and vibrant night time experience, spend more, enthuse about Milton Keynes when they get home, and come back soon.

Promoting the cultural and entertainment offer including a biennial International Arts Festival feature as a priority. Other attractions including the National Bowl, Xscape, Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes Museum, Willen Lake, Emberton Park, The Stables, the Theatre and Gallery and a wider range of voluntary arts and heritage organisations continue to be promoted to attract visitors.

Outcomes

Milton Keynes will have:

- A strong reputation as a visitor destination, nationally and internationally
- A strong leisure, retail and cultural offer, including a safe and vibrant night time economy
- Excellent transport links to all parts of the UK
- Efficient, accessible and integrated internal transport

Priorities

- Promote and market Milton Keynes and its attractions to visitors
- Improve services and attractions for visitors
- Stage a biennial International Arts Festival
- Deliver quality and sustainable public transport initiatives and information
- Continue to improve points of entry to Milton Keynes

2.5 Theme – Cleaner, Greener, Safer and Healthier MK

Ambition

We aim to improve health and well-being, reduce health inequalities and work with partners to reduce crime and disorder to improve the quality of life in Milton Keynes. Improving the range and quality of housing and enhancing the open green spaces which are a unique feature of the urban area are also outcomes from this theme.

Outcomes

Residents of Milton Keynes will:

- Be healthy and have a sense of wellbeing
- Occupy fit for purpose housing that meets individual needs.

Milton Keynes will be a place which:

- Is safe and with a low fear of crime
- Is clean and has high quality open, green public space and buildings
- Minimises waste
- Is committed to the implementation of a low carbon agenda

Priorities

- Improve the quality of properties of all tenure and reduce the numbers of people in temporary accommodation
- Develop an affordable, sustainable and high quality housing market
- Reduce crime and the fear of crime
- Develop a Residual Waste Treatment Facility for the Borough
- Maintain, protect and enhance the open spaces and Country Parks
- Take on a leadership role as public health responsibilities are transferred to the Council and develop an approach to reduce health inequalities
- Work with health partners to ensure strong local joint commissioning and integrated health and social care services
- Establish a Health and Wellbeing Board that will work to improve the lives of residents
- Develop cost effective regulatory services

2.6 Cross-cutting theme: Organisational Transformation and Improvement

To be able to deliver improved outcomes, the Council is transforming the way it works and delivers services through an Organisational Transformation Programme (OTP).

The OTP aims to create a more efficient council that is able to respond flexibly and rapidly to the requirements of the community and other aspects of its operating context.

The OTP is built around six work streams:

1. Public Access
2. Children and Families
3. Health & Wellbeing
4. Alternative Models of Service Delivery
5. Organisational Structure and Processes
6. Business Opportunities

Projects are underway to deliver the above and achieve the efficiencies and improvements needed to allow the Council, with its partners, to deliver against this programme.

The Organisational Transformation Programme Board receives monthly progress reports against each of the projects and quarterly reports are presented to Council Cabinet meetings.

3. Delivering the vision

Strong leadership and partnership working will be needed to deliver the aspirations we have for Milton Keynes. We work with many partners to achieve improved outcomes.

The activities that underpin the delivery of the priority actions outlined in this plan are reflected in strategies, plans, programmes and projects including partnership plans.

Two arenas where partnership working is of growing importance are the region and the neighbourhood.

The South East Midland Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) is a relatively new body that brings together businesses and local government together with universities and colleges, community groups, social enterprises in Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, Cherwell, Aylesbury Vale and Dacorum. Together these partners are working closely with Government to support inward investment, innovation, economic growth, new enterprise and job creation. The council will be working as a key contributor to this partnership which will significantly support the priorities of our Economic Development Strategy.

At the neighbourhood level, Parish and Town Councils deliver support and services for people in their Parishes throughout the Borough. There are 39 established Parish and Town Councils, 6 Parish Meetings (smaller communities which meet once a year) plus 2 Parishes newly established in an area on the western side of Milton Keynes. The Parishes contribute too many aspects of governance in Milton Keynes, contributing through their own functions, and cross-cutting inputs on a variety of bodies and boards. In future the provisions of the Parishes' Protocol and the Localism agenda mean that Parish, Town and Community Councils will have an opportunity for a greatly-widened service delivery role in Milton Keynes.

Measuring Progress

The Corporate Plan reflects key strategies and plans of the Council and partners. These include performance measures against which we track our progress.

The Corporate Plan will be supported by a performance document that will capture the actions to deliver the priorities including measures (indicators) and accountability.

