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Date: 11th November 2020

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Dear Sir/Madam,

A digital meeting of **Council** will be held via Microsoft Teams on **Tuesday, 17th November, 2020 at 5.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina Harrhy'.

Christina Harrhy
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

Pages

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 Mayor's Announcements.
- 3 To receive petitions under Rule of Procedure 28(3).
- 4 Presentation of Awards.

A greener place Man gwyrddach



5 Declarations of Interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

6 Statement from the Leader of Council.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

7 Special Council held on 10th September 2020. 1 - 12

8 Council held on 6th October 2020. 13 - 24

9 To receive and to answer questions received under Rule of Procedure 10(2).

Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning and Achievement Councillor R. Whiting from Councillor K. Etheridge.

To ask the Cabinet Member to give an update on the Councils intention for Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre including the full amount to date of the sums paid in Legal Costs as referenced in a media article where the Leader was quoted dated 15/10/20 " Whilst we welcome the decision, we also regret the amount of money it has cost the council to defend this case"

To receive and consider the following reports: -

10 Heads of the Valley Regeneration Area Master Plan. 25 - 318

11 Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) - Inspection Feedback. 319 - 332

12 Licensing Act 2003 - Statement of Licensing Policy. 333 - 446

13 Freedom of Borough - Royal British Legion. 447 - 454

Circulation:

All Members And Appropriate Officers

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Agenda Item 7



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

Councillor C. Andrews - Mayor
Councillor J. Gale - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:

M. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, A.P. Angel, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, C. Bezzina, L.J. Binding, A. Collis, S. Cook, D. Cushing, C. Cuss, W. David, D.T. Davies, M. Davies, K. Dawson, N. Dix, C. Elsbury, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, A. Farina-Childs, Mrs C. Forehead, Miss E. Forehead, J.E. Fussell, A. Gair, N. George, C. Gordon, R.W. Gough, D.T. Hardacre, L. Harding, D. Harse, D. Havard, A.G. Higgs, A. Hussey, M.P. James, V. James, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, S. Kent, G. Kirby, Mrs A. Leonard, Ms P. Leonard, C.P. Mann, P. Marsden, B. Miles, S. Morgan, Mrs G.D. Oliver, B. Owen, Mrs T. Parry, Mrs L. Phipps, D.V. Poole, D.W.R. Preece, Mrs D. Price, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, J.E. Roberts, R. Saralis, Mrs M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens, Mrs E. Stenner, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, L G. Whittle, T. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski

Together with:-

C. Harray (Chief Executive), M.S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director of Communities), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), S. Harris (Interim Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer) R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), L. Lane (Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer) and C. Evans (Committee Services Officer)

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Executive reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded and would be made publically available in live and archive form via the Council's website and advised that decisions would be made via Microsoft Forms in Teams.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Bevan, D. Hardacre, D. Harse, B. Jones, A. Leonard, G. Oliver, M. Sargent.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF COUNCIL

The Leaders Statement advised Members that with sadness, she had accepted Cllr Carl Cuss' resignation yesterday afternoon from the post of Cabinet Member for Social Care.

The Leader recognised the work that Cllr Cuss had done within the Cabinet over recent years along with his service to the community and in resigning had acted with great integrity.

The Leader confirmed that she now needed to consider filling this key Cabinet role as soon as possible in order to ensure that this Council are prepared to face the significant and challenging agenda ahead. She felt it imperative to have Cabinet fully resourced in order to lead the authority during these unprecedented times.

Members were assured that they would be kept updated on this matter.

The Leader of the Plaid Group expressed his disappointment in the actions of the former Cabinet Member but respected the integrity of his decision to acknowledge the mistakes made and resign.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

4. THE COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The Leader of Council and Chief Executive introduced the report and presentation which detailed the Council's response to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Firstly, the Leader paid tribute to and thanked all Council Staff for their hard work and dedication and the way in which they had responded to the crisis. Tribute was paid to the way staff had responded to the reshaping and reconfiguring services to ensure that the authority was able to meet the many challenges that the outbreak presented.

The Leader explained how an army of staff and volunteers had been mobilised and how they had all gone that extra mile to help. An innovative and hugely popular free school meals service was created that continued to lead the way in Wales. School sites were transformed into childcare hubs for keyworkers and a new Community Response team was developed to support shielding residents. 'Buddies' were enlisted to support elderly and vulnerable people with their shopping and medical supplies, as well as providing much needed social interaction for those confined to their homes and it was clear that a huge debt of gratitude was owed to everyone concerned.

Members were also advised of the hard work done to protect communities since lockdown. Enforcement Officers working with local businesses across the area to ensure compliance and co-operation with the coronavirus restrictions. A huge task that was being undertaken by a group of dedicated and conscientious Officers.

Despite all this good work, the Leader felt it particularly disappointing that we were now faced with renewed restrictions due to a spike in cases within the county borough. Members were aware of the complex and varied reasons for this renewed spread, much of it linked to the behaviour of some sections of the community. A second wave seemed likely and unfortunately neighbouring areas also seemed to be moving along the same trajectory.

Members were advised that this was no time for complacency and of the need to look at the picture emerging from Europe where they initially saw increases in cases in younger people that quickly moved to become more serious in other parts of the population through community transmission and now hospital admissions were increasing and so were deaths. The measures taken by Welsh Government this week seek to prevent this being our trajectory.

The Leader emphasised that we should not apportion blame for this increase in cases but instead take collective responsibility. What was clear, was the difference we could make from this point forward and the part we all had to play to limit the spread of this deadly disease.

