

## Glossary

<b>Adoption</b>	The final confirmation of a development plan or Local Development Document as having statutory status by a Local Planning Authority (LPA).
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	Housing, whether it be for the outright sale, rent, shared equity (i.e part owned, part rented) or staircasing to full ownership (ie purchasing the property in stages), within the financial means of households that are otherwise unable to secure private sector housing for purchase or rent in prevailing economic circumstances.
<b>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</b>	A report submitted to Government by local planning authorities containing a review of progress in preparing the Local Development Documents, showing what the current planning policies are achieving, whether the impacts of those policies are as predicted and whether changes are needed.
<b>Area Action Plan</b>	A type of Development Plan Document focused upon a specific location or an area subject to significant change (for example major regeneration).
<b>Community Plan</b>	A strategy prepared by local authorities to help deliver local community aspirations, under the Local Government Act 2000.
<b>Core Strategy (CS)</b>	A Development Plan Document setting out a long-term spatial vision and spatial strategy for Cherwell District which will provide a strategic framework for more detailed Development Plan Documents.
<b>Development Plan</b>	A document setting out the local planning authority's policies and proposals for the development and use of land and buildings in the authority's area. It includes Structure and Local Plans, and new Regional Spatial Strategies and Development Plan Documents prepared under the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
<b>Development Plan Documents (DPDs)</b>	These are Local Development Documents that are part of the development plan. The DPDs which local planning authorities must prepare, include the core strategy, site-specific allocations of land and, where needed, area action plans. There will also be a proposals map, which illustrates the spatial extent of policies. All DPDs must be subject to independent examination. The inspector's report is binding.
<b>Evidence Base</b>	The information and data gathered by local authorities to justify the "soundness" of the policy approach set out in Local Development Documents, including physical, economic, and social characteristics of an area.
<b>Examination</b>	The process by which an independent planning Inspector may consider whether a Development Plan Document or a Statement of Community Involvement is sound before issuing a binding report.
<b>GOSE/GO</b>	Government Office for the South East, sometimes referred to as the Government Office
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Drainage, transport, schools, health centres etc required to serve particular developments or an area.
<b>Inset Map</b>	A map showing part of the proposals map for Cherwell District at a larger scale. The proposals on the inset map are not shown on the main part of the proposals map.

<b>Key Diagram</b>	The diagrammatic interpretation of the spatial strategy as set out in the Core Strategy Development Plan Document.
<b>Local Development Documents (LDDs)</b>	These are Development Plan Documents, which are part of the statutory development plan, Supplementary Planning Documents, and the Statement of Community Involvement. They form part of the Local Development Framework
<b>Local Development Framework (LDF)</b>	The local development framework is a non-statutory term used to describe a folder of documents containing the local planning authority's Local Development Documents and related documents (which include the Local Development Scheme and the Annual Monitoring Report).
<b>Local Development Scheme (LDS)</b>	The local planning authority's programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents that must be agreed with Government and reviewed every year.
<b>Local Plan</b>	An old-style part of the development plan usually prepared by a District for the whole of its area. The policies in adopted Local Plans be saved and will continue to operate for a time, usually three years, by virtue of the transitional arrangements in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
<b>Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)</b>	A group of people representing and bringing together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sector within a local authority area, with the objective of improving the quality of life of the local community.
<b>Local Transport Plan</b>	A five-year transport strategy, prepared by local authorities in partnership with the community, seeking funding to help provide local transport projects.
<b>Planning &amp; Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (TPCPA)</b>	The Act updates elements of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ a statutory system of regional planning;</li> <li>▪ local development frameworks.</li> </ul>
<b>Planning Delivery Grant (PDG)</b>	Government funding (about £600 million between 2003 and 2008) for regional planning bodies and local authorities to improve the planning system and deliver sustainable communities. Allocations are based on assessments of performance across a range of planning functions.
<b>Planning Inspectorate</b>	The Government body responsible for providing independent inspectors for planning inquiries and examinations of development plan documents and statements of community involvement.
<b>Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)</b>	Issued by central Government setting out its national planning policies and planning guidance for England.
<b>Planning Policy Statement (PPS)</b>	Issued by central Government setting out its national planning policies for England. It excludes national planning guidance which will be published separately in future.
<b>Proposals Map</b>	The component of a development plan or LDF showing on an Ordnance Survey map where policies and proposals apply.
<b>Regeneration</b>	The economic, social and environmental renewal and improvement of rural and urban areas.

## APPENDIX I

<b>Regional Planning Body (RPB) / Regional Assembly</b>	Each of the English regions outside of London has a body of representatives from local government, business etc which is called the Regional Assembly. It is responsible for developing and co-ordinating a strategic vision for improving the quality of life in the region and preparing regional strategies, including the Regional Spatial Strategy. Cherwell District is in the South East region and the Regional Assembly is the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA).
<b>Regional Planning Guidance (RPG)</b>	Regional planning policy and guidance that has been issued for each region in England by the Secretary of State. The RPG for the South East is RPG9 which will be the Regional Spatial Strategy until replaced by the new RSS, the South East Plan.
<b>Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)</b>	A strategy for how a region should look in 15 to 20 years time or longer. It will identify the scale and distribution of new housing in the region and sub-regions and priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal. Most former Regional Planning Guidance is now the RSS and forms part of the development plan. New RSS is being prepared by RPBs. The new RSS for the South East will be the South East Plan.
<b>Regulations</b>	This means “The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004” unless indicated otherwise.
<b>Rural Diversification</b>	The expansion, enlargement or variation of the range of products or fields of operation of a rural business. It includes farm diversification.
<b>Saved Policies / Saved Plan</b>	Policies within adopted Structure Plans and Local Plans that are saved for a period, usually three years, before they are replaced by policies in a Regional Spatial Strategy or a Development Plan Document.
<b>Sound/ Soundness</b>	A Development Plan Document will be sound if it passes tests of procedure, conformity (with other plans etc), coherence, consistency and effectiveness. A DPD is considered “sound” unless shown to be otherwise as a result of evidence considered at an examination. The SCI will also be examined for soundness.
<b>Spatial Planning</b>	Spatial planning goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. That will include policies which can impact on land use, for example by influencing the demands on, or needs for, development, but which are not capable of being delivered solely or mainly through the granting or refusal of planning permission and which may be implemented by other means.
<b>Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Statutory</b>	The SCI sets out standards to be achieved by the local authority in involving the community in the preparation, alteration and continuing review of all DPDs and SPDs and development control decisions. Required by law (statute).

<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</b>	<p>An environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, including those in the field of planning and land use, which complies with the EU Directive 2001/42/EC. The environmental assessment involves the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ preparation of an environmental report;</li> <li>▪ carrying out of consultations;</li> <li>▪ taking into account of the environmental report and the results of the consultations in decision making;</li> <li>▪ provision of information when the plan or programme is adopted; and</li> <li>▪ showing that the results of the environment assessment have been taken into account.</li> </ul>
<b>Structure Plan</b>	<p>An old-style part of the development plan, which sets out strategic planning policies and forms the basis for detailed policies in local plans. Structure Plans will continue to operate for a time after the commencement of the new development plan system, by virtue of the transitional arrangements of the Planning and compulsory Purchase Act 2004.</p>
<b>Submission/Sub mission Document</b>	<p>A Development Plan Document and the SCI is submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination by a Government appointed Planning Inspector.</p>
<b>Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</b>	<p>A Local Development Document that adds detail to a DPD but does not create policy. There is no examination.</p>
<b>Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)</b>	<p>Produced under the old planning system and adding detail to a policy in a local plan. SPG can be saved under the transitional arrangements but only when based on a saved policy.</p>
<b>Sustainability Appraisal (SA)</b>	<p>The process of weighing and assessing all the policies in a development plan, Local Development Document, or Regional Spatial Strategy, for their global, national and local implications in respect of sustainable development. (See also Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainable Development).</p>
<b>Sustainable Communities Plan</b>	<p>A long-term programme of action, published in February 2003, to tackle the shortage of housing in London and the South East and low demand and abandonment in the North and Midlands and to create sustainable communities.</p>
<b>Sustainable Development</b>	<p>A widely used definition drawn up by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987: "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". The Government has set out four aims for sustainable development in its strategy "A Better Quality of Life, a Strategy for Sustainable Development in the UK". The four aims, to be achieved at the same time, are: social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; effective protection of the environment; the prudent use of natural resources; and maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.</p>
<b>Transitional Arrangements</b>	<p>The change from the old to the new planning system whereby Structure and Local plans adopted under the old system and such plans that were well advanced in their preparation are saved, usually for three years, from the commencement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 on 28 September 2004 or from their date of later adoption before being superseded by the new planning system.</p>

- Urban design** The art of making places. It involves the design of buildings, groups of buildings, spaces and landscapes, in villages, towns and cities, and the establishment of frameworks and processes, which facilitate successful development.
- Urban Housing Potential Study (UHPS)** A study produced by a local planning authority to assess the potential of urban areas to accommodate additional housing on vacant, under-used or previously developed land.

## Indicators

The following indicators have been formed from the work undertaken for the SA of the proposed comprehensive planning brief for the former RAF Upper Heyford and initial work on the Core Strategy. They will be used to collect contextual information for the District. Monitoring these indicators will allow the effects of policy implementation to be determined. The indicators will change over time as more work is undertaken on the LDF. These Indicators are discussed further in Appendix 3.