The Council's Service Group Plans and Medium-Term Financial Strategy will be developed in the context of the Corporate Plan and its delivery. Quarterly corporate performance reports will be made in its implementation.

Equality Performance

Equality is at the heart of Milton Keynes Council's plans. It is fundamental to making Milton Keynes a place where opportunities are created and barriers to achievement are removed. This is summed up in the Council's commitment to "listen to and work with everyone to make Milton Keynes great place for all".

An Equality Scheme which develops from the Corporate Plan will be published; describing how the council will work to “improve the way we engage, think, plan and act to deliver equality and accessibility for everyone, every day” (our Equality Vision).

It will further develop the relevant themes in the Corporate Plan, as set out in its Equality Impact Assessment (<http://bit.ly/EQIA-CP>), and will highlight the council’s equality objectives. Progress towards delivering the Equality Scheme will be reported annually.

Links:

Corporate Equality Scheme <http://bit.ly/Equality-Scheme>

Annual Equality Report <http://bit.ly/Equality-Report>

Annex A

Milton Keynes Story of Place

What is shaping the vision?

Milton Keynes is one of the fastest growing places in the UK, and our population has quadrupled from 1967 to 2010. The facts and figures below, alongside the results of a recent citizens survey and budget consultation have helped to inform our outcomes and priorities framework.

Demography

- The scale and pace of development in Milton Keynes is unique in the UK, with around 2,500 to 3,000 new residents welcomed each year. Since it was designated a New Town in 1967, the Borough's population has grown from 60,000 to 236,700¹, with development plans indicating an overall population in 2026 of almost 300,000.
- The population growth from 2009 to 2026 in England is estimated at 12%. This compares with our growth target of 26% for Milton Keynes. The growth in young people will be strong and exceed that observed nationally. For example, the growth in 0-4 year olds to 2026 is expected to be around 10% in Milton Keynes, compared to a 7% increase in this age group nationally. The school age population is also expected to grow by over a third in Milton Keynes, compared to a 13% increase in the school age population nationally. 5-16 year olds will make up 16% of the Milton Keynes total population compared to the comparable age group which will make up 14% of total England population in 2026.
- Milton Keynes has had a younger age profile than England and a relatively small older population. By 2026 Milton Keynes will still have fewer older people than the national average but many more than today. The forecast percentage increase for over 60's in Milton Keynes by 2026 is 85% compared to national increase of 34%. The forecast for over 80s is growth of over 130% - from 7,000 population to over 16,100².
- The population is becoming ethnically more diverse through inward migration and the growth of our established black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. The figures³ for Milton Keynes suggest 19.4% of the total population were from an ethnic group other than 'white British'. The comparable estimate for England is 17.2%. The population diversity will continue to grow strongly. The 2011 schools census found that BME pupils comprise 32.8% of the overall Milton Keynes pupil population (compared to 23.4% in England under the school census 2010). The Black African group is

¹ 2009 Mid Year Estimates ONS

² Population Bulletin 2010/11

³ Milton Keynes Intelligence

the largest ethnic group in Milton Keynes schools, accounting for 8.6% of pupils. The next largest is the Mixed group at 5.8%.

- Milton Keynes is a relatively prosperous place and has a local authority rank of 211 out of 326 in the national index of deprivation 2010, where 1 is the most deprived. This is similar to the 2007 rank of 212. There are, however, significant concentrations of deprivation within the borough. 18 of the 139 lower super output areas in Milton Keynes are within the 20% most deprived in England, compared to 15 in the 2007 index. This continues the trend, seen between the 2004 and 2007 indices, of increasing numbers in the most and in the least deprived quintiles of the national population.

Health

- There is a strong relationship between deprivation and ill health, demonstrated by the lower levels of life expectancy in wards with the lowest levels of income. The life expectancy gap over the period 2005 – 2009 between the ward with the lowest life expectancy at birth and the Milton Keynes average is 5.15 years⁴.
- Life expectancy at birth continues to rise: for men (77.9) it is the same as the average for the UK and ranked 225 (where 1 is the highest) out of 404. Life expectancy at age 65 is 17.8 years, the same as the UK average. For women, life expectancy at birth is 82.2 years, and is now above the UK average by over 2 months and ranked 224. Female life expectancy at age 65 is 20.3 years, which is slightly below the UK average⁵.
- The principal health issues are cardiovascular disease, alcohol misuse and obesity. The leading causes of death are cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory disease. Cardiovascular disease and cancers account for the majority of premature deaths in those under 75 and are responsible for over 5,500 potential years of life lost every year in the Milton Keynes population.

