



LOCAL PLAN | **Monitoring Report** 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020

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Introduction

The monitoring report aims to assess progress in meeting policy targets and milestones, and to present contextual information on Braintree District.

This report monitors between the period of 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, however more up to date information has been provided on occasion where relevant or useful

If you have any queries relating to this monitoring report, please contact the Planning Policy team on email planningpolicy@braintree.gov.uk

General information about the new Local Plan and about the Local Development Plan can be found via the link below:

https://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200230/planning_policy

Braintree District Council Monitoring Report 2020



Local Development Scheme

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out a rolling programme for the preparation of documents that will form Braintree District Council's Local Plan. The most recent LDS was published in December 2020.

The full LDS may be viewed on the Braintree District Council website at:

https://www.braintree.gov.uk/downloads/200230/planning_policy

Profile of the District: Population Count and Broad Age Group

The estimated population of the District reached 152,604 in mid-2019. The table below indicates the age structure by broad age group.

Table 1: Population of Braintree District mid-2019		
	Number	As proportion of total
Total persons Braintree District	152,604	100%
Persons aged 0 - 4	8,562	5.61
Persons aged 5 - 19	27,084	17.75
Persons aged 20 - 44	43,446	28.47
Persons aged 45 – 64	42,413	27.79
Persons aged 65 and over	31,099	20.38

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), mid-2019 population estimates, published 2020

The estimated population by District Ward as at mid-2019 is set out in Table 2.

Table 2: Population of Braintree District Wards, mid 2019	
Ward Name	All Ages
Bocking Blackwater	9,690
Bocking North	5,289
Bocking South	6,550
Braintree Central & Beckers Green	10,239
Braintree South	6,998
Braintree West	5,934
Bumpstead	2,800
Coggeshall	6,084
Gosfield & Greenstead Green	2,323
Great Notley & Black Notley	10,047
Halstead St Andrew's	6,184
Halstead Trinity	6,392
Hatfield Peverel & Terling	5,725
Hedingham	5,975
Kelvedon & Feering	5,742
Rayne	2,903
Silver End & Cressing	6,439
Stour Valley North	2,914
Stour Valley South	2,953
The Colnes	5,823
Three Fields	5,861
Witham Central	6,282
Witham North	7,154
Witham South	6,506
Witham West	7,009
Yeldham	2,788
Braintree and Bocking total	44,700
Halstead total	12,576
Witham total	26,951

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), mid-2019 population estimates, published 2020

District population change

Table 3 below illustrates estimated population change year on year between 2002/03 and 2018/19, according to the Office for National Statistics mid-year population estimates.

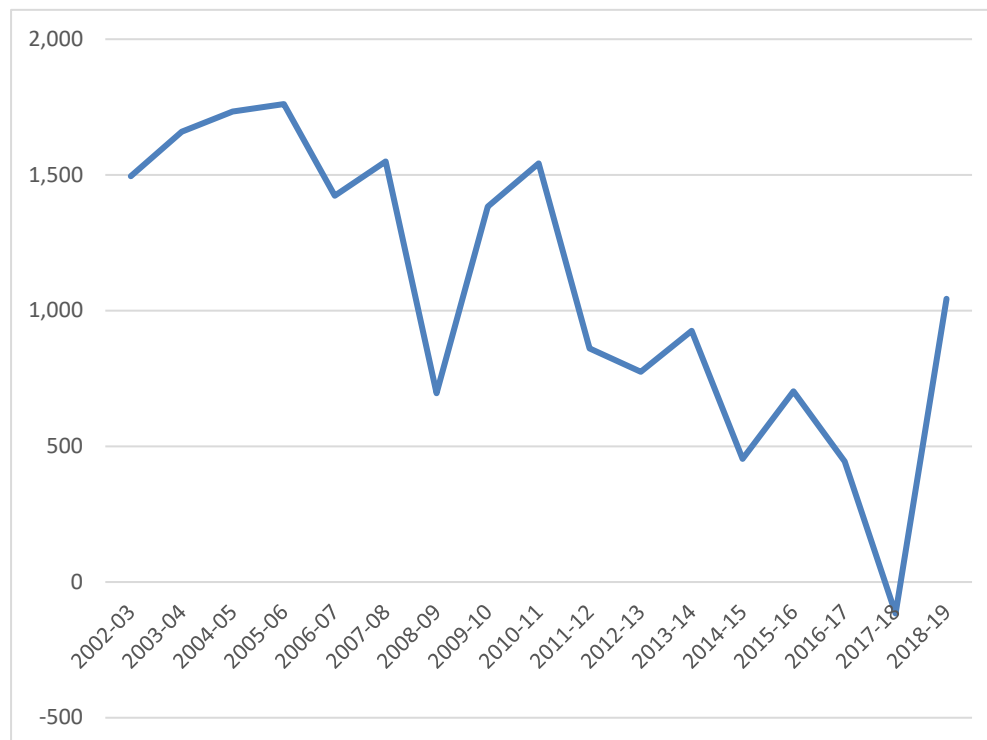
In the year 2018/2019, the population was estimated to have increased by 1,043.

Table 3: Population change by year, Braintree District, 2002/03 to 2018/19			
	Estimated population at start mid-year	Estimated population at end mid-year	Estimated population change
2002-2003	134,272	135,767	+1,495
2003-2004	135,767	137,426	+1,659
2004-2005	137,426	139,160	+1,734
2005-2006	139,160	140,921	+1,761
2006-2007	140,921	142,344	+1,423
2007-2008	142,344	143,894	+1,550
2008-2009	143,894	144,589	+695
2009-2010	144,589	145,972	+1,383
2010-2011	145,972	147,514	+1,542
2011-2012	147,514	148,375	+861
2012-2013	148,375	149,150	+775
2013-2014	149,150	150,076	+926
2014-2015	150,076	150,530	+454
2015-2016	150,530	151,233	+703
2016-2017	151,233	151,677	+444
2017-2018	151,677	151,561	-116
2018-2019	151,561	152,604	+1,043
Sum total change 15 year period 2002-2019			+18,332

Source: Office for National Statistics, Sub National Mid-Year Population Estimates

The Figure 2 illustrates the trend in year on year population increase in Braintree District.