The Leader noted that there had been calls for us all to get back into the Council Chamber and resume normal meetings. However, the message was clear, coronavirus has not gone away and the events over the past few days have validated our approach to date. We must protect our people and place and she felt sure that Members now recognise that our current arrangements are going to be required for some time yet. The Leader asked that everyone work together as 'Team Caerphilly' to tackle this dreadful disease so that we can get these restrictions lifted in the quickest and safest way possible.

The Mayor called on Mrs Christina Harry, Chief Executive to introduce a presentation.

The Chief Executive explained that the purpose of the presentation was to provide an overview of the Council's response to the pandemic, to explain the actions taken to mitigate and manage strategic risks, outline the current and future challenges of the ongoing pandemic and to reaffirm the principle of 'Team Caerphilly - Better Together'.

By way of background, Members were advised that Gwent initially had highest infection and death rate in Wales and the Council had a very limited time for alternative service arrangements but had worked together with the primary purpose to 'protect our people and place'.

In terms of Emergency Planning it was noted that CCBC enacted its Emergency Management Plan. The main element of this being the Emergency Leadership Team. Immediately links were forged with external organisations via the Strategic Co-ordinating Group sitting under the Local Resilience Forum. Daily reports to SCG were forwarded to the Emergency Co-ordination Centre Wales (ECCW) which Reports to Welsh Government which then reports to the Cabinet Office Briefing Room (COBR). In terms of 'service' response it was noted that the majority of 500 plus services provided by the Council continued to operate, some with reduced staffing levels. Members were advised that at its peak 1064 staff were absent due to the virus. There was an immediate need for significant flexibility from staff and the response was overwhelming, staff were redeployed in other service areas, others worked from home, many supported new initiatives like the childcare hubs, business grants and buddy schemes to name but a few.

The Chief Executive called on the Corporate Director for Social Services to brief Members on the response from that directorate. Mr Street confirmed that most services continued to operate, although there were some reductions in Respite Care and Day Care. Members were advised that one of the biggest initial challenges had been the supply of personal protective equipment and he paid tribute to the efforts of procurement staff and suppliers and thanks to their hard work the Council was in a good position. The Corporate Director acknowledged the challenges faced by Care Homes and that Caerphilly had not been immune to these. The continued provision of Children's Services had been one of the most complex undertaken as all the usual forms of contact now had to be facilitated electronically. The priority continued to be the safety of the children and young people of the borough.

In relation to Housing, the Corporate Director advised Members that all WHQS works had been suspended and a revised deadline from Welsh Government had yet to be confirmed.

Housing staff had been redeployed into the 'Buddy Scheme' but assurances were given that tenants had not been abandoned. All Council tenants were contacted by Tenant Support Officers in the form of reassurance calls to make sure that they were safe and well and had what they needed.

Members were asked to note that one of the most urgent areas highlighted during the pandemic had been homelessness. Mr. Street confirmed that there had been clear direction from Welsh Government to accommodate people as a priority whilst at the same time hotel and bed & breakfast facilities had closed. This had been coupled with the Minister of Justice decision to early release some prisoners, although this had a minimal impact on Caerphilly. Emergency accommodation had been acquired in Caerphilly, Blackwood, Rhymney, Risca and Barry. The direction from Welsh Government remains firm that people should not return to the streets. Members were advised that discussion was continuing regarding funding sources to ensure that this demand could continue to be met.

Regarding the Buddy Schemes, Members were advised that immediately after lockdown the Council wrote to 76,620 households with the offer to assist people who met a strict criterion and had no alternative method of support. 1,550 residents responded requesting support and there was an overwhelming response from staff with 590 people coming forward to assist, the majority doing so in their own time and from that 'the buddy scheme' was formed. This scheme supported vulnerable residents that would otherwise have struggled and now as shielding comes to an end people were being encouraged to take over their own arrangements.

Turning to the Corporate Director for Education and Corporate Services, Mr Richard Edmunds outlined the response from his directorate, starting with Education and Child Care Hubs. Members were asked to note that the first Hubs came into being on the 24th March 2020, immediately after lockdown was announced in order to provide childcare provision for key workers. Nine mainstream Hubs were created, one of which had a specific focus on complex Assisted Learning Needs and two Hubs for vulnerable pupils. The number of pupils accessing Hubs increased to an average of 362 per day and were supported by over 1700 volunteer school staff and staff from other parts of the Council.

When schools closed alternative means were required to meet the needs of the 5,500 pupils in receipt of free school meals. While some local authorities used vouchers, Caerphilly took the approach of putting food on the plates of pupils, working in partnership with local suppliers to set up a packing and distribution centre at Penallta House, 675,000 meals have been delivered.

The scheme has grown with delivery routes for 60 vehicles to over 5000 children and the take up of free school meals had increased from 70% to 91%.

Moving on to Early Years and Distance Learning during the pandemic, the Corporate Director confirmed that staff had provided support to 400 vulnerable families with children aged 0-3. This support included a weekly individual activity plan and follow up phone call and access to a parenting programme moving online. For distance learning the Education Achievement Services provided guidance and a strategy to schools, the main tool employed was the 'Hwb' a digital learning platform. The Council also implemented the Welsh Government strategy to support digitally excluded learners. Equipment was repurposed and over 1000 devices that mirrored the chrome-book set up were delivered to pupils.

In terms of Customer Services Members noted how new digital working methods were introduced and that front of house staff had been redeployed to the contact centre. There they answered 205,000 calls and dealt with 68,000 service requests, issued 3200 Blue Badges via the telephone or online, supported 100 residents via the telephone to complete a Housing Application requests, answered 8000 emails and took 30,000 telephone payments totalling £5,142,000.00.