Education

- Outcomes are improving against an increasing number of national measures for attainment and progress. Measures of attainment for children and young people from some vulnerable groups remain a particular concern.
- The achievement of five-year-olds is better than in similar areas and the gap for those not doing as well is closing quickly.
- More primary schools now reach the national minimum standards for pupil performance and test results for 11-year-olds are improving, such that they are now only a little lower than those in similar areas. Pupil progress is also in line with similar areas.

⁴ MK Intelligence

⁵ The Office for National Statistics

- Examination results in 2010 for 16-year-olds improved significantly and more than in similar areas, due in part to more schools reaching minimum standards but the attainment gap for those with special educational needs is getting bigger.
- More 17-year-olds are now in education or training. More young people are gaining lower and higher level qualifications at age 19, but they are still not as well qualified as their peers in similar areas. At higher levels, the gap for those from families with low incomes is growing.

Economy

- Milton Keynes is well connected to national strategic transport networks. Some 18 million people live within a 90 minute journey of Milton Keynes. This makes it an attractive location for businesses that require access to markets of a significant size, including retail and leisure.
- In 2008 Milton Keynes attracted 53,000 in-commuters and had 18,000 out-commuters giving a net in-commuting of 35,000 people. This compares with a net in-commuting figure of 16,000 in 2001 and reveals the growing strength of Milton Keynes as a sub-regional centre. It is estimated that 9% of the working age population in Milton Keynes work from home.
- Milton Keynes ranked highly in the Cities Outlook 2011 annual report⁶ which charts the economic status of the 64 largest cities in Great Britain. It was identified as one of the top five city economies with strong prospects for economic growth. Between 1998 and 2008 the city created 22,400 private sector jobs, a figure that saw it ranked sixth in England for absolute numbers behind the major cities of London, Bristol, Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle.
- The rate of economic growth has not always been consistently strong. In Gross Value Added terms, Milton Keynes was the fastest growing economy in the South East between 1997 and 2003 but reported one of the lowest average growth rates in the South East between 2002 and 2006.
- The recession that began in 2008 saw unemployment in Milton Keynes rise faster than the national increase. Unemployment subsequently fell to a rate of 3.4% in December 2010 but rose again to 4.1% in April 2011. The level of unemployment tends to be higher than the South East average but is similar to neighbouring urban centres. The structure of the economy including the high private sector proportion means that the economy is more sensitive to changes than other economies. As a result, it is typically first into recession and first to come out of recession.
- The number of business units (businesses using premises) in Milton Keynes has risen from 8,065 in 1998 to 10,971 in 2008, an increase of 36%. In 2009 the number of business units in Milton Keynes was 11,065.

⁶ Private Sector Cities'

- Employment in all sectors of the economy in Milton Keynes rose from 112,992 employees in 1998 to 142,620 in 2008, a 26% increase, but fell to 137,240 in 2009.
- Milton Keynes has a strong and established track record of attracting both UK and foreign investment as well as providing an environment that supports additional investment within its existing business base. Many companies and organisations have their headquarters in Milton Keynes. Network Rail is a good example of a national company building its operations headquarters in Milton Keynes, bringing over 3,000 jobs to the local economy, confirmation that Milton Keynes is a premier location for investment.

Adult Skills

- Skills levels in Milton Keynes have lagged behind national and regional averages, a position that is changing. The proportion of Milton Keynes residents of working age with high level skills (NVQ4+) rose from 29.3% in 2008 to 33.8% in 2009 (compared to a figure of 29.9% for England). The figure fell slightly to 33.3% in 2010. Performance at NVQ3+ showed improvement from 47.4% in 2008 to 50.3% in 2009 and 53.6% in 2010 (England = 48.9%).
- There has been an improvement in the proportion of Milton Keynes residents of working age without any qualifications which fell from 10.4% in 2008, to 9.3% in 2009 and 8.9% in 2010. The 2009 figure for England was 12.3%.
- Almost one third of the unemployed people in Milton Keynes looking for work since January 2009 are seeking jobs in the elementary (low or no skill) occupations. The number of Milton Keynes residents who started Apprenticeships increased from 509 in 2009/10 to 860 in 2010/11, an increase in starts of 69%.
- Skills development for young people and those over 50, to help them take up opportunities in the labour market, are a specific concern.