Figure 2: Estimated population increase mid-year to mid-year 2002/03 to 2018/19



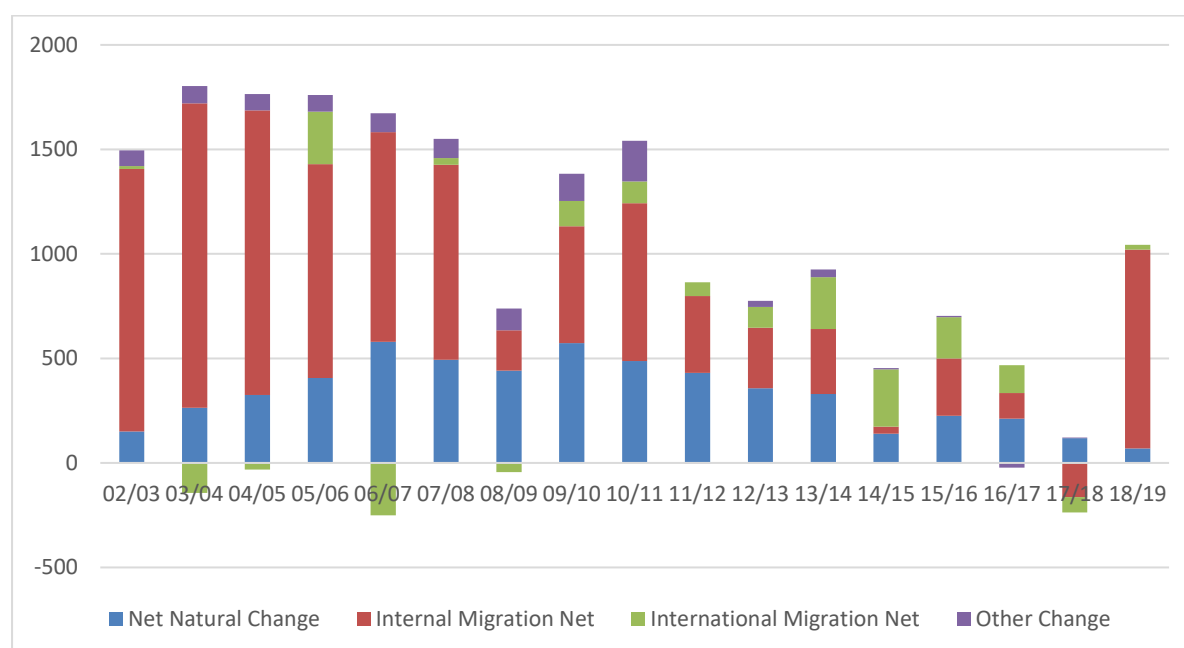
Source: Office for National Statistics, Sub National Mid-Year Population Estimates

Table 4 provides information on components of estimated population change in the District 2002-2019.

Table 4: Components of population change Braintree District 2002-2018												
	Births	Deaths	Net Natural Change	Internal Migration In	Internal Migration Out	Internal Migration Net	International Migration In	International Migration Out	International Migration Net	Overall Net Migration	Other Change	Sum Net Change
2002-03	1508	1358	150	7199	5942	1257	354	341	13	1270	75	1495
2003-04	1591	1327	264	7572	6115	1457	321	465	-144	1313	82	1659
2004-05	1621	1296	325	7097	5736	1361	326	357	-31	1330	79	1734
2005-06	1635	1228	407	7023	6000	1023	718	467	251	1274	80	1761
2006-07	1766	1187	579	7442	6438	1004	621	871	-250	754	90	1423
2007-08	1787	1294	493	6929	5995	934	462	431	31	965	92	1550
2008-09	1747	1306	441	5675	5482	193	434	478	-44	149	105	695
2009-10	1834	1260	574	6667	6109	558	329	208	121	679	130	1383
2010-11	1766	1278	488	6708	5954	754	418	314	104	858	196	1542
2011-12	1767	1336	431	6689	6321	368	361	296	65	433	-3	861
2012-13	1720	1362	358	6618	6329	289	348	248	100	389	28	775
2013-14	1621	1291	330	7083	6772	311	451	203	248	559	37	926
2014-15	1636	1496	140	7023	6990	33	494	219	275	308	6	454
2015-16	1678	1452	226	7128	6854	274	488	290	198	472	5	703
2016-17	1,667	1,455	212	7,613	7,491	122	439	306	133	255	-23	444
2017-18	1,701	1,583	118	7,312	7,475	-163	369	443	-74	-237	3	-116
2018-19	1,591	1,521	70	8,322	7,371	951	361	339	22	973	0	1043

Source: ONS, sub-national population mid-year estimates components of change

Figure 3: Braintree District Population Trend 2002 to 2019 Components of change



Source: Office for National Statistics, mid-year population estimates, components of change

Projected population and household change

The Office for National Statistics produces projections of population change by age and sex over the next 25 years. These are trend-based projections, which means assumptions for future levels of births, deaths and migration are informed by observed levels mainly over the previous 5 years. The most recent set of these projections is 2018-based, and were published in 2020. However, the standard method for assessing local housing need concluded that the 2014 projections should continue to be used for calculating housing need.

Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study

In 2015 Braintree District Council, jointly with Chelmsford City Council; Colchester Borough Council and Tendring District Council, commissioned research from Peter Brett Associates to consider the emerging evidence for a joint Housing Market Area and advise on the scale of “objectively assessed housing need”.