This new way of working saw 902 laptops configured and issued during the lock down period, along with these 389 mobile phones were also configured and issued. The Corporate Director acknowledged the fantastic work done by Procurement Services and outlined the remarkable work in securing 2,382,780 Fluid Resistant Masks, 3,000 Social Distancing Floor Signs for reopening of schools, 34,422 Bottles Hand Sanitiser, 890 Rolls Social Distancing Floor Tape for reopening of Schools, 100,000 Face Coverings, 41,900 Pairs of Gloves & 3,000 Disposable Aprons, 800 Tubs Alcohol Wipes, 1,577 Bins, 100 Thermometers and 28,000 Bags for Masks.

In concluding his section of the presentation, the Corporate Director asked Members to note the efforts made by Financial Services Staff and the work done with residents in processing the 3,500 requests that were agreed to defer Council Tax payments for residents until June 2020, with ongoing assistance or support provided. Rent relief requests from industrial tenants and Business Support Grants, payments that were made to 2,953 business to a total value of £34.2m (top quartile performance in Wales).

The Interim Corporate Director Communities, Mark S. Williams outlined the work done during the lock down by this Directorate. Members were asked to note that all waste and refuse collections had operated normally throughout. Bulky collections had been suspended but they recommenced on 5th May 2020 and although HWRC's were closed to prevent unnecessary travel they also reopened on 26th May 2020. The Corporate Director was also pleased to confirm that street cleaning although initially operating a limited service had now been fully reintroduced.

Cemeteries were now open and initial restrictions on funeral numbers had recently been increased to 30. Grass cutting was being reintroduced on phased basis and municipal and country car parks had reopened on the 30th May 2020. Turning to highways operations it was noted that inspection and emergency works have continued, as have the design of capital schemes. Work was undertaken to ensure the viability of transport providers for Education and Social Services and regulatory tasks linked to planning have also continued.

Regarding the Planning process, it was noted that delegated powers had been used to determine the least controversial matters to ensure that decisions were issued in Statutory timescales. However, the first digital Planning Committee had been held on the 17th June 2020 and has continued digitally since then.

Moving on to Sport and Leisure provision, although Leisure Centres had been closed to the public, Staff had been redeployed into the buddy scheme and Free School Meal service provision. Members were asked to note that four main leisure centres have now re-opened with "controlled" services on offer from the 1st September 2020.

Public Protection Services had proactively advised 1800 premises regarding business closures/reopening and social distancing, making over 1200 visits. Environmental Health Officers were supporting 85 care homes with infection control measures and have made over 1200 follow up contacts. The Corporate Director confirmed that most services have continued in some form throughout lock down for example; Pest Control had responded to over 2800 service requests; Enforcement have dealt with the large rise in fly tipping and have received over 874 fly tipping complaints and have responded to over 1000 complaints of noise, rubbish and accumulations of rubbish at properties.

Registrars continued to operate and registered double the normal number of deaths in the initial period of March to May. The Service is now managing a backlog of registrations within the Gwent area since re-commencing birth registration in July and has managed well over 1000 changes to ceremony booking during the period from mid-March.

In concluding the various updates, the Head of Public Protection, Mr Robert Hartshorn took Members through what has been happening in terms of Contact, Track and Tracing. It was

noted that Caerphilly had a lead role in Gwent region and is part of national track, trace and protect framework, which is led by Mr Hartshorn. Teams have been set up across the region consisting of 300 staff seconded from local government and these staff will be required for several months, as this vital service operates from 8am – 8pm, seven days a week.

The Chief Executive acknowledged the outstanding work done by each of the Directorates and advised Members that the presentation provided only an outline of the impressive work that had been and continues to be undertaken. Unfortunately, the events of the last few weeks, in relation to foreign travel and gathering indoors have resulted in a significant spike in cases of COVID19 and new lockdown measures within the county borough clearly demonstrate that the virus and its associated risks are still with us.

Working with colleagues in Welsh Government and Public Health Wales an innovative approach to informing, warning and enforcement is being considered. A mobile testing centre had been set up at Penallta House with a further centre to be established in the north of the borough. Residents will also be able to access the testing station at Rodney Parade, Newport. Assurances were given that data is being considered daily and it is likely that this local lock down will last for several weeks. The Chief Executive expressed her optimism about the public's response to the local lock down restrictions and asked Members to direct residents with questions to the Council website first and then if further advice or support is needed Members contact the relevant Corporate Director.

The key issues moving forward would focus on responding to further outbreaks, sustaining and adapting new services and considering organisational change to provide flexibility, recovery and growth. To understand and respond to the financial impact of the pandemic along with the emotional and social impact on our communities and how we can wrap our arms around those communities as we work towards recovery.

Public and Staff safety would continue to be the priority as we moved forward as one Council facing ongoing challenges together. Recession, the impact of COVID, Brexit and Climate Change remain vital parts of future planning. In concluding the presentation Mrs HARRY expressed her admiration for the way everyone has worked tirelessly throughout this period and believed that we have experienced true public service from passionate public servants.

Members voiced their thanks to everyone involved in this immense undertaking and also recognised the role that Councillors had played and that this should not be underestimated. Members expressed concerns that there were some communication deficits during the lock down period and it had often been difficult to contact Officers and Departments.

The Leader assured Members that she had endeavored to keep them as up to date as possible but would be happy to discuss any areas of improvement.

A Member expressed his thanks to Cllr Cuss and the work he had done during the lock down in terms of social care and detailed his own very rewarding experience of the buddy scheme and hoped that this would continue in some form. The Member also noted the initial difficulties in terms of Business support and put on record his thanks for the efforts of Financial Services.

The Chief Executive apologised for not including the efforts of Elected Members within the presentation but as the face of the organisation theirs would be a pivotal role going forward. The Corporate Director for Social Services confirmed that as plans moved forward the Buddy Scheme was pared back and residents who were able to do so would be encouraged to return to shopping and previous routines. He was also encouraged by the observations on the scheme from those that had taken part and a lot of people echoed the comments made earlier. He advised that the 300 people had agreed through the Corporate Volunteering Scheme to continue volunteering.