Environmental Indicators	Social Indicators	Economic Indicators
Noise Complaints	Open Space and Play space provision	Examination results
Water Quality	District population	Employment
Flooding	Rural population	Average earnings
Car Ownership	Population densities	Income support claimants
Travel to Work	Age Structure	Income deprived people
Air Quality	Population by ethnic group	Children in low income households
Radon	Total dwellings	Take up of business space
Priority Species	Housing type	New VAT registered businesses
UK Priority Habitat	Housing Tenure	No. of jobs created
Farmland	Unfit housing	Economic growth
Woodland	Property prices	Home based communications technologies
Parkland and Veteran Trees	Affordable housing	
Grassland, grazing marsh and heath land	Overcrowding	
Scrub	Households lacking basic amenities	
Earth heritage	Homelessness	
Bioscores	Recorded crime	
Change in area of UKBAP Priority Habitat in Cherwell	Crime Reduction	
Landscape types for biodiversity	Perception of crime	
SSSI's	Deprivation	
Listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments	Populations health	
Historic parks and gardens	Life expectancy	
Conservation Areas	Long term illness/sick/disabled	
Landscape Character Areas		
Household waste		
Recycling		
Previously developed land		
Contaminated land		

## Contextual and Local Information

The follow sets out information that has been collected to date and its source using the Indicators set out in Appendix 2. Each heading is an Indicator. It is categorised by environmental, social and economic themes. This information is not exhaustive and will be added to or changed as the LDF and SA processes develop. In most cases data will be collected on a regular basis to allow trends to be established.

### Environmental Information

#### Noise Complaints

The number of noise nuisance complaints made to Cherwell District Council every year is illustrated in Table 1 below. It illustrates that there has been an increase in noise complaints since 2000/01, with a particular rise during 2002/03.

**Table 1**  
**Noise Complaints**

Year	Number of Complaints
2000/01	425
2001/02	624
2002/03	726
2003/04	583

#### Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Environmental Health)

#### Water Quality

**Table 2**  
**Percentage of rivers within DEFRA water quality categories in Cherwell for Biology**

Year	Length (km)	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	High
1990	189	70 (67)	23 (29)	2 (4)	1 (1)	0 (0)
1995	198	73 (76)	27 (22)	0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2000	198	86 (76)	14 (23)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2002	198	84 (77)	16 (22)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2003	194	81 (76)	18 (23)	2 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)

*NB Regional figures are shown in grey*

Since 1990 the biological water quality of the rivers in Cherwell has been consistently higher than the regional average, with an overall increase in water quality observed since 1990. While the percentage of rivers categorised as good was significantly higher in 2003 than in 1990 there has been a marked decrease in water quality (biology) in Cherwell since 2000, with more rivers falling into the 'fair' category and

even into the poor category in 2003. While the percentage of rivers within the 'fair' category in 2003 is still below the regional average the regional figures do not follow the same declining trend as that of Cherwell.

**Table 3**  
Percentage of rivers within DEFRA water quality categories in Cherwell for Chemistry

Year	Length (km)	Good	Fair	Poor	Bad	High
1990	246	28 (39)	35(44)	36 (14)	1 (2)	0 (0)
1993	246	48 (-)	44 (-)	9 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)
1994	246	57 (-)	42 (-)	2 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)
1995	246	50 (-)	47 (-)	3 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)
1996	246	50 (55)	44 (38)	6 (8)	0 (1)	0 (0)
1997	246	45 (48)	37(40)	17 (11)	0 (1)	0 (0)
1998	246	52 (55)	32 (34)	16 (11)	0 (0)	0 (0)
1999	246	53 (58)	37 (34)	11(8)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2000	246	58 (65)	29 (30)	12 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2001	246	60 (-)	33 (-)	7 (-)	0 (-)	0 (-)
2002	246	63 (58)	30 (36)	7 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)
2003	246	61 (59)	33 (35)	5 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)

River quality (chemistry) in Cherwell has been improving since 1990 and followed the same trend as the regional figures, although at a slightly lower rate. This is illustrated in Table 3. The trend, however, shows a reduction in the disparity between the regional average and the figures for Cherwell illustrating that river quality (chemistry) in Cherwell is improving at a rate higher than the regional average. The 2003 figure is actually above the regional average, although, there is a slight fall from the previous year 2002.

### Sources

- The Department of the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- The Environment Agency
- English Nature

### Flooding

The District has 1,005 properties located within flood zone 3 (100:1 chance of flooding) at 2005. A flood alleviation scheme has been given planning permission to the north of Banbury which when built will substantially reduce the risk of flooding in the town from the river Cherwell.

### Sources

- The Department of the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- The Environment Agency

### Car Ownership

Car ownership in Cherwell is broadly in line with that of the county and regional averages, although compared to the national average car ownership in Cherwell is much higher.

**Table 4  
Access to a Car or Van (2001)**

	None	One	Two	Three	Four +
England	26.8	43.7	23.6	4.5	1.4
South East	19.4	42.6	29.6	6.3	2.1
Oxfordshire	18.2	42.7	30.5	6.5	2.1
Cherwell	16.6	43.0	32.1	6.3	2.0

### Sources

- ONS 2001 Census

### Travel to Work

The main mode of travel to work and travel to work distances for Cherwell are reflective of the county, regional and to some extent the national average.

**Table 5  
Main Mode of Travel to Work by residence (2001)**

	Works mainly from home	Under-ground, metro, light rail or tram	Train	Bus, minibus or coach	Taxi or minicab	Driving a car or van	Passenger in a car or van	Motorcycle, scooter or moped	Bicycle	On foot	Other
England	9.2	3.2	4.2	7.5	0.5	54.9	6.1	1.1	2.8	10.0	0.5
South East	9.9	0.2	5.6	4.4	0.4	59.2	5.7	1.1	3.1	9.9	0.5
Oxfordshire	10.3	0.1	2.3	6.7	0.2	56.6	5.4	1.1	6.7	10.2	0.4
Cherwell	9.7	0.1	1.7	4.9	0.4	60.9	6.6	1.0	3.9	10.6	0.4

	<b>Work from home</b>	<b>Less than 2km</b>	<b>2km- 5km</b>	<b>5km- 10km</b>	<b>10km- 20km</b>	<b>20km- 30km</b>
England	9.2	20.0	20.0	18.2	15.2	5.3
South East	9.9	20.4	15.2	13.7	14.3	6.7
Oxfordshire	10.3	22.8	15.2	14.6	15.0	6.8
Cherwell	9.7	24.5	13.8	13.1	14.3	7.7

### **Sources**

- ONS 2001 Census

### **Air Quality**

The air quality for Cherwell District, in terms of major pollutants is set out in Table 7 below. Given the current favourable air quality conditions within the District, the Council is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for the following pollutants:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Benzene
- 1,3 Butadiene
- Lead
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Sulphur Dioxide

On the basis of the above, the Council does not have any designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) and therefore none of Cherwell's population live within an AQMA.

<b>Table 7 Pollutant Levels</b>		
<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Cherwell Situation</b>	<b>National Target</b>
Carbon Monoxide	There are no roads in the District with relevant exposure which can be classified as 'very busy' according to the criteria in the guidance. Consequently, Cherwell District Council is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for carbon monoxide.	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (running 8 hour mean)
Benzene	There are no roads in Cherwell which can be classified as "very busy" according to the criteria in the guidance. There are no industrial sources of benzene in the district. There are no petrol stations with a throughput greater than 2 million litres which are near busy roads and which have relevant exposure with 10m of the pumps. Cherwell District Council is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for Benzene	16.25 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (running annual mean) 5 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (annual average)
1,3 Butadiene	There are no significant industrial sources which have the potential to emit 1,3 butadiene. Consequently Cherwell District Council is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for 1,3 butadiene	2.25µg/m <sup>3</sup> (running annual mean)
Lead	There are no significant industrial sources of lead in the District. Concentrations of lead in Cherwell district are not likely to exceed the objectives for lead in 2008. The Council is therefore not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for lead.	0.25µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	There are no significant industrial sources of nitrogen dioxide in Cherwell District. The Contractor Material Review Board (CMRB) screening tool indicates that nitrogen dioxide levels at sites of relevant exposure alongside the district's roads are unlikely to exceed the 2005 annual mean limit value. Furthermore, diffusion tube data generally indicate that the 2005 annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentrations will be below the limit value at the measurement sites. Consequently the Council is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for nitrogen dioxide.	200µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	There are no significant industrial or domestic sources of sulphur dioxide in Cherwell District. Cherwell District is not required to carry out a detailed review and assessment for sulphur dioxide.	350µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year

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PM <sub>10</sub>	The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) screening model indicates that the annual mean objective of 40 µg/m <sup>3</sup> for particulate matter (PM)10 will be met and the number of 24-hour mean exceedences is likely to be lower than 35 at receptors near road junctions	Particles (PM <sub>10</sub> ) 125µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year  266µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 35 times year  50µg/m <sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 35 time per year  40µg/m <sup>3</sup> annual mean
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#### **Sources**

- Cherwell District Council (Environmental Health)

#### **Radon**

The air quality information shown above for major pollutants illustrates that air pollution in Cherwell is not a significant issue, however, significant background levels of Radon are present across most of Cherwell.

#### **Sources**

- Cherwell District Council (Environmental Health)

## UKBAP Priority Habitats

Table 8 shows the amount of each of the Priority Habitats identified in the UKBAP in Cherwell District.