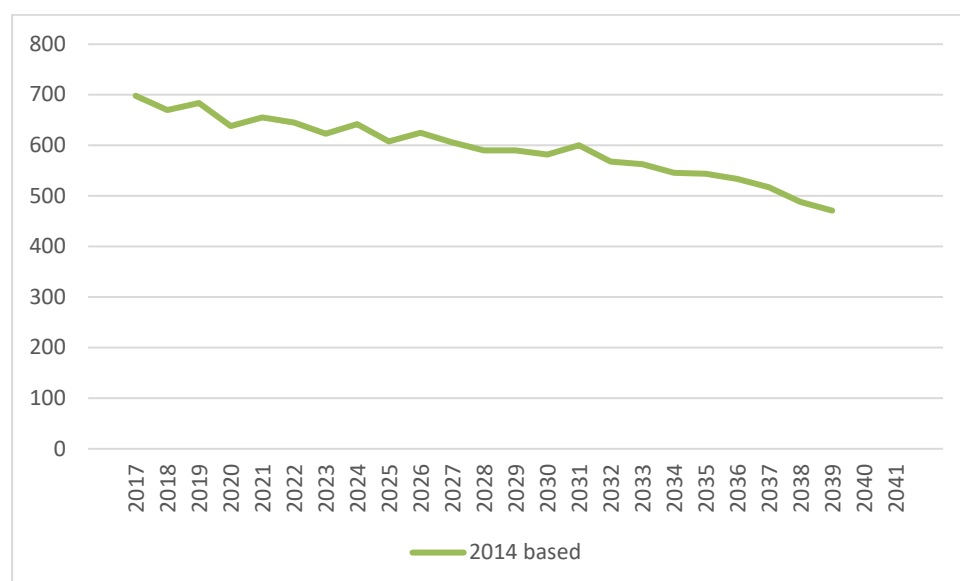
A first report on this work was published in 2015, and an update by Peter Brett Associates was published in 2016 to take into account new population, household and employment projections.

The 2016 Objectively Assessed Housing Need Study Update concluded that the objectively assessed need for Braintree District was an average of **716** new homes from 2013.

The Government has introduced a Standard Methodology with a formula that uses household projections and the local housing affordability ratio (both published by ONS) to calculate local housing need.

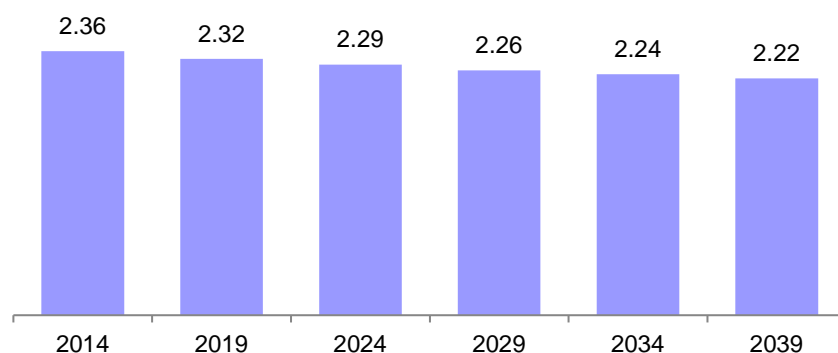
The Standard Methodology Target should be monitored and reviewed each year to take into account changes in the local housing affordability ratio (updated annually).

Figure 4: DCLG 2014-based Household Projections: projected increase in number of households from previous year, Braintree District



Household size

Figure 5: Projected average household size Braintree District according to the CLG 2014-based household projections



According to the CLG 2014-based household projections, by 2039 1-person households were projected to form 29% of households in Braintree District. 36% of the projected increase in the number of households is in the form of one-person households. The chart below shows the projected increase in the number of households by household type in the district, 2014-2039.

Figure 6: Projected change in number of households Braintree District 2014-39

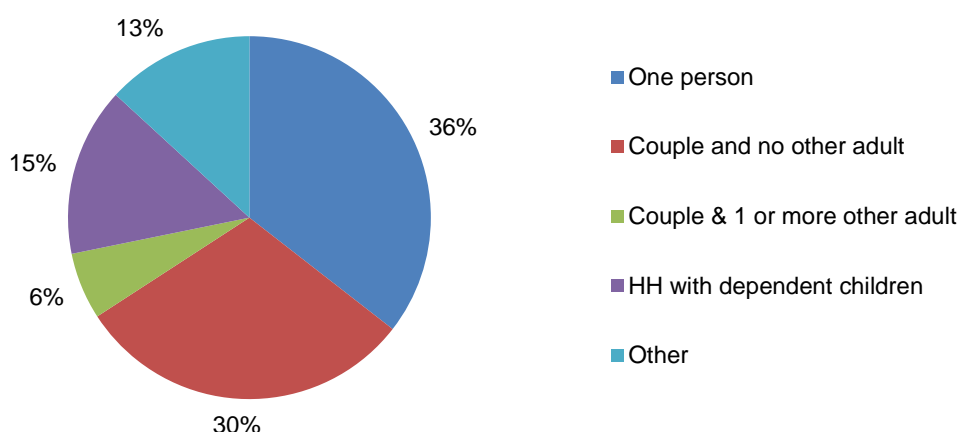


Table 5: Projected households ('000 h/h) in Strategic Housing Market Area in 2039 by household type, according to CLG 2014-based household projections

	1-person	Couple & no other adult	Couple & 1 or more other adult	Households with dependent children	Other	Total
Braintree	22.539	22.852	5.866	21.237	5.373	77.867
Chelmsford	24.022	25.651	7.147	24.478	6.524	87.822
Colchester	28.399	23.619	6.083	28.516	8.241	94.858
Tendring	26.630	23.944	5.761	17.509	5.006	78.850
HMA total	101.59	96.066	24.857	91.740	25.144	339.397

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016

Projected change in the number of households by household type, according to the CLG 2014-based household projections, is shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Projected change ('000 h/h) in Strategic Housing Market Area 2014-2039 by household type, according to CLG 2014-based household projections

	1-person	Couple and no other adult	Couple and 1 or more other adult	Households with dependent children	Other	Total
Braintree	5.312	4.533	0.892	2.247	1.970	14.954
Chelmsford	15.798	4.646	1.250	3.782	2.168	16.125
Colchester	6.503	6.503	0.888	6.681	2.893	19.956
Tendring	5.789	4.270	1.255	2.808	1.676	15.798
HMA total	21.883	16.440	4.285	15.518	8.707	66.833

Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016

Employment, Labour Supply, and Unemployment

Table 7 sets out information from the Annual Population Survey on labour supply in the District compared with the regional and Great Britain averages.