The Deputy Leader praised the Corporate Business Team for the speed with which they reacted to the grant applications process which had saved many local businesses. The Member also referenced the work being done to help support Town Centre's back to recovery.

A Member thanked the Leader for her hard work during lock down and sought clarification in relation to the number of notices issued in relation to groups gathering during lock down when parks were closed. The Corporate Director for Communities confirmed that he did not have the information to hand but would forward following the meeting.

A Member expressed concerns in relation to economic resilience of the borough as a result of the pandemic particularly with furloughs coming to an end and the risks of the resurgence of infection rates and asked if any additional funding would be available. Concerns were also expressed regarding public transport and if routes suspended during lock down would be reinstated.

Assurances were given that bus routes had been protected as far as possible and regarding the financial outlook although moving at a fast pace approaches were being made to Welsh Government regarding additional funding for the recovering process the details of which would be the subject of further reports coming forward in due course.

A Member expressed his thanks to the Executive and Leader during the Pandemic and also to the NHS Staff for their amazing and inspirational work. He then queried the pressures on Environmental Health Services and if there were enough staff to meet demand. The Cabinet Member explained the pressures on staff and the vital role they were playing regarding contact, track and tracing and assurances were given that recruitment for this service was underway. Trading Standards had also been very proactive during the lock-down responding to specific complaints whilst balancing the demands of visiting supermarkets and pubs etc. It was noted that there were discussions underway with Welsh Government on additional resources. The Leader reiterated her pride in the way in which staff had reacted to these demands and referenced the connection with pubs, indoor gatherings and community transmission and the upsurge in infection numbers. The Leader of the Plaid Group commended the Free School Meals and Buddy Schemes initiatives and the extraordinary work of volunteers. Reference was made to the work done by Community Councillor Judith Pritchard in relation to raising awareness and signposting business and residents in relation to the grants available. However, he expressed concern at the lack of scrutiny during this period and the issues with telephony services and communication and sought assurances that funding was reaching front line services.

A Member thanked those that had been involved in the Contact, Track and Trace services and queried the installation of a mobile testing unit to the north of the borough and if this meant that there was a spike in this area. The Corporate Director for Communities confirmed that the pattern of cases seen in the Caerphilly Basin was now being seen in other areas and that was the reason for establishing a further mobile testing unit.

With regard to the lack for scrutiny during the lock down, the Chief Executive assured Members that delegated decision process had be initiated in order to respond to the emergency situation and to ensure timely decision making, however every decision had been made in conjunction with the Leader and Executive and all decisions had been posted. Scrutiny would recommence shortly, and Members would be kept informed at every stage. Regarding the allocation of funding the Section 151 Officer reassured Members that funding was reaching areas of need, spending was allocated against specific budget codes and was scrutinized by Welsh Government.

A further Member referred to the role that Councillors played during the crisis and the way in which they had disseminated vital information to residents, business and partners. He voiced his disappointment in communication routes during this time and urged Officers not to underestimate to part that Councillors can play through their community links. The Leader

explained that getting everyone the equipment needed to work on a remote platform had been an huge undertaking and information had been changing at such a rapid pace that it had been difficult to co-ordinate but had endeavored through weekly updates to keep everyone as informed as possible. However, she was open to any suggestions or changes in approach that could be used to improve responses and would welcome further conversation on this.

The Member felt that an identified direct liaison person would assist in the dissemination of information and provide a single point of contact for Members.

A Member applauded the Leader for her response to the latest spike in cases and asked about guidance for Care Homes and shielding for vulnerable people and if this would be reinstated during this latest outbreak. The Member was advised that Welsh Government had no plans to reinstate shielding at this time, however this might change should the number of cases continue to increase.

A Member referred the Team Caerphilly Better Together document and referenced sections contained therein on engaging and working with communities, communication with Councillors, Schools and Governing Bodies and how their points of view he felt were still not being heeded. The Chief Executive outlined the core values of the Transformation Strategy and how this massive cultural change would not be accomplished overnight. She asked Members that were experiencing any blocks to communication to advise Heads of Services and Corporate Directors of any issues.

Members then expressed concerned about the time taken to get back COVID test results and asked for clarification on timescales. The Corporate Director of Social Services confirmed that results were taking between 6/8 days which was not ideal but turn around was improving. Mr. Hartshorn assured Members that Welsh Government and Public Health Wales were aware of testing delays and had taken measures to mitigate.

The Mayor thanked the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors and Heads of Service for the presentation and for answering Members questions and the presentation was noted.

4. FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Services introduced the report which provided Members with details of the provisional outturn position for the 2019/20 financial year, outlined the anticipated financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic for the 2020/21 revenue budget, and provided an initial high-level assessment of the medium to longer-term financial outlook.

At its meeting on the 1st July 2020 Cabinet was presented with details of the provisional revenue budget outturn for the 2019/20 financial year. This showed an overall positive position and Cabinet endorsed recommendations in respect of the General Fund, which Council is now asked to approve. These recommendations are to maintain the General Fund balance at £10.684m, as approved by Council on the 20th February 2020; and to utilise the 2019/20 year-end surplus balance of £3.288m to fund a £575k deficit on the Communities Directorate Reserve and to transfer £2.713m into an earmarked reserve to meet potential unfunded additional costs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Turning to the Coronavirus, Members had already received details this evening of the Authority's response to the pandemic and lock-down. We have refocussed, repurposed and reshaped our priorities and how we work within a very short timescale. This had inevitably led to significant additional costs and we have also experienced lost income across a range of service areas. In addition to the financial challenges of the initial response stage it is inevitable that we will continue to experience significant financial pressures arising from the pandemic for the foreseeable future.