<b>Table 8 Extent of Priority Habitats</b>			
<b>Habitat</b>	<b>District baseline information (hectares)</b>	<b>County context (hectares)</b>	<b>UK context</b>
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	200.0	2467.5	No data avail.
Lowland beech and yew woodland	0.0	563.2	30,000
Wet woodland	14.8	98.4	50,000-70,000
Wood pasture and parkland	25.5	101.3	10,000-20,000
Lowland calcareous grassland	73.7	668.9	<41,000
Lowland meadow	508.6	1100.8	15,000
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	9.2	9.3	300,000
Lowland dry acid grassland	5.3	40.3	<30,000
Lowland heathland	0.2	2.9	58,000
Fen	9.9	92.6	No data avail.
Reedbeds	1.9	6.5	5,000
Eutrophic standing water	19.7	355.8	1785km <sup>2</sup>

## Sources

- TVERC digital mapping

## Priority Species

The South East region supports 55% of the national priority species identified by the UK Biodiversity Group. Cherwell has identified nine Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) in the Cherwell Biodiversity Action Plan comprising Farmland, Woodland, Parkland and Veteran Trees, Grassland/Grazing Marsh and Heathland, Wetland (including fen, flushes and reedbeds), Aquatics, Settlements and Earth Heritage.

<b>Table 9 Priority Species</b>		
<b>Habitat</b>	<b>Percentage of UK Resource (Oxfordshire)</b>	<b>Percentage of UK Resource (South East Region)</b>
Woodland ( <i>including ancient semi-natural woodland</i> )	1.58% (4,770ha)	28.3% (85,555ha)
Lowland wood pasture	2% (4,020ha)	71.6% (14,320ha)
Unimproved grassland and heathland ( <i>including acid and neutral grassland</i> )	0.77% (350ha)	29.8% (13,400ha)
Unimproved calcareous grassland	1.22% (550ha)	21% (9,450ha)
Lowland heathland	0.04% (25ha)	40.1% (23,255ha)
Freshwater systems	1.64% (4,930ha)	9.2% (27,560ha)
<i>Source: South East Region and Oxfordshire – The Biodiversity of South East England: An Audit and Assessment</i>		

## Farmland

The Cherwell Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) states that 85% of the District is farmed as arable or improved grassland. While in the main this is not regarded as prime wildlife habitat, ponds, small woodlands and farm buildings can all contribute to the overall biodiversity of farmland. The redevelopment of redundant buildings can reduce the nesting opportunities for species that favour these locations.

## Woodland

The Cherwell BAP states that the District is lightly wooded with approximately 3.5% of the land covered by woodland. The Cherwell BAP suggests that woodland loss is due to much of the District being cleared for agriculture by early farming settlers. An issue identified in the Cherwell BAP for woodlands is the lack of accessible woodland for the major towns in Cherwell.

## Parkland and Veteran Trees

Parkland along with wood pasture is not found within Cherwell although the District has a number of historic parkland sites to the west and north of Bicester. These are characterised by the presence of scattered old standard trees, known as Veteran trees.

## Grassland, Grazing Marsh and Heathlands

Most of the species-rich meadows are located to the south of the District and include some of the richest and most historic examples of this habitat in the UK. Some of these meadows are examples of ridge and furrow which is a historic landscape

feature. The lowland calcareous grassland in Cherwell District includes grassland that has escaped agricultural improvement or has developed on non-farmed land on the limestone. The Cherwell BAP states that this is found mainly on the plateau to the east of the Cherwell Valley and north of Bicester. The County Wildlife Site at former RAF Upper Heyford is identified in the Cherwell BAP as being of particular note and states that development pressures will have an impact on the grassland habitat.

### Scrub

The Cherwell BAP states that with so little semi-natural habitat in much of the District, scrub assumes added importance for birds with most of it being associated with disused railways and quarries.

### Earth Heritage

The most scientifically important exposures of geological features are notified as Geological Sites of Special Scientific Interest. The Cherwell BAP identifies quarries and railway cuttings as particularly important sites.

### Distribution and Status of Garden Butterflies

This indicator is a good a measure of the health of the Districts natural environments.

<b>Table 10 Distribution and Status of Garden Butterflies</b>						
<b>No.</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>UK distribution (information from Butterfly Conservation species accounts)</b>	<b>UK status (information from Butterfly Conservation species accounts)</b>	<b>% of recorded squares in Berks, Bucks and Oxon in which this butterfly was recorded 1987-1992 (to show how common each butterfly is)</b>	<b>Oxfordshire status</b>	<b>Cherwell</b>
	<b>All</b>	<b>All fairly widespread butterflies</b>	<b>12 of the 22 'garden' butterflies chosen for this indicator are expanding their range in the UK, 7 have a stable range and one is declining. 2 species are non-resident migrants, one of which is</b>		<b>22 of 22 'garden species' are recorded in the County</b>	<b>22 of 22 'garden species' are recorded in the District</b>

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			<b>beginning to reside (possibly due to global climate change).</b>			
1	Small skipper	Widespread in southern Britain with range expanding northwards in recent years	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	68%	Widespread and more common in the eastern half of the county	present
2	Essex skipper	Distribution has more than doubled in recent years from the south east westwards	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	29%	Mainly recorded in the east and south of the County, gradually spreading westwards	present but only at a few sites
3	Large skipper	Widespread in southern Britain with range expanding northwards in north-east England in recent years	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	58%	Common and found throughout the County	present
4	Brimstone	Widespread in central and southern England, spreading in recent years - mainly in northern England	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	65%	Common and widespread	present
5	Large white	Common and widespread with a large resident and migrant population (from mainland Europe)	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	97%	Common and widespread though not so numerous in 'wilder' areas	present

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6	Small white	Common and widespread with a large resident and migrant population (from mainland Europe)	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	95%	Widely distributed and very common	present
7	Green-veined white	Common and widespread in Britain and Ireland, but probably less abundant than formerly due to loss of grassland habitats	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	90%	Widely distributed and very common	present
8	Orange-tip	Widespread in Ireland and southern Britain and has spread north rapidly over the past 25 years especially in Scotland	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	74%	Widespread	present
9	Small copper	Declined throughout its range during the twentieth century though it remains a common and widespread species	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	44%	Fairly widespread	present
10	Common blue	Remains widespread but there have been local declines	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	57%	Widely distributed	present

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11	Holly blue	Widespread in central and southern England and Wales and has expanded northwards in recent years into midland and northern England. This butterfly undergoes large natural fluctuations in population numbers from year to year	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	72%	Widespread	present
12	Red admiral	A migrant from North Africa and continental Europe. There is an indication that numbers have increased in recent years and that it is beginning to survive over winter in southern England	Regular migrant, not BAP	63%	Very widespread	present
13	Painted lady	A migrant from the desert fringes of North Africa, the Middle East and central Asia. In some years it is an abundant butterfly.	Regular migrant, not BAP	33%	Widespread	present

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14	Small tortoiseshell	One of our most widespread species showing little overall change in range though may have increased in abundance over the last few decades	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	90%	Widespread and very common	present
15	Peacock	Widespread and continuing to expand its range in northern parts of Britain and Ireland	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	81%	Widespread and common	present
16	Comma	This butterfly suffered a severe decline in the twentieth century and has made a subsequent comeback. It is now widespread in southern Britain and its range is expanding northwards	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	56%	Widespread	present

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17	Speckled wood	Widespread in southern and central England and Wales. The range of this butterfly contracted during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but has spread back since the 1920s. It has continued to spread over the past two decades, recolonizing many areas in eastern and northern England and Scotland.	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	80%	One of the most widespread species	present
18	Wall	Widely distributed but rarely occurring in large numbers. It has declined substantially over the last decade	Declining in some inland areas, slight spread in north of Britain, not BAP, conservation priority low	21%	Generally widespread but not common	Present but not common
19	Marbled white	Widespread in southern Britain and has expanded northwards and eastwards over the last twenty years, despite	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	37%	Quite widely distributed with numerous localised colonies - less often in urban areas	present