Table 7: Employment and Unemployment (Jul 2019-Jun 2020)

Employment and unemployment (Jul 2019-Jun 2020)				
	Braintree (Numbers)	Braintree (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
All People				
Economically Active†	79,700	84.3	81.1	79.4
In Employment†	77,000	81.4	78.3	76.2
Employees†	66,200	70.4	67.1	65.2
Self Employed†	10,100	11.0	10.9	10.8
Unemployed (Model-Based)§	2,500	3.1	3.4	3.9
Males				
Economically Active†	44,300	86.6	85.5	83.4
In Employment†	43,000	84.1	82.2	79.9
Employees†	36,800	72.8	67.5	65.6
Self Employed†	5,500	11.3	14.6	14.0
Unemployed§	!	!	3.7	4.1
Females				
Economically Active†	35,500	81.8	76.8	75.3
In Employment†	34,000	78.4	74.4	72.6
Employees†	29,400	67.6	66.8	64.8
Self Employed†	#	#	7.3	7.5
Unemployed§	!	!	3.1	3.6

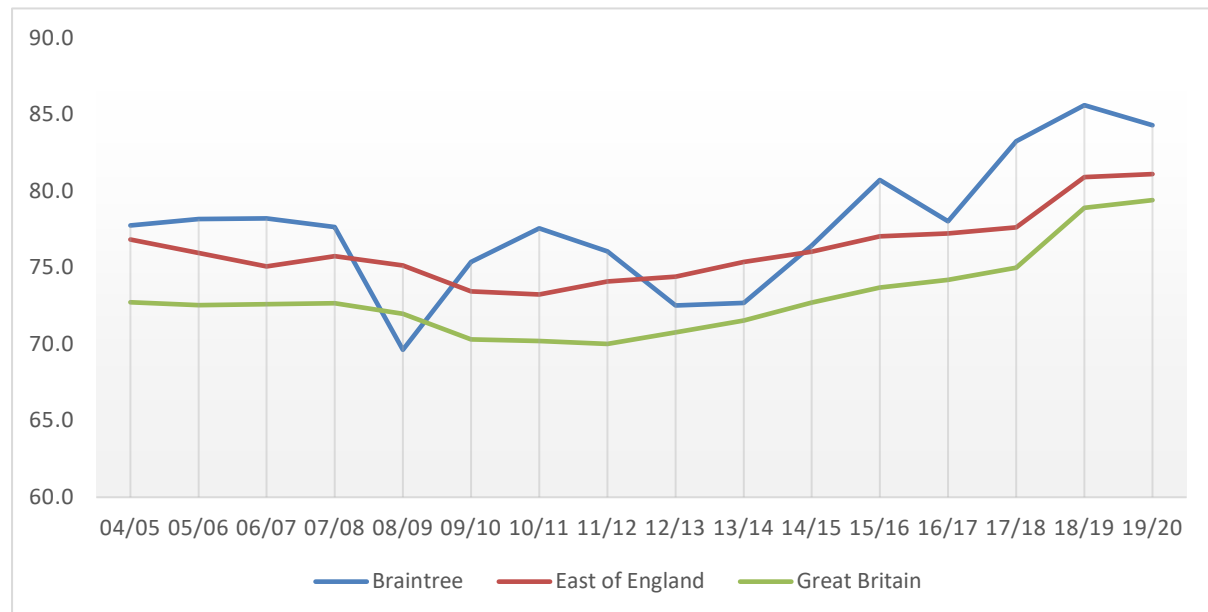
Source: ONS annual population survey

*Data unavailable, sample size too small for reliable estimate. Source Nomis Labour Market Profile/APS

The Annual Population Survey data uses sample survey and is less reliable at lower geographic levels, such as LA districts. That is illustrated in the chart, Figure 7, which compares the economic activity rate trend according to the Annual Population Survey, for Braintree, the region and Great Britain. The suggested Braintree Trend is volatile.

Figure 7: Economic activity rate trend 2004/05 to 2019/20

Source Annual Population Survey/Nomis



The unemployment rate in the District is below that of the East of England Region, and Great Britain as a whole.

Table 8: Claimant count unemployment, Braintree District, September 2020

Claimant count by age - not seasonally adjusted (September 2020)				
	Braintree (Level)	Braintree (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Aged 16+	5,060	5.5	5.7	6.5
Aged 16 To 17	10	0.3	0.3	0.4
Aged 18 To 24	925	9.2	8.9	9.4
Aged 18 To 21	510	9.2	9.0	9.2
Aged 25 To 49	2,815	5.9	6.1	7.1
Aged 50+	1,310	4.2	4.3	4.9

Source: ONS Claimant count by sex and age
Note: % is number of claimants as a proportion of resident population of the same age

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Source: Nomis, Labour Market Statistics, Local Authority Profile

Employment and Jobs

Job density

‘Job density’ is the term given to represent the number of jobs available for a single person of working age over a given area. For example, a job density of 1 would represent the fact that there is a single job available for every person of working age. The most recent published figure for the District is as at 2018.

Table 9: Job Density (2018)			
	Braintree	East Region	GB
Jobs density	0.72	0.86	0.86

Source: Nomis, Labour Market Profile for Braintree, ONS Jobs Density.

The job density figures represent the ratio of total jobs to working-age population. “Total jobs” includes employees, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. Job density in the District remained below the regional and national average. Table 10 compares the estimated employment and estimated jobs density for Braintree with those of other districts in the Strategic Housing Market Area.