Members were asked to note that additional costs of £5.315m had already been incurred for the period March to July 2020 in key areas such as Social Care, the provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Information Technology, the establishment of Community Hubs for childcare provision and Free School Meals. Income lost totals £1.819m for the period March to June 2020 with key areas being Leisure Centres, Tourism Venues and School Catering.

In response to the pandemic the Welsh Government initially launched a £110m Covid-19 Hardship Fund for Local Authorities to claim additional costs incurred as a direct consequence of the pandemic, with a further £22.7m subsequently being announced for Adult Social Services. In addition to the Hardship Fund, Welsh Government has also made funding of £78m available for income loss during the first quarter of the financial year.

Members were advised that whilst this initial package of Welsh Government funding was of course welcomed, there remained considerable uncertainty in respect of additional funding for the remainder of the 2020/21 financial year. However, on the 17th August 2020 there was a welcome announcement by Welsh Government of an additional £264m Covid-19 funding package which provides local authorities with the confidence to prepare their budgets for the remainder of the year. During July and early August budget monitoring reports were prepared based on financial information available for the first quarter of the financial year. It is important to stress that these reports and the associated year-end projections were prepared in advance of the £264m additional funding announcement by WG on the 17th August 2020.

Members were asked to note that the month 3 projections showed a potential year-end overspend of £4.597m and details of the most significant variations against budgets are included in the report. This is very much a worst-case scenario based on information available at the time. Finance staff are now working on preparing projections based on month 5 information. These updated projections will reflect the new WG funding announcement which will result in an improved position. The detailed Month 3 budget monitoring reports for each Directorate will be made available to Scrutiny Committees as information items. Moving forward the monitoring reports for months 5, 7 and 9 will be included on Scrutiny Committee agendas for presentation and discussion.

In terms of the financial outlook for future years it was too early to fully understand the financial impact of Covid-19 in the medium to longer-term and there was significant uncertainty around the level of funding that local authorities will receive for 2021/22 and beyond. The UK Government is currently undertaking a Comprehensive Spending Review, the details of which will be announced in the autumn. Because of this we are not likely to receive the 2021/22 Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement until December 2020. In a normal year this would be received in October. It is also likely that the Comprehensive Spending Review will focus on one financial year only and will not provide indicative budgets for future years.

Members were advised that the financial challenges that we face are unprecedented and we are entering uncharted territory. Even before the emergence of Covid-19 it was widely accepted that the Council cannot continue as it is and Members were asked to recall that an important element of responding to this was the Future Caerphilly Transformation Strategy, Team Caerphilly – Better Together that was approved by Cabinet on the 12th June 2019. The emergence of Covid-19 and the required response had accelerated the pace of change in some areas and we will now seek to build on this moving forward to ensure that we can offer cost effective, resilient services that meet the needs of our communities through these challenging times and in the medium to longer-term.

The learning that the Council has developed through its response to COVID-19 has helped reshape and expand the transformation programme. At its meeting on the 16th July, Cabinet endorsed the inclusion of ten corporate reviews within the TeamCaerphilly programme, all of

which expand on or embed further many of the positive changes implemented in response to Covid-19.

In concluding the Cabinet Member reiterated that despite the ongoing challenges faced by the Council, the financial position was well managed during 2019/20. The current pandemic is presenting significant new financial challenges for the 2020/21 financial year and beyond and this is being closely monitored. Regular budget monitoring reports will be prepared for Scrutiny Committees alongside overarching reports that will be prepared for Cabinet and Council. A separate report will also be presented to Cabinet and Council in due course providing details of an updated Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

A Member expressed concerns about the loss of income due to the enforced closer of Leisure Centres, Tourism and School Catering of nearly £2m and that on top of that, understandably there had been a reduction in Council Tax collection rates. The Member sought clarification as to how the Council could now balance its books in light of the negative impact on the annual budget. The Member was advised that the income lost for the first quarter of the financial year had been funded by a grant received from Welsh Government. The projections prepared at month 3 did not assume any further funding at that time for income loss. However, the subsequent announcement of the additional £264m Welsh Government funding now provides local authorities with the confidence they needed to manage their budgets for the remainder of the financial year. Month 5 projections are currently being prepared and these would show a more positive position than that reported for month 3.

A Member referenced Page 44, section 5.4.28 of the report and sought clarification as to whether this projection was a full year figure. The Section 151 Officer confirmed this to be the case and advised that although planned investments had been suspended due to economic impact of the pandemic alternative options were being looked at with the Council's Treasury Management Advisors. The Member then went on to query the impact on general investments and Pension Funds. The Section 151 Officer confirmed that pensions' investments were managed by the Greater Gwent Pension Fund and therefore could not comment on their investment choices.

A Member expressed concern with what he felt to be the salting away of funds within the Council's reserves and that once again this Council was being asked to maintain the General Fund balance at £10.684m. The Section 151 Officer reassured Members that the Council's prudent approach to financial management meant that it was in the best possible position to respond to future challenges and reminded them that there was no guarantee of any future funding from Welsh Government. Further reports would be presented to Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on Reserves in the coming months and Members would continue to be kept fully informed.

The Deputy Leader refuted the comments made and the use of the term 'salted away' which seemed to imply that funds were being inappropriately or secretly hidden away and wished to emphasise to Members that the prudent stance taken by this Council had secured its financial stability throughout this crisis and was applauded year on year by the Wales Audit Office. The Member reiterated that in his opinion a too prudent approach was being adopted particularly regarding reserve balances.