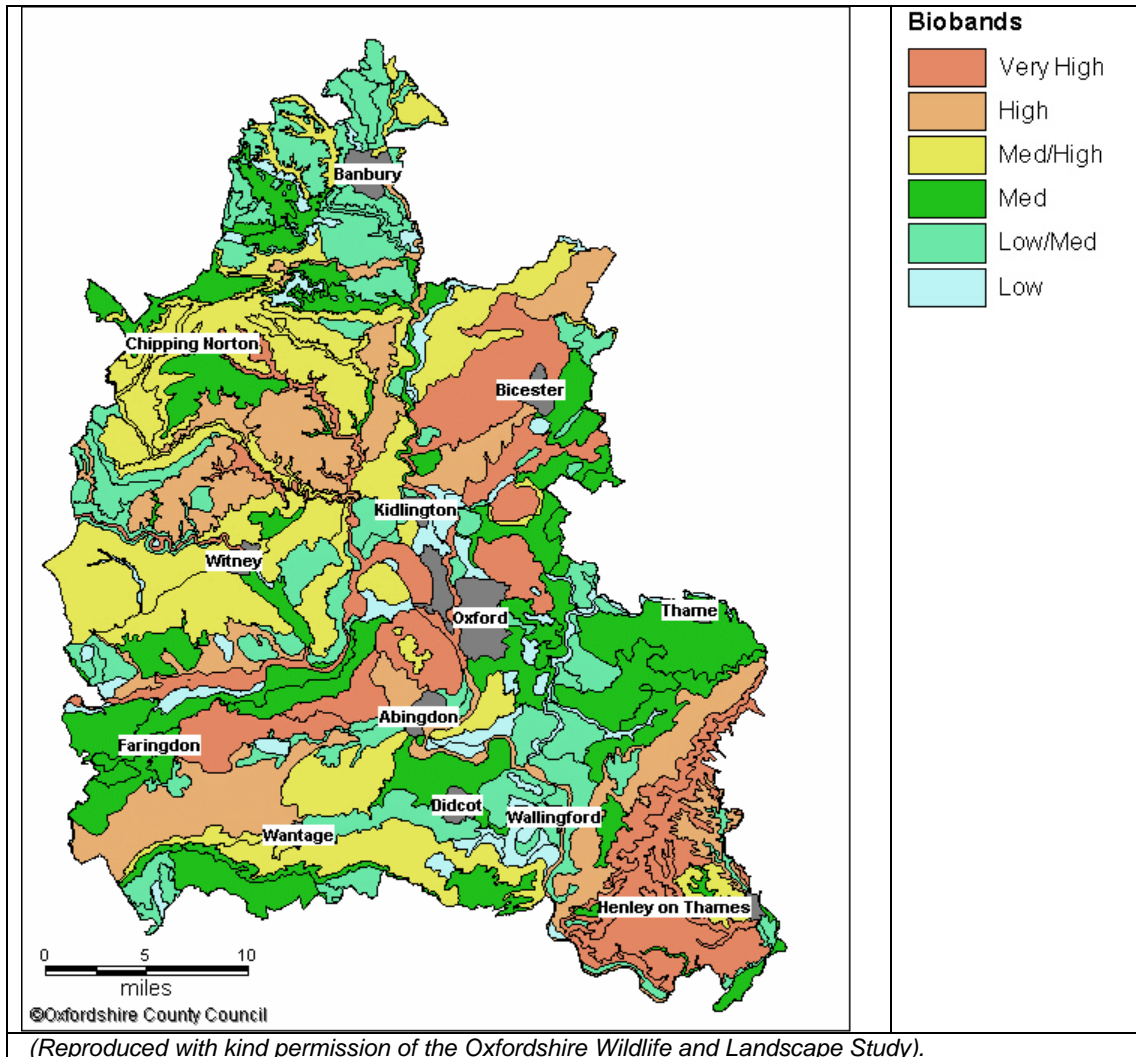
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		some local losses				
20	Gatekeeper	Widespread in southern Britain and its range has extended northwards in recent years	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	88%	Very widespread and common	present
21	Meadow brown	One of our most widespread species but many colonies have been lost due to agricultural intensification	Range stable, not BAP, conservation priority low	95%	Widely distributed and very common	present
22	Ringlet	Widespread and has extended its range in England and Scotland in recent years	Range expanding, not BAP, conservation priority low	70%	Widely distributed and common though less so in larger urban areas	present

### Bioscores

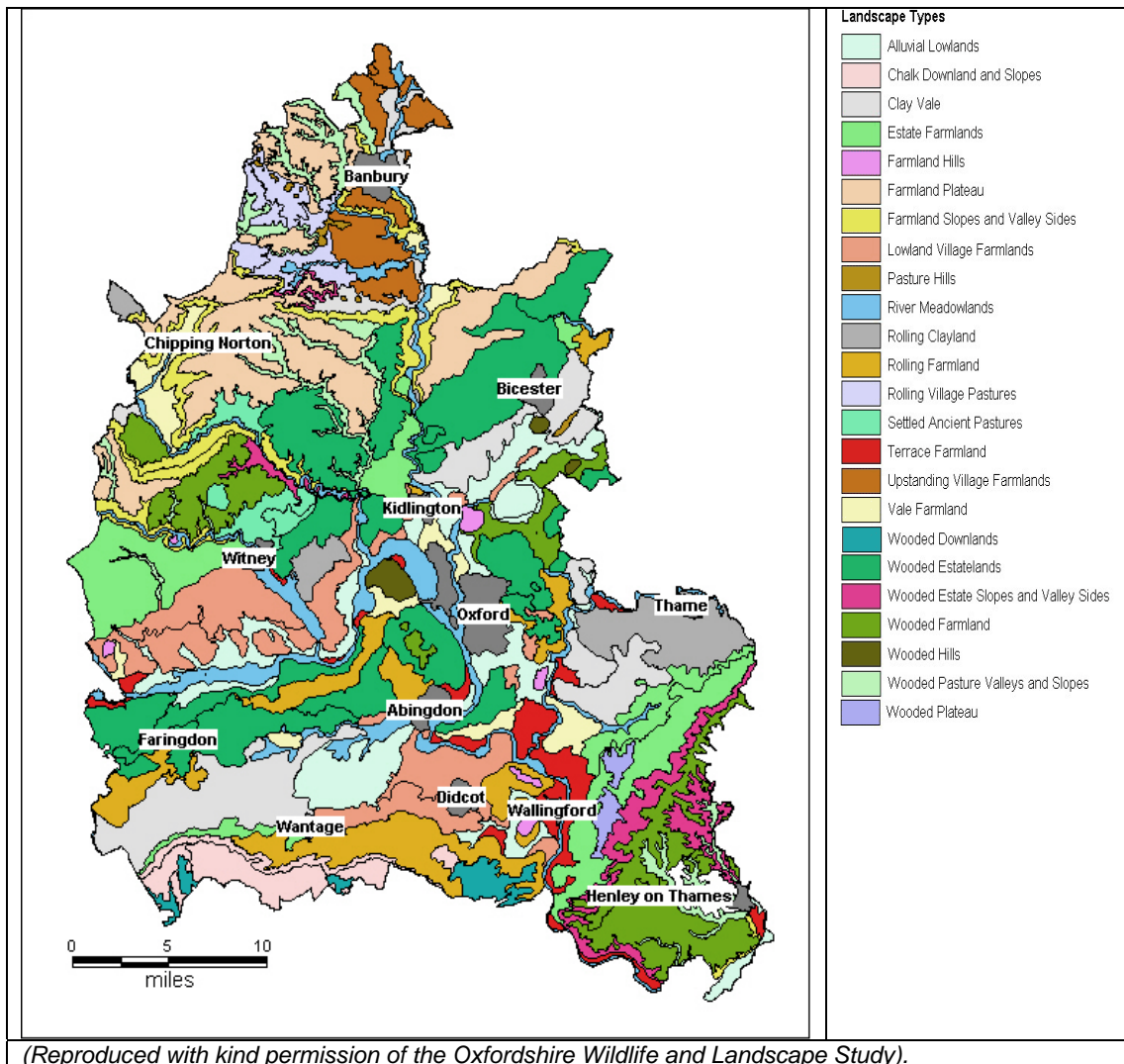
The Oxfordshire Biomap is a measure of the variation in bioscores (a measurement of the type and range of species within a habitat) across the county and these, in turn, are a reflection of the range and type of habitats associated with each landscape description unit. The bioscores have been grouped into broader biobands (see the keys provided with the Figures below). A bioband which is classified as very high tends to support a wider range of wildlife habitats including some which may be of national or international importance. Lower biobands generally have fewer habitats and these are usually of more local importance.

The Biomap illustrates a range of bioscores across the District. This is illustrated in the map below.



### Landscape Types for Biodiversity

The Oxfordshire Wildlife and Landscape study identifies twenty-four separate Landscape Types within the county, made up of individual landscape description units with a similar pattern of geology, topography, land use and settlements as illustrated in map below.



**Sources**

- Cherwell District Council
- Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT)
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) South East and Central Regions

**Landscape Character Areas**

Cherwell District comprises a variety of Landscape Character Types, influenced by factors such as topography, geology, land use and historical development. Across the District the highest land occurs in the west, while to the east the land is much lower as it descends to the River Ray floodplain. In the south the geology becomes dominated by Oxford Clays and Corallian Beds. The District is divided by a number of water courses, most notably the River Cherwell which bisects the District.

The District is divided into eight broad Landscape Character Areas, namely:

- The Upper Cherwell Basin;
- The Cherwell Valley;

- The Lower Cherwell Floodplain;
- The Ironstone Hills and Valley;
- The Ironstone Incised Plateau;
- The Upper Heyford plateau;
- The Oxfordshire Estate Farmlands; and
- The Otmoor Lowlands.

### Sources

- Cherwell District Council – Planning and Development Services

### Condition of SSSI's

<b>Table 11 Condition of SSSIs nationally and regionally</b>		
	England	South East
Area favourable	45%	45%
Area unfavourable declining	12%	18%
Area unfavourable no change	20%	18%
Area unfavourable recovering	23%	18%

Nationally the condition of SSSI's is fairly positive with more SSSI's recovering than declining. There are 111 SSSI's in Oxfordshire which cover 1.7 % of the Counties area. 17 of these are in Cherwell District covering 0.9 % of the Districts area. In the District more of the SSSI's are also recovering rather than declining.