Table 10: Estimated number of jobs and jobs density 2018		
District	Estimated no. of jobs	Estimated jobs density
Braintree	66,000	0.72
Chelmsford	103,000	0.94
Colchester	98,000	0.80
Tendring	50,000	0.63

Source: Nomis, Labour Market Profile, ONS Jobs Density.

Table 11 shows the reported job density for Braintree District over the period 2002 to 2018. The data is based on sample surveys.

Table 11: Job density, Braintree District 2003 - 2018			
Year	Jobs Density	Year	Jobs Density
2003	0.70	2011	0.60
2004	0.67	2012	0.61
2005	0.67	2013	0.62
2006	0.66	2014	0.65
2007	0.70	2015	0.67
2008	0.64	2016	0.70
2009	0.65	2017	0.76
2010	0.60	2018	0.72

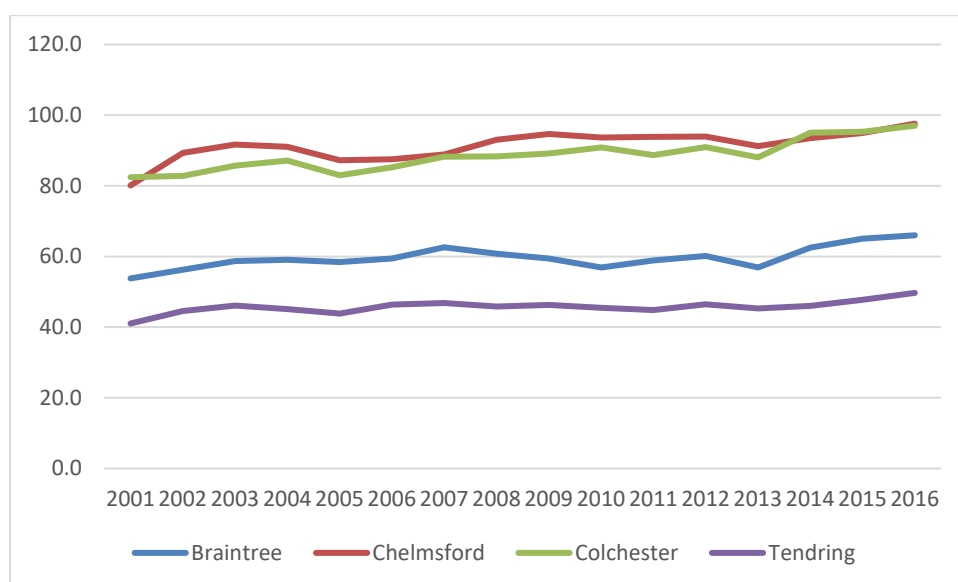
Source: Nomis, Labour Market Profile for Braintree, ONS Jobs Density.

Table 12 and Figure 8 show the estimated change in the number of jobs from 2001 to 2016 in Braintree District and in the other districts in the Strategic Housing Market Area, according to the EEFM 2017.

Table 12: Estimated change in number of jobs 2001-2016

	Braintree	Chelmsford	Colchester	Tendring	SHMA
2001	53.8	80.1	82.4	41.0	257.4
2002	56.3	89.3	82.8	44.6	272.9
2003	58.7	91.7	85.7	46.1	282.2
2004	59.1	91.1	87.2	45.1	282.4
2005	58.5	87.3	83.0	43.8	272.5
2006	59.4	87.6	85.3	46.3	278.6
2007	62.6	88.9	88.2	46.8	286.5
2008	60.8	93.0	88.3	45.9	288.0
2009	59.5	94.7	89.2	46.3	289.5
2010	56.9	93.7	90.9	45.5	287.0
2011	58.9	93.8	88.7	44.8	286.3
2012	60.1	93.9	91.0	46.5	291.5
2013	56.9	91.3	88.0	45.3	281.4
2014	62.5	93.5	95.0	46.0	297.0
2015	65.0	94.9	95.3	47.7	303.0
2016	66.0	97.6	97.0	49.7	310.3
Change 2001-2016	11.2	14.8	12.9	6.7	52.9
% change 2001-2016	20.8	18.5	15.6	16.2	20.6

Source: East of England Forecasting Model/Cambridge Econometrics, 2017.

Figure 8: Estimated change in number of jobs 2001-2016

Source: East of England Forecasting Model/Cambridge Econometrics, 2017.

Forecast employment change

The East of England Forecasting Model (EEFM) 2017 was produced by Cambridge Econometrics. Users of district level data are cautioned that: the data used in the EEFM is largely based on survey data and as such, large 'jumps' in data can occur as a result of survey errors.

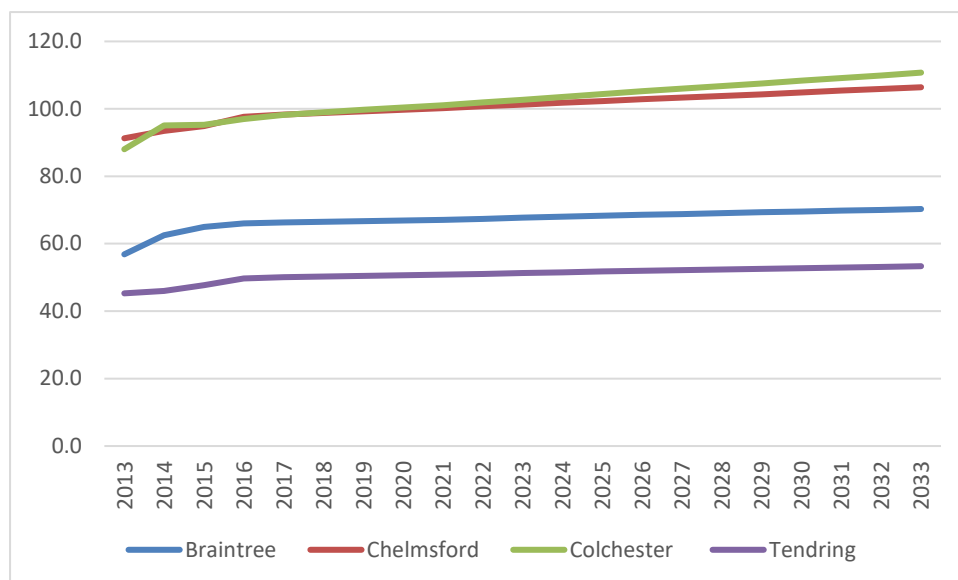
Table 13 and Figure 9 summarise the 2017 EEFM baseline employment forecasts for districts in the Housing Market Area.