The Leader noted the comments made and expressed her thanks to the Section 151 Officer and Financial Services for their hard work and commitment and asked Members to note this prudent approach meant that projects like the Place Shaping Agenda were able to move forward, more details of which would be provided in the months ahead.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained within the Officers report be approved and by voting by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting there was 1 against and 1 abstention this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the report be noted;
- (ii) the General Fund balance at £10.684m be maintained as previously agreed by Council on the 20th February 2020;
- (iii) the surplus General Fund balance of £3.288m be allocated as follows:

£575k to fund the current deficit on the Communities Directorate Reserve, and £2.713m to be transferred into an earmarked reserve to meet potential unfunded additional costs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (iv) the budget monitoring arrangements for the 2020/21 financial year as set out in paragraphs 5.5.8 and 5.5.9 of the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2020 they were signed by the Mayor.

MAYOR

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Agenda Item 8



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 6TH OCTOBER 2020 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

Councillor C. Andrews - Mayor
Councillor J. Gale - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:

M. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, A.P. Angel, J. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, C. Bezzina, L.J. Binding, A. Collis, S. Cook, C. Cuss, W. David, D.T. Davies, M. Davies, N. Dix, C. Elsbury, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, A. Farina-Childs, Mrs C. Forehead, Miss E. Forehead, J.E. Fussell, A. Gair, N. George, C. Gordon, R.W. Gough, D.T. Hardacre, L. Harding, D. Havard, A.G. Higgs, A. Hussey, M.P. James, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, S. Kent, G. Kirby, C.P. Mann, P. Marsden, B. Miles, S. Morgan, B. Owen, Mrs T. Parry, Mrs L. Phipps, D.V. Poole, D.W.R. Preece, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, J.E. Roberts, R. Saralis, Mrs M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens, Mrs E. Stenner, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, L G. Whittle, T. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski.

Together with:-

C. Harry (Interim Chief Executive), R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), M.S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director of Communities), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), S. Harris (Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), K. Peters (Policy Manager), A. Cullinane (Senior Policy Officer Equalities, Welsh Language and Consultation), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager), S. Couzens (Housing Manager), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer).

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Executive reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded and would be made publicly available via the Council's website. She advised that voting would be recorded via Microsoft Teams Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D. Cushing, K. Dawson, C. Forehead, E. Forehead, J. Fussell, D. Hardacre, D. Harse, V. James, A. Leonard, P. Leonard, G. Oliver and D. Price.

2. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised that due to continuing local lock down restrictions there had been only one civic event held and that was a recorded message and delivery of flowers to commemorate a Golden Wedding Anniversary.

3. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 28(03)

The Mayor confirmed that no petitions had been received.

4. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

The Mayor confirmed that they were no awards to be presented.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the meeting.

STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL CARE – COUNCILLOR SHAYNE COOK

The Mayor advised Council that with her agreement the Cabinet Member for Social Care would be making a short statement, after which there would be no questions.

The Cabinet Member referred to an article that had been published on the Wales Online website which referred to a high number of coronavirus cases across care homes within the Caerphilly County Borough. The article contained information and comments provided by a Plaid Cymru Regional Assembly Member and contained several serious inaccuracies, the main one being a claim that over a third of our care homes have covid-19 cases.

The article stated that 10 out of 27 care homes in the County Borough have ongoing incidents of Coronavirus. This was simply incorrect as there were 11 COVID incidents over 121 care facilities and not 27 facilities as stated in the article.

The article went onto state that there is “no final agreement on whether people being discharged from hospital into Welsh care homes would actually be tested”. This is also incorrect and misleading.

Caerphilly County Borough Council has an agreement with all the other Gwent Local Authorities and Aneurin Bevan University Health Board which all adhere to in terms of negative tests prior to any admission to or return to a home. No one is admitted to a home from hospital or the community without first having tested negative for the virus.

The Cabinet Member expressed his astonishment that a Regional Assembly Member provided such misleading information at a time when no one should be seeking to make political capital out of a very challenging situation. After reading the Wales Online article, many residents were very concerned and scared that their relatives were in danger. The Cabinet Member wanted to reassure Caerphilly residents that we are doing our very best to stop the spread of COVID 19 and paid thanks to all the staff in our care homes who have gone above and beyond to protect residents from COVID 19.

6. MINUTES – SPECIAL COUNCIL HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of Special Council held on the 20th February 2020 be approved as a correct record.

7. MINUTES – COUNCIL HELD ON 3RD MARCH 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of Council held on 3rd March 2020 be approved as a correct record.

8. MINUTES – SPECIAL COUNCIL HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of Special Council held on the 20th March 2020 be approved as a correct record.

9. MINUTES – ANNUAL COUNCIL HELD ON 3RD SEPTEMBER 2020

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on the 3rd September 2020 be approved as a correct record.

10. TO RECEIVE AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10 (2)

To the Leader of Council from Councillor Graham Simmonds.

To make available performance assessments/reports for the knowledgeable and experienced Cabinet Members for Caerphilly County Borough Council, for the past few years?

Response from the Leader of Council Councillor P. Marsden.

Thank you for the question Cllr Simmonds. It appears from the way you have written your question that you would like me to 'make available' performance assessments for my Cabinet colleagues over the past few years. It's the words 'make available' that I'm struggling with. Let me explain. The following information is already publicly available via the Council's website and has been for many years.

Annual Reports for Individual Members which, for Cabinet Members include a specific section on Cabinet Member Activity as well as Ward Activity, Attendance and so on. An Annual Performance Report to Council which covers performance across all Cabinet Portfolios. This is next due to be received by Council on the 29th October. This report summarises the Council's performance against our well-being objectives; our financial performance; our performance against the Public Accountability Measures; our Regulators views on our services and an update on our progress against the Well-being Act 2015. Each Scrutiny Committee receives annual performance reports associated with the Council's progress against each of the adopted Well-being Objectives. Scrutiny Committees also receive specific reports on key performance matters as they arise throughout the year, such as Key Stage 4 performance across Schools. Audit Wales deliver an Annual Improvement Report to Cabinet and full Council that provides us with the Auditor General's view on whether Caerphilly is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement and the Council receives and publicises regular Reports from Regulators assessing and commenting on our performance.