**Table 12**  
**Condition of SSSI's in Cherwell**

Condition	No. of units or part units	Sum of hectares	% of District resource
Favourable	24	239.67	44
Unfavourable declining	4	60.98	11
Unfavourable no change	3	101.63	19
Unfavourable recovering	15	141.12	26
TOTAL	46	543.4	100

Age of condition data			% of data
1999	0	0	0
2000	1	24.09	4
2001	2	8.81	2
2002	13	114.69	21
2003	26	383.88	71
2004	4	11.94	2
2005	0	0	0
TOTAL	46	543.41	100

### Sources

- English Nature (supplied by TVREC)

### Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments

At March 2005 there were some 4,000 listed buildings with Cherwell and 32 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM). While the District only accommodates some 1% of the SAMs within the South East, it accommodates some 8.6% of the listed buildings in the South East Region.

**Table 13**  
**Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)**

	Listed Buildings	SAM
England (2004)	371,971	19,579
South East Region (2004)	76,167	2,500
Cherwell District (2005)	4,000 (approximately)	32

Of the approximately 4,000 listed buildings only 1 of grade I or II\* were registered as at risk in 2004 in Cherwell District. In May 2005, however, no listed buildings of grade I or II\* were registered at risk within the District. Of those listed buildings not grade 1

or II \* 22 were identified as being at risk in 2004, although 4 have been repaired and 13 are receiving remedial works.

### Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Planning and Development Services / English Heritage)

### Historic Parks and Gardens

The number of Historic Parks and Gardens in England and the South East region has increased since 2002 and there are now 1,584 and 359 registered Historic Parks and Gardens in these areas respectively. In Cherwell District there are 7 Historic Parks and Gardens.

**Table 14**  
**Number of Registered Parks and Gardens**

	2002	2003	2004
England	1,545	1,558	1,584
South East Region	346	354	359
Cherwell District	7	7	7

### Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Planning and Development Services / English Heritage)

### Conservation Areas

The number of Conservation Areas within the South East and England has increased between 2003 and 2004, as illustrated below in Table 15. Within Cherwell there were 52 Conservation Areas in 2005, of which 27 had Conservation Area Appraisals.

**Table 15**  
**Number of Conservation Areas**

	2003	2004	2005
England	9,080	9,140	-
South East Region	1,979	1,986	-
Cherwell District	51	51	52

### Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Planning and Development Services / English Heritage)

## Household Waste

Since 2000/01 Cherwell has significantly increased the levels of household waste recycled within the District. In 2000/01 the District was some 3.5% below the national average and while the national average has increased over the same period to 2003/04 Cherwell is now over 1% higher than the national average. While the District still remains below the regional average, it has increased the percentage of household waste recycled by some 12.4% over the past 4 years as opposed to both the regional and national figures which only 3.8% each.

**Table 16**  
**Percentage of household waste recycled**

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
England	9.5	9.5	10.3	13.3
South East	12.3	12.4	13.3	16.1
Cherwell	6.0	8.2	10.3	14.4

The amount of household waste collected per year, as illustrated in Table 17 below, has also followed the same pattern with the amount of waste collected rising at a rate over and above that of the regional and national figures.

**Table 17**  
**Kg of household waste collected per year (average per household)**

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
England	425	434	451	439
South East	407	417	426	420
Cherwell	390	412	452	430

The data outlining the percentage of waste land-filled is only available at County level and is illustrated in Table 18 below. This illustrates that there is a significant reduction in the percentage of waste going to landfill since 2000/01 in Oxfordshire. While the percentage is still higher than the national average, the rate of decline from 2000/01 to 2003/04 for Oxfordshire (10%) is significantly greater than either the regional (5%) or national (6%) rates of decline.

**Table 18**  
**Percentage of waste land-filled**

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
England	78	77	76	72
South East	83	83	80	78
Oxfordshire	86	83	80	76

Data on the percentage of heat, power and other energy recovered from household waste is minimal at present, however, Oxfordshire has seen a slight rise in the amount recovered.

**Table 19**  
**Percentage of heat, power and other energy recovered from household waste**

	2002/03	2003/04
Oxfordshire	0.0	0.04

### Sources

- ODPM Local Government Performance Best Value Indicators

### Recycling

The percentage of the District's population living within 1km of a recycling centre or kerbside collection is reflective of the increase in the amount of household waste recycled in Cherwell. Table 20 below illustrates that since 2000/01 100% of Cherwell's population live within 1km of a recycling centre or kerbside collection. This is significantly above the national and regional average.

**Table 20**  
**Percentage of population within 1km of a recycling centre or kerbside collection**

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
England	88	91	74	86
South East	92	95	86	92
Cherwell	80	100	100	100

### Sources

- ODPM Local Government Performance Best Value Indicators

### Contaminated Land

The District Council has a responsibility to prepare a Contaminated Land Strategy that identifies the amount of contaminated land with the District. In May 2005 there were no statutory listed (under the Environmental Protection Act) contaminated land sites within the District.

## Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Planning and Development Services)
- Cherwell District Council (Environmental Health)

## Open Space and Playing Space Provision

The Council has commissioned an extensive open space assessment to inform the development of its Local Development Framework and identify localised standards, however, until the results of this study are available and have been assessed the Council will refer to the NPFA 6-Acres Standard. When compared to the NPFA 6-Acres Standard, playing pitch provision is varied throughout the District, but in nearly all cases the District is below the standard. Table 21 illustrates the current situation for Cherwell.

<b>Table 21 Playing space provision within boundaries, compared to NPFA 6-Acre Standard</b>			
	<b>Banbury</b>	<b>Bicester</b>	<b>Kidlington</b>
Outdoor playing space for sport	58%	30%	112%
Outdoor playing space for sport (inclusive of playing pitches)	69%	40%	-
Other outdoor playing space for public use	24%	5%	-
Outdoor playing space for children	147%	80%	25%
Total playing space provision	88%	44%	86%

### *Banbury*

In Banbury the amount of outdoor playing space for children more than meets the NPFA 6 Acres Standard but the overall provision is only some 88% of the standard, with open space for public use significantly low at 24%. There is an identified shortfall in Banbury of six full size football pitches that will rise to eight full size football pitched by 2011 because of the increase in population of the town.

### *Bicester*

Table 21 above illustrates that the situation in Bicester is significantly worse than in Banbury with an overall provision of some 44% of the NPFA 6-Acres Standard. Of particular significance is that the amount of 'other outdoor playing space for public use' is only 5% of the NPFA 6-Acres Standard. There is an identified shortfall in Bicester of at least 16 hectares to accommodate playing pitches, athletics and bowls facilities along with ancillary facilities. The distribution of playing facilities is also poor.

### *Kidlington*

Outdoor playing space in Kidlington meets the NPFA 6-Acres Standard for outdoor playing space for sport, although the provision of outdoor playing space for children

is only 25% of the NPFA 6-Acres Standard. The overall provision of playing space is lower than the NPFA 6-Acres Standard at 86%.

*Rural Villages*

The results of the open space assessment above will provide information concerning other villages in the District.

**Sources**

- Cherwell District Council Rural Areas and Banbury Town Outdoor Sports, Children's Play Areas and Other Recreational Open Space Assessment (2001)
- Bicester Open Space and Playing Pitch Assessment (2000)

## Social Information

### District Population

Since the District was formed in 1974 the population has increased significantly. Table 22 shows that the population of Bicester and Banbury has risen rapidly, with Bicester being one of the fastest growing towns in the Country. The rate of growth in Cherwell between 1991 and 2001 was significant at some 12%. The latest mid-year estimate shows the population of Cherwell is almost 134,000.

**Table 22  
Population**

Year	Cherwell	Banbury	Bicester	Great Britain
1971	94,346	29,385	12,355	53,978,400
1981	107,759	35,392	14,912	54,147,300
1991	117,832	37,753	20,241	54,156,100
2001	131,785	41,802	28,672	58,789,194

### Rural Area Population

Table 23 below shows that the population in the rural areas has remained fairly stable. However, some villages have seen a fair increase in their populations. For example, Bloxham and Deddington.

**Table 23  
Parish Populations**

	1971	2001
Adderbury	2451	2496
Ambrosden	1655	1749
Ardley	593	666
Arncott	1005	1293
Barford St. John and St. Michael	354	520
Begbroke	567	792
Blackthorn	705	267
Bletchingdon	787	872
Bloxham	2039	3132
Bodicote	2034	2065
Bourton	498	604
Broughton	380	305
Bucknell	282	249
Caversfield	1195	1752
Charlton-on-Otmoor	360	412
Chesterton	497	835
Claydon with Clattercot	226	321
Cottisford	151	156
Cropredy	608	712
Deddington	1464	2123
Drayton	231	247
Duns Tew	396	513
Epwell	239	293

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Fencott and Murcott	144	258
Finmere	267	436
Fringford	434	613
Fritwell	569	668
Godington	43	40
Gosford and Water Eaton	1919	1226
Hampton Gay and Poyle	167	173
Hanwell	169	263
Hardwick with Tusmore	83	63
Hethe	265	279
Hook Norton	1361	2001
Horley	244	319
Hornton	304	323
Horton-cum-Studley	432	454
Islip	686	617
Kidlington	9767	13719
Kirtlington	742	872
Launton	1016	1117
Lower Heyford	414	484
Merton	376	449
Middle Aston	46	110
Middleton Stoney	196	312
Milcombe	558	630
Milton	239	216
Mixbury	194	255
Mollington	380	469
Newton Purcell with Shelswell	78	103
Noke	125	132
North Aston	199	212
North Newington	281	321
Oddington	87	133
Piddington	298	371
Prescote	19	16
Shenington with Alkerton	367	387
Shipton-on-Cherwell and Thrupp	402	419
Shutford	233	461
Sibford Ferris	551	428
Sibford Gower	352	498
Somerton	219	281
Souldern	376	362
South Newington	243	302
Steeple Aston	795	920
Stoke Lyne	242	232
Stratton Audley	329	393
Swalcliffe	209	237
Tadmarton	380	430
Upper Heyford	2976	1154
Wardington	530	580
Wendlebury	361	434
Weston-on-the-Green	519	520

Wigginton	216	192
Wroxton	538	530
Yarnton	1946	2523

### Sources

- ONS Census 2001

### Age Structure

Table 24 below illustrates the age structure of Cherwell District

<b>Table 24</b>							
<b>Percentage of population within the following age bands</b>							
	under 16	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75+	Total
England	20	11	29	24	8	8	100
South East	20	11	29	24	8	8	100
Oxfordshire	20	12	30	23	8	7	100
Cherwell	21	10	32	23	7	6	100

### Sources

- ONS Census 2001

### Ethnic Group Population

Table 25 below shows the percentage of population by ethnic group.