Housing

- Milton Keynes has determined in its Core Strategy that 28,000 new additional homes will be built up to 2026. This represents a figure of some 1,750 homes per year.
- The dominant household type in Milton Keynes is an adult couple with children. This group represents around 25% of the total number of households.
- Over half of the current housing stock is detached and semi detached. Terraced housing comprises another third of the total, flats account for 12% with 0.9% being converted dwellings rather than purpose built.
- There are an estimated 580 houses in multiple occupation (HMO) which provide a source of affordable accommodation and form a significant part of the private rented housing stock. The 177 licensed HMO's in Milton Keynes are licensed for a total of 1111 persons.

- 74% of all properties across the area are owner occupied or private rented. 11% of the stock is rented from Milton Keynes Council and a further 8% from other registered social landlords. The remaining 7% are shared ownership.⁷

Transport

- Milton Keynes is a regional transport hub with excellent connections to the national strategic transport networks including the M1, A5 and the West Coast Main Line (WCML). Combined with the excellent local transport networks this provides the foundations for a strong economic centre.
- At current rates of growth, there will be a 57% increase in travel demand in the period to 2031⁸. The grid system is one of the strengths of the city but we are now beginning to experience peak hour congestion at junctions. The WCML will be operating at capacity by 2024.
- Annual Bus patronage has increased by around 18% from 6.9 million passengers in 2003/04 to 8.2 million in 2009/10. This shows strong performance when compared to the population growth of 10.5% in the same period.

Community Safety

- Milton Keynes is continually becoming a safer place in which to live and work. During 2010/11 total crime reduced by 3.7% representing 940 fewer offences and serious acquisitive crime saw a significant reduction of 10%⁹ (427 fewer crimes).
- There has been a 20.9% decrease in crimes of serious violence representing 452 fewer offences although assault with serious crime saw a lower reduction of 1.3% which was one less offence.
- Since April 2010 all categories of crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) have continued to see reductions. Police recorded ASB saw a reduction of 20.4% (2081 less incidents) and Police and Council ASB combined saw a decrease of 14%, (2918 less incidents) during the period.

Spatial Planning/Growth

- There are just over 11,000 registered businesses operating in Milton Keynes and Milton Keynes has one of the highest levels of new enterprises created per year in the country.
- There are sufficient housing sites already identified in the city to meet our urban housing requirements, although the Core Strategy sets a rationale for identifying sites in rural areas.

⁷ MKC 2011 Tenure Estimates

⁸ Milton Keynes Revised Proposed Core Strategy (Milton Keynes Council, 2010)

⁹ Thames Valley Police

- The housing target is 28,000 homes by 2026 with an average of 1,750 per year.
- In terms of supporting new retail development growth this will be focused on Central Milton Keynes and the centres of Bletchley, Newport Pagnell, Stony Stratford, Olney, Woburn Sands, Wolverton, Westcroft and Kingston.
- We have a target to reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions by 40% by 2020 to help reduce our Carbon Footprint which is one of the highest in the South East.
- Improving access to Broadband is a priority as some 30% of premises in the borough receive a service of less than 2Mbps. The lack of high quality digital infrastructure could impair Milton Keynes in attracting new investment and businesses, especially knowledge based industries. Good progress on a next generation broadband strategy means that 90% of homes and businesses are now within reach of infrastructure that can provide more than 20Mbps.
- The older centres (Wolverton and Bletchley), as well as the older estates, have challenges regarding ageing physical infrastructure; particularly as the design life of some of these has been exceeded.
- The city has 8 linear parks that are a unique asset; they provide high quality, continuous open space accessible to all residents. Milton Keynes also has many smaller pockets of open space, often with trees that soften the impact of build development. The open space in the city (40%) compares very favourably with other towns.

Annex B

Strategies and Plans

Strategy/Plan

Adult Skills Framework 2011-2015

Arts Strategy

Buckinghamshire and MK Rural Strategy

Bus Strategy

Central Milton Keynes Development Framework

Comprehensive Equality Scheme 2010-2013

Core Strategy

Economic Development Strategy

Heritage Strategy

Housing Strategy

Joint Commissioning Strategy 2006-2011

Library Strategy

Local Investment Plan 2009-2011

Local Transport Plan

Low Carbon Strategy & Action Plan 2010-2020

Medium Term Financial Plan 2011-2015

Meeting Future Needs of Older People / Joint Commissioning Service Plan

MK Cultural Strategy

Milton Keynes Open Space Strategy

Municipal Waste Strategy 2005-2012

Neighbourhood Regeneration Strategy

NHS Milton Keynes Strategic Plan 2008-2013

Public Arts Strategy

Safer MK Plan 2009-2012

Sport and Leisure Strategy

Web Link

[See Action Plan of Economic Development Strategy](#)

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<http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/Public-Arts-Strategy>

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