Table 13: 2017 EEFM Baseline Employment Forecasts ('000 jobs)					
	Braintree	Chelmsford	Colchester	Tendring	SHMA total
2013	56.9	91.3	88.0	45.3	281.4
2014	62.5	93.5	95.0	46.0	297.0
2015	65.0	94.9	95.3	47.7	303.0
2016	66.0	97.6	97.0	49.7	310.4
2017	66.3	98.3	98.2	50.1	312.9
2018	66.5	98.8	99.0	50.3	314.6
2019	66.7	99.3	99.7	50.5	316.2
2020	66.9	99.8	100.4	50.7	317.7
2021	67.1	100.2	101.0	50.8	319.1
2022	67.4	100.7	101.9	51.1	321.0
2023	67.7	101.3	102.7	51.3	323.0
2024	68.0	101.9	103.6	51.5	324.9
2025	68.3	102.3	104.4	51.8	326.8
2026	68.6	102.9	105.2	51.9	328.6
2027	68.8	103.4	106.0	52.1	330.3
2028	69.1	103.9	106.8	52.3	332.0
2029	69.3	104.3	107.5	52.5	333.7
2030	69.6	104.8	108.3	52.7	335.5
2031	69.8	105.4	109.1	52.9	337.3
2032	70.1	105.9	109.9	53.1	339.0
2033	70.3	106.4	110.7	53.3	340.8
2013-2033 change	13.4 (0.7 p.a.)	15.1 (0.8 p.a.)	22.7 (1.1 p.a.)	8.1 (0.4 p.a.)	59.4 (3.0 p.a.)
2013-2033, % change	23.6%	16.6%	25.8%	17.8%	21.1%

Source: East of England Forecasting Model, Baseline Forecasts, 2017

The forecast rate of increase in employment in the District is higher initially as the District recovers from the recession, and then levels off.

Figure 9: Forecast number of jobs 2013-2033 ('000 jobs)



Source: East of England Forecasting Model, Baseline Forecasts, 2017

Commuting

The 2011 Census results showed commuting inflow of 15,184, and commuting outflow of 31,765, with net out-commuting of 16,581 (source: 2011 Census Origin/destination statistics, Location of usual residence and place of work by sex). Table 14 shows estimated net commuting across Greater Essex. The level of net-out-commuting from Braintree District was the highest in Greater Essex.

Table 14: Net commuting, Greater Essex, according to the 2011 Census			
	2011 Census Travel to Work data		
	Inflow	Outflow	Net flows
Basildon	36,071	36,243	-172
Braintree	15,184	31,765	-16,581
Brentwood	17,745	20,103	-2,358
Castle Point	7,467	23,573	-16,106
Chelmsford	30,575	34,430	-3,855
Colchester	22,968	24,850	-1,882
Epping Forest	21,509	35,628	-14,119
Harlow	15,994	16,561	-567
Maldon	6,513	13,782	-7,269
Rochford	10,411	24,441	-14,030
Tendring	6,763	17,412	-10,649
Uttlesford	17,618	18,110	-492
Southend on Sea	20,661	29,946	-9,285
Thurrock	21,804	35,032	-13,228

Source: ONS, Nomis; Origin/destination: location of usual residence and place of work, Table WU01UK

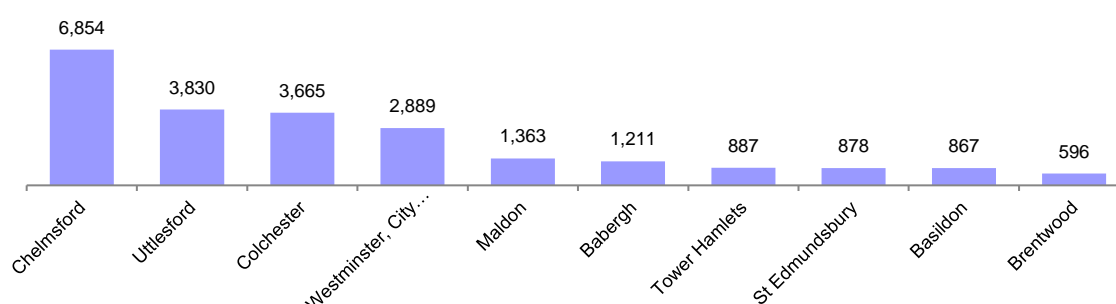
According to the 2011 Census, 26,964 residents of Braintree District aged 16 and over work within the District, and 8,664 mainly work at or from home. Table 15 compares information on where people work for the four districts in the Strategic Housing Market Area. Of the four districts, Braintree had the highest proportion travelling to work outside of their district of residence.

Table 15: Residents in employment				
	Braintree	Chelmsford	Colchester	Tendring
Residents aged 16-74 in employment	72,016	83,355	81,214	53,285
Residents aged 16+ working within District	26,964	36,228	45,269	26,124
Residents aged 16+ who mainly work at or from home *	8,664	9,002	8,789	6,441
No fixed place of work*	7,179	7,265	7,167	5,429
Outside UK or offshore installation	150	161	249	179

Source: ONS, 2011 Census: data on the number of residents in employment is available for those aged 16-74, taken here from Table KS601EW - Economic activity by sex.