<b>Table 25</b>						
<b>Percentage of population by ethnic group</b>						
	White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or Other	Total
England	91	1	5	2	1	100
South East	95	1	2	1	1	100
Cherwell	95	1	2	1	1	100

### Sources

- ONS Census 2001

## Total Dwellings

Table 26 below illustrates that the number of dwellings in Cherwell has increased since 2001 by 1,118 dwellings equating to some 2% over the three years. This has now resulted in Cherwell having the largest number of dwellings in Oxfordshire in 2003.

	Total dwelling stock			LA dwelling stock		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
	England	21,360,647	21,475,563	21,574,832	2,790,058	2,685,243
South East	3,400,486	3,414,227	3,436,939	228,212	219,479	214,766
Cherwell	53,924	54,298	55,042	4,072	3,946	3,805
Oxford	49,226	52,615	52,146	8,211	8,246	8,308
South Oxfordshire	54,556	54,341	52,338	0	0	0
Vale of White Horse	46,838	47,156	48,109	11	11	11
West Oxfordshire	39,984	40,563	40,890	0	0	0

### Sources

- ONS Census 2001

## Housing Type

Table 27 below illustrates the type of households within Cherwell. The types of household within Cherwell are broadly comparable with the South East and national figures although there is a higher proportion of detached households and a lower proportion of flats or apartments.

	house or bungalow Detached	house or bungalow semi-detached	house or bungalow Terraced	Flat maisonette or apartment	Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
	England	23	32	26	20
South East	29	28	23	18	1
Cherwell	31	36	24	9	0

**Sources**

- ONS Census 2001

**Housing Tenure**

Table 28 shows that Cherwell has slightly higher proportions of privately owned property than the county, regional and national averages.

<b>Table 28</b>					
<b>Housing Tenure Percentages 2001</b>					
	<b>Privately Owned</b>	<b>Social Rented</b>	<b>Private Rented</b>	<b>Not Paying Rent</b>	<b>Total</b>
England	69	19	10	2	100
South East	74	14	10	2	100
Oxfordshire	71	14	13	2	100
Cherwell	75	13	10	2	100

**Sources**

- ONS Census 2001

**Unfit Housing**

Table 29 below illustrates that there were some 2,200 unfit dwellings in Cherwell in 2001. Proportionally this is lower than the national average but similar to the regional figure.

<b>Table 29</b>			
<b>Number and proportion of unfit dwellings in 2001</b>			
	<b>Total Dwellings</b>	<b>Unfit Dwellings</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
England	21,574,832	1,205,909	6
South East	3,436,939	130,798	4
Cherwell	55,042	2,180	4

**Sources**

- ONS Census 2001

## Property Prices

Property Prices in Cherwell are considerably above the national average for all property types other than flats. This trend is reflected in Oxfordshire with the County having the sixth highest property prices in the Country. Within Oxfordshire, however, Cherwell has the lowest average house prices in the County.

<b>Table 30</b>			
<b>House Prices (Jan – March 2005)</b>			
	<b>Cherwell</b>	<b>Oxfordshire</b>	<b>England</b>
Average Cost	£203,453	£242,105	£182,920
Detached	£296,453	£361,046	£282,157
Semi-detached	£183,714	£223,115	£169,074
Terraced	£158,161	£193,720	£139,122
Flat	£121,928	£165,946	£168,571

## Sources

- Land Registry

## Affordable Housing

The Government has identified a need for affordable housing, especially in the South East of England where house prices are particularly high. The Housing Needs Assessment: A guide to Good Practice OPDM, July 2000 defines need as; *“households lacking their own housing or living in housing which is inadequate or unsuitable, who are unlikely to be able to meet their needs in the housing market without some assistance”*. The Council has undertaken a number of housing needs surveys and identified within the draft Housing Strategy 2005 – 2011 that there is a need for 686 affordable dwellings per year in Cherwell. It also states that the largest shortfall is for one and two bedroom affordable units.

Table 31 below illustrates the number of affordable houses completed within Cherwell since 2001. While this illustrates that there has been an overall increase in the number of affordable houses since 2001, it is significantly lower than the need identified in Cherwell's Housing Strategy 2005-2011. Table 31 also illustrates that new affordable housing is being mostly provided in Bicester with the number of affordable houses completed in Banbury and the rural areas low in comparison.

<b>Table 31</b>				
<b>Affordable Housing completions (from planning permissions only)</b>				
	<b>Cherwell</b>	<b>Banbury</b>	<b>Bicester</b>	<b>Rural Areas</b>
2001-02	123	10	107	6
2002-03	130	48	59	23
2003-04	84	29	55	0

**Sources**

- CDC (Planning and Development Services)

**Overcrowding**

The proportion of overcrowded households in Cherwell is lower than the national average and marginally less than the county and regional averages.

**Table 32**  
**Proportion of households where overcrowding occurs 2001**

	<b>Total Households</b>	<b>Number where overcrowding occurs</b>	<b>Percentage of overcrowding</b>
England	20,451,427	1,457,512	7
South East	3,287,489	195,392	6
Oxfordshire	241,218	13,931	6
Cherwell	53,225	2,604	5

**Sources**

- CDC (Planning and Development Services)

**Households Lacking Basic Amenities**

Table 33 below illustrates that the proportion of households lacking basic amenities in England is extremely low and Cherwell and Oxfordshire as a whole are representative of this situation.

**Table 33**  
**Proportion of households lacking basic amenities 2001**

	<b>Total Households</b>	<b>Number lacking basic amenities</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
England	20451427	32,739	0.16
South East	3287489	4,724	0.14
Oxfordshire	241218	391	0.16
Cherwell	53225	32	0.06

**Sources**

- CDC (Planning and Development Services)

## Homelessness

Table 34 below illustrates the homelessness position over the last three years in Cherwell and the South East region. The table demonstrates that Cherwell has proportionally lower figures than the regional average. However while the regional trend is reducing, the trend for Cherwell is increasing.

	<b>2000/01</b>	<b>2001/02</b>	<b>2002/03</b>
South East	11.5	11.3	10.4
Cherwell	6.4	7.9	8.6

### Sources

- ONS Census 2001

## Recorded Crime

Despite an upturn in crime levels in the quarter January to March 2004, the overall number of recorded crimes in Cherwell has decreased since April 2003 in a similar trend to that of the other areas. The number of offences per 1,000 population in Cherwell is significantly below the Thames Valley area, South East Region and England & Wales figures in all quarters.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Cherwell</b>	<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>South East</b>	<b>England &amp; Wales</b>
Apr – Jun 03	2,816 (21.4)	54,081 (25.7)	184,720 (23.0)	1524414 (29.0)
Jul – Sept 03	2,590 (19.6)	53,096 (25.2)	184,940 (23.0)	1490251 (28.3)
Oct – Dec 03	2,445 (18.5)	49,899 (23.7)	179,151 (22.3)	1449328 (27.6)
Jan – Mar 04	2,698 (20.5)	53,178 (25.3)	184,934 (23.0)	1463521 (27.8)

For the period 1998/99 to 200/2001 there were 26,802 crimes reported across the District. This figure equates to an average of 67.72 crimes per 1,000-population over this period. This is significantly lower than the Thames Valley Police Area average of 98.14 crimes per 1,000 population and the national average of 88.83 crimes per 1,000 of population.

Tables 36 and 37 illustrate police detection rates and a breakdown of crime for areas within the Cherwell District for the period 1998/99 to 2000/01. Changes in recording practices over the last 3 years do not allow for direct comparisons to be made between years. It is, however, pertinent for the figures to be included within this report as a basis for future monitoring purposes.