Cllr Simmonds should also be aware that Cabinet approved a new performance framework at its meeting of the 26th February 2020. The framework introduced a Corporate Performance Assessment (CPA) Dashboard that is to be received twice yearly by Cabinet as well as

Directorate Performance Assessments, data from which will be received by Scrutiny Committees twice yearly. These will be received for the first time over the autumn and winter.

With all of this publicly available, and with multiple and regular opportunities for Scrutiny and Full Council to consider every aspect of Council Performance in place, I'm not sure what else Councillor Simmonds would like me to make available.

By way of a supplementary question, Cllr Simmonds referred to previous comments made by the Leader of Council about new beginnings and a shared journey into transformation and referenced his view that various elements of this commitment had fallen short. The Mayor reminded the Member that he was entitled to single supplementary question and was exceeding this in his address. The Member advised he would therefore withdraw the question and would email all Members following the meeting.

11. TO RECEIVED AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10(4)

To the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Service from Councillor Kevin Etheridge.

To ask the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Service does she believe adequate resources are in place in the Information Unit to deal with requests in the specified time scale allowed under the legislation during the last 4 months, and can these resources be defined in meeting deadlines.

Response from the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Customer Service.

Since March, the Council has been responding to the Covid 19 pandemic, and staff from all service areas, including Corporate Information Governance Unit (CIGU), have had to take on other essential tasks. In the early weeks of lockdown, information requests decreased in number significantly, and CIGU staff spent time supporting the Community Response, however over time request numbers increased back to their usual volume.

The response timescales for information requests during this period were longer than usual, to reflect the fact that service areas and CIGU were unable to process requests as promptly as usual, as staff across the Council have been diverted to the pandemic response. However, the regulator for both freedom of information and data protection, the Information Commissioner, publicised her pragmatic and empathetic approach to regulation during the pandemic, in light of the requirement for organisations to redirect resources to support their communities.

CIGU staff are back to their substantive roles, but staff across service areas are still working on the Covid response. We are currently monitoring compliance timescales and addressing the backlog of requests that has accumulated, and if compliance timescales need to be improved this will be considered alongside the response to the pandemic.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

12. NOTICE OF MOTION TO REVIEW DECISION TO SWITCH OFF STREET LIGHTS

Consideration was given to the notice of motion proposed by Cllr Kevin Etheridge.

In support of his notice of motion Cllr Etheridge advised that it had been written in January and was due to be discussed by Scrutiny in March but was deferred by COVID. He explained that the motion looked at several areas and was written as a result of between 40-60

complaints he had received from residents in Blackwood. He was also of the opinion that the consultation response had been too low a percentage to accurately gauge public feeling on the matter with only 1488 responses from a population of 173,00 equating to a response from only 0.83% of the community. His second point related to the 2018 report which noted that further consultation may be needed prior to implementation, this he believes had not been undertaken.

His third point related to the lack of assessment of protected characteristics within the equality impact assessment when taking the decision, there were subjective conclusion drawn as to the potential impact on those with a visual impairment and the elderly and seemed primarily to be used to promote the case for carbon reduction and the protection of bats which, to his mind had nothing to do with the proposals. He also felt that this issue was not just about tackling crime but also the fear of crime and referred to how for over 6 decades, street lighting has been a vital part community safety. In concluding his motion he referenced that 2 reports had been considered by scrutiny on this matter the only difference between the two being the impact on the highway budget, as the first report and had not been supported, the only conclusion that he could draw was this matter was more about the budget deficit than residents.

The Member also sort clarification regarding what risk assessments had been completed before the decision was taken, what other risk assessments have been done since and moved that the decision on the motion be by way of recorded vote.

A Member seconded the motion and the call for a recorded vote.

In supporting the motion, the Member confirmed that he had no issues with saving money and cutting carbon but felt that community safety had to be revisited now that the programme was underway and its impact on residents could be properly gauged. The Member referenced information provided by Inspector Aled George of Gwent Police, in which he stated an increase in dwelling burglaries which the Member felt were the result of part night lighting. The Member then referenced levels of crime in the Lansbury Park area and that for this reason lights there had been switched back on and asked that Officers clarify this point.

The Officer confirmed that the information in relation to Lansbury Park was incorrect, lights had not been switched back on and explained that assurance had been given that this was a perception arising from the switch off but there had in fact been no increase in crime as confirmed by Gwent Police. The Officer also confirmed that although a risk assessment was not undertaken prior the decision being taken, a risk analysis has been undertaken on each area and the data on each can be circulated to Members following the meeting.

A Member expressed his concern regarding the motions request for a review as his understanding was that all Council policies are reviewed regularly anyway and kept under constant review as time goes on, which surely made the request redundant. The Member then sought clarification as to how much carbon reduction in tonnes will be achieved by part night lighting. The Officer confirmed that once fully operational at end of December 2840 tonne carbon reduction would be achieved per annum from part night lighting and LED conversion.

A Member sought clarification as to the cost of taking out the current fittings and was advised that there had already been a £4.5m investment, removal would cost approximately £300k but there would also be a significant cost increase for energy supplies by moving away as well as increased carbon emissions. Members noted that the yearly cash saving achieved by part night lighting and LED conversion was £940k.

A Member referenced issues within his own ward regarding the phased switch off as they currently did not seem to be going on and off correctly. The Officer confirmed that the

photocells continually try and calculate the mid night point, and this can vary but now that we were approaching the winter months it should find that point.