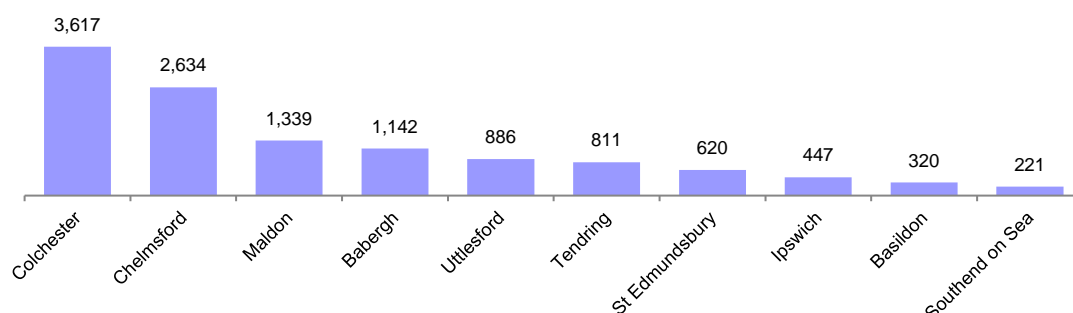
The average distance to work by District residents in 2011 was 21.1 km; the third highest in the East of England region (only Uttlesford and Maldon were higher). The average distance travelled had increased, from 20.1 km. in 2001 and was the 12th highest out of all the 326 local authority areas in England. (Source: 2011 Census, Nomis, Census Table QS702EW). The top ten destinations for Braintree residents travelling to work outside the District are shown in Figure 19.

Figure 10: Top ten destinations for District residents working outside the District, 2011



The top ten sources for people commuting into Braintree District are shown in Figure 11:

Figure 11: Top ten origins, people commuting to work in Braintree District, 2011



Forecast Commuting

Net out-commuting from the District is expected to increase. Table 16 compares forecast change in net commuting levels according to the EEFM 2017 forecasts for Braintree Districts and neighbouring districts of Chelmsford and Colchester.

Table 16: Net commuting (000s)			
	2013	2033	2045
Braintree	-16.1	-16.7	-18.7
Chelmsford	-12.3	-10.0	-10.8
Colchester	-5.1	-4.7	-4.1

Source: East of England Forecasting Model, Baseline Forecasts, 2017

Forecast employment change by sector

The East of England Forecasting Model provides forecasts of employment in districts by industrial sector, although Cambridge Econometrics (who produced the forecasts) advise that these should be used with caution.

In general terms, the forecasts show a reduction in manufacturing employment, and increases in employment in construction and services.

The 2017 EEFM forecasts can be viewed on the Cambridgeshire Insight website at: <http://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/EEFM>

Business development

The Base Date

The information set out in these results represents sites identified at 31 March 2020 involving additional development, or loss of, the land uses listed above. Planning permissions granted or development that has occurred after this base date will be taken into account in future monitoring.

Results Summary

Table 17 provides information on the completed non-residential floorspace for the whole of the District, in square metres by use class, in the survey year 2019/20, and also shows the amount of additional floorspace on previously developed land.

Table 17: Non-residential floorspace completed 2019/20						
	Use Class A1/A2	Use Class B1a Offices	Use Class B1, B2, B8 (other than B1a)	Use Class D2 – Leisure	Flexible	Total
Gross Floorspace developed 2019/20, sq. m	2,972	1,376	11,269	0	440	16,057
Floorspace losses 2018/19, sq. m	515	4,775	2,758	0	0	8,048
<i>Floorspace redevelopment Non-Res to Non-Res</i>	0	284	2,264	0	0	2,548
<i>Floorspace loss Non-Res to Res</i>	515	4,491	494	0	0	5,500
Net change in floorspace 2019/20, sq. m	2,457	-3,399	8,511	0	440	8,009

Employment development in previous years

Tables 18 to 20 provide information on net development in employment floorspace, for A1-B8 Use Classes in square metres, over the seven-year period 2010-2020.

Table 18: Net retail floorspace development (sq m): 2010-2020											
A1 Retail & A2 Financial and Professional Services											
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2010-20
Net fspace developed	937	1,130	-458	580	669	3,509	1,738	2,774	-407	2,457	12,929

Table 19: Net office floorspace development (sq m): 2010-2020											
B1a Offices											
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2010-20
Net fspace developed	-148	1,351	-3,047	-1,317	-4,963	2,724	-990	457	205	-3,399	-9,127

Table 20: Net B1/B2/B8 floorspace development (sq m): 2010-2020											
B1/B2/B8											
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2010-20
Net fspace developed	6,816	2,030	-6,562	-18,359	-4,128	-956	1,416	1,013	3,800	8,511	-6,419

The majority of the B1/2/8 floorspace lost in 2013/14 occurred at the former Premdor site (18,274 sq m), also identified as a regeneration area in the Core Strategy.

In recent years there have been losses through the Government policy to relax Permitted Development rights to encourage the conversion of empty offices to new homes.

Outstanding permissions for future development

Table 21 provides information on potential non-residential floorspace with planning permission for the whole of the District, in square metres by use class.

Table 21: Potential sq. m. of non-residential floorspace (with planning permission) identified as at 31st March 2020 by Use Class						
	A1/A2	B1a Offices	B1, B2, B8 (other than specified as B1a)	D2 - Leisure	Flexible	Total
Outstanding fspace with permission	19669	13,778	55,042	3,580	0	92,069
Outstanding fspace redevelopment/losses with permission	2821	4,888	21,155	2,499	0	31,363
<i>Potential fspace redevelopment Non-Res to Non-Res</i>	<i>475</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>8,420</i>	<i>1,366</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>10,601</i>
<i>Potential Fspace loss Non-Res to Res</i>	<i>2346</i>	<i>4,548</i>	<i>12,735</i>	<i>1,133</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>20,762</i>
Net additional floorspace outstanding with permission	16,848	8,890	33,887	1,081	0	60,706

These figures do not include sites allocated in the development plan that have yet to secure planning permission.