**Table 36****Total Recorded Offences by Area 1998/99 – 2000/01**

	<b>1998/99</b>	<b>1999/00</b>	<b>2000/01</b>	<b>Total 3 years</b>
Banbury Urban	4,098	4,402	4,407	12,907
Banbury Rural	754	688	704	2,146
Banbury Other	121	128	136	385
Bicester Rural	579	722	714	2,015
Bicester Town	1,728	2,121	2,016	5,865
Bicester Other	58	66	99	223
Hook Norton	38	39	37	114
Kidlington	1,073	1,115	959	3,147
Total Cherwell	8449	9,281	9,072	26,802

**Table 37****Percentage of Recorded Offences by Area**

	<b>1998/1999</b>	<b>1999/2000</b>	<b>2000/2001</b>	<b>3 years</b>
Banbury Urban	48.50	47.43	48.58	48.16
Banbury Rural	8.92	7.41	7.76	8.01
Other	1.43	1.38	1.50	1.44
Bicester Rural	6.85	7.78	7.87	7.52
Bicester Town	20.45	22.85	22.22	21.88
Other	0.69	0.71	1.09	0.83
Hook Norton	0.45	0.42	0.41	0.43
Kidlington	12.70	12.01	10.57	11.74

*Cherwell Community Safety Strategy Group (Audit 2004)*

<b>Table 38</b>					
<b>Top five areas for each crime category by offences recorded in 2000/01</b>					
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Domestic Burglary</b>	<b>Burglary non-dwelling</b>	<b>Theft of vehicle</b>	<b>Theft from vehicle</b>	<b>Robbery</b>
1	Bretch Hill (48)	Glory Farm (65)	Hardwick (70)	Bretch Hill (118)	Banbury Town Centre (West) (4)
2	Hardwick (40)	Hardwick (65)	Bretch Hill (53)	Ardley (Cherwell Valley M40 Service Area) (116)	Hardwick (3)
3	Highfield (30)	Bretch Hill (42)	Grimsbury (46)	Hardwick (113)	Grimsbury (3)
4	Cherwell Heights (30)	Highfield (37)	Kidlington East (35)	Glory Farm (75)	Kidlington East (3)
5	Grimsbury (18)	Grimsbury (36)	Glory Farm (34)	Kidlington East (71)	Banbury Town Centre (South) (2)

*Source: Cherwell Community Safety Strategy Group (Audit 2004)*

Table 39 below illustrates the number of arrests within Banbury and Bicester during 1998 and 2001 along with the top five reasons for arrests.

<b>Table 39</b>		
<b>Number of arrests in Bicester &amp; Banbury 1998 – 2001</b>		
	<b>Banbury</b>	<b>Bicester</b>
Total Arrests	9,963	2,065
Top reasons for arrests	Violence against the person (1,239)	Drink driving (246)
	Shoplifting (884)	Violence against the person (237)
	Drink driving (777)	Shoplifting (229)
	Criminal damage (745)	Criminal damage (202)

*Cherwell Community Safety Strategy Group (Audit 2004)*

The number of arrests in Banbury are considerably higher than in Bicester with the top four reasons for arrest in both locations the same, although in slightly different orders. This implies that there is some commonality in the type of crime being committed across the District.

### **Sources**

- The Home Office
- Cherwell Community Safety Strategy Group (Audit 2004)

## Crime Reduction

The enactment of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act in 1998 placed a statutory duty on all local authorities to work in partnership with the police and other partners to develop strategies to reduce crime and disorder. In response to this, Cherwell District Council with the involvement of a number of partners, produced a three-year Crime and Disorder Strategy (1999 – 2002). Table 40 below illustrates the levels of recorded crime and disorder within Cherwell, however, the manner in which crime and disorder is measured has changed which means that the figures are no longer directly comparable. The figures in Table 40 below indicate that recorded crime and disorder within Cherwell has increased since 1998 despite Table 35 above illustrating a reduction in overall levels of crime. While the figures below are not directly comparable it is pertinent that the reductions in crime are measured in future.

**Table 40 Reductions in Recorded Crime**

	1998 - 1999	2000 - 2001	Difference (%)
Burglary dwelling	387	527	26.6
Burglary non-dwelling	661	844	21.7
Theft of Vehicle	568	779	27.1
Robbery	27	31	12.9

*Cherwell Community Safety Strategy Group (Audit 2004)*

## Perception and Crime

In addition to the statistics provided in the previous tables, information has been supplied by senior police officers who are responsible for the day to day policing of the areas within the Cherwell District. This information provides the police perception of the crime and disorder problems that affect each area.

**Table 41****Police perception of crime and disorder**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Police Perception</b>
Banbury	Public order and parking problems High Street and town centre area Cherwell Heights garage burglaries Nuisance and damage Spiceball and Peoples Park and Bradley Arcade Retail theft, Castle Quay Centre Disorder, Manor Fields
Banbury Rural	Burglaries garages and sheds Complaints of speeding vehicles Youth related nuisance and anti-social behaviour in villages
Bicester	Drug use and dealing in the town and surrounding areas Vehicle crime, M40 Cherwell Valley Services and Heyford Park Nuisance and damage Kings End and Glory Farm Industrial Areas
Kidlington	Drug dealing, Kidlington Centre and Bellinger Way Nuisance and damage, Exeter Hall and Bellinger Way Vehicle crime, Langford Locks Vehicle crime, damage and nuisance associated with the Moors Community Home Demonstrations, Campsfield House Immigration Centre

A survey of residents conducted by Thames Valley Police (TVP area) across Cherwell between 2000 - 2001 revealed that 35% (TVP 41%) of residents felt that crime had increased and 56% (TVP 59%) said the fear of crime had sometimes stopped them from doing what they wanted.

**Table 42****Fear of Crime in Cherwell compared to Thames Valley area**

	<b>Cherwell</b>	<b>Thames Valley</b>
Crime has increased	56	59
Fear of crime had sometimes stopped them doing what they wanted	56	59
Darkness did not have a major effect on fear	53	50
Residents feeling unsafe to walk alone after dark	18	18
Residents feeling unsafe to walk alone during the day	4	3
<i>Source – Thames Valley Policy Audit</i>		

It can be seen from the table above that the fear of crime within Cherwell is comparable with that of the Thames Valley area.

**Table 43**  
**Percentage of respondents most worried about being a victim of a particular crime in North Oxfordshire (2000/01)**

<b>Crime</b>	<b>Percentage of respondents</b>
Burglary	54%
Property Theft	51%
Car being Stolen	51%

*Source – Thames Valley Policy Audit*

### **Sources**

- Cherwell District Council
- Home Office Crime Statistics
- Thames Valley Policy Audit

There is a statutory requirement in place for the National Health Service (NHS) and Local Authorities to work in partnership to improve the health of the population. This has resulted in the production of a Joint Public Health Strategy produced by the North East Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust, Cherwell Vale Primary Care Trust, Cherwell District, West Oxfordshire, and South Northamptonshire.

### **Deprivation**

The Joint Public Health Strategy states that it is estimated that only 10 % of factors affecting health are within the purview of the health system, whilst 90% are concerned with poverty, low wages, unemployment, education, transport, crime and other socio-economic conditions. On this basis, it is on these issues where action is needed. The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 provides information on deprivation levels in the 8,414 wards in England and ranks them with 1 being the most deprived and 8,414 the least deprived ward. Table 44 below illustrates the IMD rankings for Cherwell District compared to the other Districts in the County. Table 45 compares Cherwell to the most and least deprived local authority area in the Country.

<b>Table 44 Indices of Deprivation</b>		
<b>Indices of Deprivation: Local Authority Summaries, Average Score</b>	<b>Indices of Deprivation: Local Authority Summaries, Rank of Average Score</b>	<b>Indices of Deprivation: Local Authority Summaries, Average Rank</b>
Cherwell	11.15	274
Oxford	19.72	144
South Oxfordshire	7.71	332
Vale of White Horse	6.9	339
West Oxfordshire	6.31	347

<b>Table 45 Indices of Deprivation</b>		
<b>Local Authority Summaries, Average Score</b>	<b>Local Authority Summaries, Rank of Average Score</b>	<b>Local Authority Summaries, Average Rank</b>
Cherwell	11.15	274
Liverpool	49.78	1
Hart	4.17	354

### **Sources**

- **ODPM**

### **Population Health**

The proportion of people considered of good health is higher (4%) within Cherwell than the national and regional averages but slightly lower than the County average and the other districts within Oxfordshire.

**Table 45**  
**Population Health Percentages**

	All People	Good health	Fairly good health	Not good health
England	100	69	22	9
South East	100	71	21	7
Oxfordshire	100	74	20	6
Cherwell	100	73	21	6
Oxford	100	73	20	7
South Oxfordshire	100	75	20	6
Vale of White Horse	100	75	19	6
West Oxfordshire	100	74	20	6

#### Sources

- ONS 2001 Census

#### Life Expectancy

Table 46 below illustrates that the overall life expectancy in Cherwell is marginally higher than the national average and comparable with the rest of Oxfordshire. The Joint Public Health Strategy states that on the basis of current trends, the relative gap between areas with lowest life expectancy and the national average is predicted to widen over the next decade.

**Table 46**  
**Life Expectancy at Birth at all ages 1998 – 2000 in Years**

Location	Males	Females
England	75.3	80.3
Cherwell District Council	76.6	80.7
Daventry DC	76.9	79.5
South Northants DC	76.5	81.7
Oxford City Council	76.6	81.8
South Oxfordshire DC	76.9	80.7
Vale of White Horse DC	77.9	82.0
West Oxfordshire DC	77.2	81.3

#### Sources

- Compensation of clinical and Health Indicators 2002/Clinical and Health Outcomes Knowledge Base

### People with Limiting Long Term Illness or Permanently Sick or Disabled

Table 47 below illustrates that the proportion of people with limiting long term illness within Cherwell is similar to the County average of 13%, although this is lower than the regional average and significantly lower than the national average.

<b>Table 47</b>			
<b>People with limiting long term illness or permanently sick or disabled</b>			
	<b>All People</b>	<b>Proportion of population with limiting long term illness</b>	<b>Proportion of population permanently sick or disabled</b>
England	8,809,194	18%	5.3%
South East Region	1,237,399	15%	3.4%
Oxfordshire	80,939	13%	2.5%
Cherwell	17,490	13%	2.7%

The proportions of people permanently sick or disabled in Cherwell is significantly less than the national average and lower than the South East region. It is, however, marginally higher than the County average.

#### **Sources**

- North Oxfordshire PCT Partnership - Joint Public Health Strategy
- ONS 2001 Census

## Economic Information

### Examination Results

Table 48 below illustrates that in Cherwell the proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs at grade A\*-C is lower than the county, regional and national average.

<b>Table 48 Percentage of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs at grade A* - C 2001</b>		
	<b>Pupils</b>	<b>2003</b>
England	292,409	51%
South East	48,400	55%
Oxfordshire	3,059	51%
Cherwell	643	46%

### Sources

- DfES

Table 49 below illustrates that average level of performance at Key Stage 2 for pupils in Cherwell is similar to that of the national, regional and county average for all subjects.

<b>Table 49 Percentage of pupils achieving level 4 + at Key Stage 2 (year 6) by subject (2003)</b>			
	<b>English</b>	<b>Maths</b>	<b>Science</b>
England	74.9	72.1	86.5
South East	74.9	72.7	87.8
Oxfordshire	75.7	72.8	86.8
Cherwell	75.0	71.8	87.4

### Sources

- Department for Education and Skills (DfES)

### Employment

According to work under taken for the Council by Oxford Innovations, Cherwell District currently enjoys both high employment rates and low unemployment. The figures for 2004 show that of the 400 plus local authority districts in Britain Cherwell ranks 8th overall for people of working age in employment, at 84.1%. It also has low unemployment rates over the last decade, of around 1%, points to a healthy and vibrant employment scene.

Table 50 below illustrates that the proportion of part-time and full-time people employed in Cherwell is higher than the regional and national averages. This is

reflective of the fact that the percentage of unemployed people in Cherwell is lower than the regional and national averages.

**Table 50**  
**Percentage of economically active people aged 16 – 74 (2001)**

	All people	Percentage Part-time	Percentage Full-time	Percentage Self-employed	Percentage Unemployed	Percentage Full-time student
England	35,532,091	11.8	40.8	8.3	3.4	2.6
South East	5,766,307	12.2	43.2	9.6	2.3	2.7
Cherwell	95,757	12.8	49.5	9.0	1.9	2.2

#### Sources

- ONS 2001 Census

#### Average Earnings

Table 51 below illustrates that the average weekly earnings for employees in Cherwell is lower than the national average and significantly lower than the regional average. This is a significant issue in Cherwell especially when compared to house prices.

**Table 51**

Average earnings per week	2003
England & Wales	£479.88
South East	£505.44
Cherwell	£464.60

#### Sources

- ONS 2001 Census

#### Income Support Claimants

Table 52 below illustrates that the proportions of income support claimants in 2001 and 2002 within Cherwell and Oxfordshire are significantly below the regional and national averages.

<b>Table 52</b>		
<b>Percentage of people claiming income support 2001</b>		
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
England	10.7%	10.8%
South East	7.4%	7.3%
Oxfordshire	5.6%	5.7%
Cherwell	5.6%	5.7%

#### **Source**

- DWP

#### **Income Deprived People**

Table 53 below illustrates that the proportion of income deprived people in Cherwell. The number is significantly lower than the regional and national average.

<b>Table 53</b>		
<b>Percentage of income deprived people 2001</b>		
	<b>People</b>	<b>2002</b>
England	3,814,930	9.7%
South East	403,359	6.3%
Oxfordshire	23,860	4.5%
Cherwell	5,010	4.8%

#### **Sources**

- ONS 2001 Census

#### **Children (0 – 19yrs) in Low Income Households**

Table 54 below illustrates that the trend for the number of children in low income households has reduced in the period 2001 – 2002 across England. This trend is also visible in Oxfordshire. Cherwell and Oxfordshire are significantly below the regional and national average.

<b>Table 54</b>		
<b>Percentage of children in low income households (0-19yrs) 2001</b>		
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
England	17.9%	17.6%
South East	12.0%	11.7%
Oxfordshire	9.6%	9.6%
Cherwell	9.6%	9.0%

### Sources

- ONS 2001 Census

### Take Up of Business Space

Table 55 illustrates an average annual take up of business space in Cherwell of 475,881m<sup>2</sup> for the period 2001 to 2004. The trends illustrate that the take up in Bicester since 2001 has been increasing, and while lower than Banbury, the difference is not as large as in 2001.

<b>Table 55</b>					
<b>Annual take up of business space (M2)</b>					
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Average</b>
Cherwell	564,273	400,771	524,803	413,679	475,881
Banbury	353,677	123,116	208,000	195,016	219,952
Bicester	86,652	114,621	189,730	130,080	130,270
Kidlington	20,568	118,935	23,121	35,813	46,909
Rural Areas	103,376	44,099	103,952	52,770	76,049

*Source: CDC (Economic Development)*

### New VAT Registered Business

Table 56 below illustrates that Cherwell has consistently performed well against the other districts in Oxfordshire in terms of the number of new VAT registered businesses per year.

<b>Table 56</b>											
<b>New VAT registered businesses 1994 - 2003</b>											
	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Average</b>
Cherwell	0	40	55	90	125	125	155	95	65	175	80
Oxford	5	45	85	125	115	15	80	105	54	40	67
South Oxon.	-20	130	125	180	105	125	115	95	75	90	102
Vale of WH	-25	40	85	95	140	110	110	75	100	80	81
West Oxon.	10	10	35	100	130	105	80	110	50	110	74
Oxfordshire	-35	260	380	590	615	480	535	485	345	495	415

*Source: CDC (Economic Development)*

If the figures in Table 56 above are examined in two five year periods, Cherwell District has out performed any other district in terms of VAT registered businesses between 1999 and 2003, as illustrated below in Table 57. This is a change of 98% between 1999 to 2003.

<b>Table 57</b>			
<b>New VAT registered businesses</b>			
	<b>1994 – 1998</b>	<b>1999 – 2003</b>	<b>Change</b>
Cherwell	62	123	98%
Oxford	75	58	-23%
South Oxfordshire	104	100	-4%
Vale of White Horse	67	95	42%
West Oxfordshire	57	91	60%
Oxfordshire Total	362	468	29%
<i>Source: CDC (Economic Development)</i>			

### Number of Jobs Created/Lost

Table 58 illustrates that the average number of jobs created per annum since 2001 is 643, however there was a significant decline in 2004.

<b>Table 58</b>	
<b>Jobs Created / Lost in Cherwell</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Jobs</b>
2004	222
2003	718
2002	655
2001	978
<i>Source CDC (Economic Development)</i>	

### Sources

- Cherwell District Council (Economic Development)

### Economic Growth

There has been strong employment growth in the District – 22% increase between 1991 & 1996, and rising to 28% between 1996 & 2000. During both of these periods the growth in employment was well above Oxfordshire, regional and national rates. The 63% employment growth in the period 1991-2000 – compares with 38% in Oxfordshire, 28% in South East and 17% in Great Britain. Most of the District's employment growth has been in service sector activities, although manufacturing has also seen rising employment levels.

### Home-Based Working Using Communication Technologies

Table 59 below shows the significant increase in home based working which has occurred nationally over the last 8 years.

**Table 59 Number and proportion of workers who are home-workers and tele-workers (a) Spring 2005**

	Home-workers (b)			Of which: tele-workers (c)			Of which: TC tele-workers (d)		
	Works mainly in own home	Works in different places using home as a base	Total	Works mainly in own home	Works in different places using home as a base	Total	Works mainly in own home	Works in different places using home as a base	Total
Per cent (e, f)									
1997	3	6	9	1	2	4	1	2	3
1998	3	7	9	1	3	4	1	2	3
1999	2	7	10	1	3	4	1	3	4
2000	3	7	10	1	4	5	1	3	4
2001	2	7	10	2	4	5	1	3	5
2002	3	8	10	2	5	7	2	4	6
2003	3	8	11	2	6	7	2	5	6
2004	3	8	11	2	6	8	2	5	7
2005	3	8	11	2	6	8	2	5	7
Thousands (f)									
1997	682	1600	2283	302	618	921	238	499	737
1998	679	1790	2469	335	714	1049	266	582	848
1999	640	1937	2577	336	851	1187	264	685	949
2000	678	1961	2639	396	974	1370	328	786	1114
2001	673	1916	2590	433	1051	1484	364	870	1234
2002	698	2062	2760	484	1381	1865	422	1163	1585
2003	707	2207	2915	516	1553	2069	437	1329	1767
2004	761	2243	3004	562	1599	2161	489	1374	1863
2005	768	2324	3092	603	1774	2377	524	1538	2062

**Source****Labour Force Survey**

a) Excludes people on government employment and training schemes who, although classified as in employment, are not asked the LFS home-working or tele-working questions.

b) Home-workers are people who work mainly in their own home, or in different places using home as a base, in their main job.

c) Tele-workers are a subgroup of home-workers who use both a telephone and a computer to work at home, or in different places using home as a base.

d) TC tele-workers are a subgroup of tele-workers who could not work at home, or in different places using home as a base, without using both a telephone and a computer.

e) Home-workers/tele-workers as a percentage of all workers.

f) Estimates have been adjusted for non-response to the home-working and tele-working questions.