Future business land needs and work on the new Local Plan

In 2015 Braintree District Council commissioned an employment land needs assessment to review existing employment sites and consider future employment land needs. This assessment was published in August 2015 and forms part of the evidence base for the new Local Plan. The assessment can be viewed on the Braintree District Council website on:

https://www.braintree.gov.uk/downloads/file/5296/local_plan_2014_evidence_base_employment_land_employment_land_needs_assessment_aug_2015

Town Centres:

The 2018 update to the Braintree Retail Study is available to view on line via the Council website, as part of the Evidence Base to the Local Development Framework, at:

https://www.braintree.gov.uk/downloads/file/8332/retail_study_update_may_2018_-_subject_to_consultation

Custom Build and Self Build house building

Local authorities are required to hold a self build or custom build register and to identify land for those seeking a custom build home in the area. The Council will be supportive of these types of development on sites within development boundaries or meeting other policies in the Local Plan. In addition, the policy proposes to allocate specific targets for self build and custom build plots as part of the mix on larger developments in the area, to ensure that need is met.

The Submission Draft Local Plan includes a draft policy requirement that on sites of 500 dwellings or more, 2% of homes will be required to be available for self or custom builders (Draft Policy LPP 37).

The information for the return from Braintree District Council to the Government monitoring of custom and self build is summarised below:

- Braintree District Council has not introduced a local connection test
- Braintree District Council has not implemented a charge for entry onto the register
- Information and the form for registering is available on the Braintree District Council website
- A draft policy on this subject is included in the Braintree District Submission Draft Local Plan; plots are proposed to be included at the Strategic Growth Locations to be allocated in the Local Plan

Demand generated from the register

- Entries on the register in the first base period, to 30.10.2016: 38 individuals, no group entries.
- Entries on the register in the second base period, 31.10.2016 to 30.10.2017: 42 individuals, no group entries.
- Entries on the register in the third base period, 31.10.2017 to 30.10.2018: 56 individuals, no group entries.
- Entries on the register in the fourth base period, 31.10.2018 to 30.10.2019: 26 individuals, no group entries.
- Entries on the register in the fifth base period, 31.10.2019 to 30.10.2020: 23
- 185 individual entries and no group entries across all five base periods.

Supply of suitable development permissioned plots

- The Right to Build Taskforce has recently published guidance on what permissions Local Authorities can count towards meeting the demand generated by the register and further guidance and legislation is expected shortly. The Local Authority will therefore keep this under review.

Travellers

According to the 2011 Census, in March 2011 there were 132 people in the District who defined their ethnic group as White, Gypsy or Irish Traveller.

The adopted Core Strategy Policy CS3 sets out the following requirements for Travellers and Travelling Showpersons in Braintree District:

- A minimum of 50 authorised traveller residential plots/pitches by 2011
- A minimum of 67 authorised traveller residential plots/pitches by 2021
- 5 traveller transit plots/pitches by 2013
- 6 traveller transit plots/pitches by 2021
- 1 additional travelling showpersons plots/plot by 2021

The number of traveller caravans in Braintree District for the most recent published 8 counts is shown in Table 22, using data published by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Table 22: Number of traveller caravans Braintree District										
	Jan 2015	July 2015	Jan 2016	July 2016	Jan 2017	July 2017	Jan 2018	July 2018	Jan 2019	July 2019
Socially rented	40	40	44	28	31	30	35	31	38	33
Private caravans with planning permission	25	65	67	69	77	88	89	111	107	100
Caravans on Travellers' own land:										
Tolerated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not tolerated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caravans on land not owned by Gypsies:										
Tolerated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not tolerated	0	15	0	10	0	6	0	0	0	0
Total all caravans	94	120	111	107	108	124	124	142	145	133

Source: Communities and Local Government, Count of Traveller Caravans

The Council's evidence base on Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson's has identified a need of 26 pitches to meet the needs of Gypsy and Travellers between 2016 and 2033. An additional need of 6 plots has been identified for Travelling Showpeople for the same period.

Additional traveller sites will be identified through the Draft Local Plan at appropriate Strategic Growth Locations. Further work is being undertaken to determine any likely need for Transit Pitch provision across Essex.

The District's Housing Provision and Five Year Housing Land Supply

The latest five year housing land supply assessment can be found on the Planning Policy Monitoring Webpage (link below).

<https://www.braintree.gov.uk/downloads/download/794/monitoring>

Policy Performance Conclusions

Over the monitoring year 2019/2020 the supply of new homes increased to 883, compared to the previous year when 555 homes were completed.

The three strategic Growth Locations identified in the LDF Core Strategy are coming forward; two are under construction) and the third is the subject of a current planning application. The Council has been actively working to increase future housing supply to meet higher targets, through the development management process, and in the preparation of the new Local Plan.

There are now several large sites under construction being developed by volume housebuilders. The action taken by the Council in approving new sites in advance of and supplementing the Local Plan process is increasing the supply of new homes and is improving the District's 5 year supply position in relation to the new, much higher, housing targets for decision making and for the Local Plan.

There was a recorded net increase of retail floorspace in the monitoring year (2, 457 sq m). There were sites with planning permission for a potential net retail floorspace of 16,848 sq m.

There was a net loss of office of 3,399 sq m. Overall, there has been a trend over the last number of years of net losses of office space within the district. In part this reflects the impact of the Government changes to Permitted Development regulations to encourage housing supply. There were sites with planning permission for a potential net floorspace of 8,890 sq m.

There was a net increase in B1/B2/B8 floorspace of 8,511 sq m. There were sites with planning permission for a potential net floorspace of 33,887 sq m.

No developments which involved a change of leisure floorspace (D2) were completed this monitoring year. There were sites with planning permission for a potential net floorspace of 1,081 sq m.

The Local Plan includes additional sites for future employment development, in good sites for business uses; whereas some of the losses that are occurring and proposed for the future are of old vacant or redundant sites.