A Member referenced a statement from 'Investing in Brighter Futures' by the World Bank which noted a range of social economic benefits in terms of well-lit streets and also referenced the National Centre Biotechnology on the perceived neglect of removing non statutory services such as street lighting and urged Members to consider this when the next round of budget savings proposals came forward.

A concern was then raised by another Member that Council in his view failed to correctly investigate part night lighting and that wider risk assessments and not been completed on the options. He referenced a section on the earlier report stating that wider risk assessments may be considered prior to implementation, he believed that these had not been undertaken which he felt was contrary to British Standards. He also queried why options like dimming had not be considered prior to implementation.

The Officer confirmed that risk assessments had undertaken in each area prior to installation work and accepted that this had not been done prior to the decision being taken. However, before switch over all areas were assessed however the Member had failed to take into account up-front investment in central management system technology of £1.4m and that the old LED system was not compatible and would have required upgrading costing a further £1.5m. In response to questions in relation to health and safety he advised that accident statistics had shown a slight reduction.

The Member accepted the additional management system costs but felt that this would have been less expensive if implemented at the beginning but was still of the opinion that this required a review.

The Officer further advised Members regarding the British Standard quoted and confirmed that this code of practice was not legislation but industry guidance. The relevant Legislation is the Highways Act and that gives powers to Local Authorities (in their role as Highway Authorities) to turn on, off, amend and remove street lights and emphasised that we do not have to provide street lighting. Furthermore the Act gives Highway Authorities the power to switch off and/or remove existing street lights without a requirement to replace them if they see fit. . In terms of the email from the Member regarding the central management system and estimate savings levels contained therein the Officer further confirmed that the Council LEDs were 20w a very low wattage and would not achieve the savings as estimated as they had been based on a 60w.

A Member then raised concerns about accident statistics quoted and if they related to pedestrian or vehicle accidents, in his own ward he had received complaints from people living in streets that do not have frontages and have to leave refuse bins out on pavements overnight which are being walked into.

The Officer confirmed that he could circulate the accident statistics after the meeting as the information had only just come in and he had not been able to complete a full analysis. However, the high-level data he had looked at related to vehicle or vehicle/pedestrian but would not pick up slips, trips and falls. He was not aware of any complaints about bins, of those received he explained that 74 related to the new LEDs being too bright, 57 that they provided no overspill light and 96 related to part night lighting, of those the majority were informal contacts and only 2 of those progressed to stage 2 complaints and if there were any areas of particular concern he would be more than happy to pick up these up with Members after the meeting.

A Member reminded those present of the climate emergency status and the need to protect this for future generations and saw this as a start along that process. However, he was often

asked about Council office lighting and Penallta House and queried whether this would be part of a similar reduction programme.

The Deputy Leader confirmed that this lighting would come under the facilities management budget not highways and as such would not be part of the report however, he was able to give assurances that this was under a similar process of review, reduction and switch off and had already been implemented in some areas.

A Member referenced comments made at a previous meeting about respecting the views of the scrutiny committee and reminded those present that this motion had not been supported by scrutiny, as it mentioned only historical procedures and did not seek to take issues forward. He noted that no reference had been made to the biodiversity debate and read a contact email from a resident of the borough which urged Members to consider its duty to embrace the benefits to the natural environment. The Member then reference the work of Dr C McGreggor regarding environmental impact and nocturnal night life, his feeling was that the money to revise could be better spent elsewhere or should the supporters of the motion want to revise this policy that they come back with views on how to revise the budget in order to meet additional costs. Reference was also made to the positive impact for the darker sky's community.

Clarification was sought as to whether there was facility in new system to switch lights on if required. Officers confirmed that this could be done if required and that they worked closely with police on this. As to the increase in burglaries it was noted that the majority take place during the daytime. The Member was reassured that should police come forward with concerns there was a means to respond.

A Member urged Council to rethink this decision and support the motion in order to fulfil its duty to the those living alone, the elderly and shift workers and listen to those that had signed petitions and made complaints. In support of the comments of the previous speaker a Member felt it important that residents voicing concerns were listened to and the programme be reviewed.

Reference was made to earlier comments on the Ty Penallta Lights and CCTV camera operation and queried if lights were left on for CCTV camera operation in Ystrad Mynach town centre. The Officer confirmed that the Town Centre lights remain on for the very purposes of CCTV and for the safety of Town Centres.

Members were reminded of the unanimous support for the declaration of a Climate Emergency and the terrible consequence of the storms experienced this year that clearly illustrated the impact and costs of climate change. That there was a duty to future generations to make the right decisions, granted these would not be easy decisions, part night lighting presented a modesty change to everyday lives but would have a big environmental impact. By not standing by this decision now, he felt we were condemning our future generations to the devastation of climate change.

A Member recalled the cross party support for the conversion to LED and then later support for the switch to part night lighting which these same Members were now advocating a reversal and felt that no one could support that. He urged Members to consider the financial and infrastructure implications. He acknowledged the concerns about safety at home, but the statistics did not support this, rather it is the perception of increased crime and there was the need to reassure residents of this perception. Studies had shown that there is no link between switching off lights and increasing crime. No requests have been received from the Police requesting that this policy be changed, if there had been then this would be looked at. As most break ins occur in the afternoons and early evening not during part night lighting hours. He referred again to the impact on the environment and the devastation of climate change and the importance that we act on this now or face irreversible damage to the natural world.

Cllr Etheridge as proposer of the motion brought the debate to a conclusion and emphasised that the motion only requested a review of the decision on Part Night Lighting and that alone and requested that when making the decision Members consider this and the impact on communities.

The request for a recorded vote having been moved and seconded, the Monitoring Officer verified that 10 Members had supported the proposal and a recorded vote was taken.

For the Motion:

Councillors: A. Angel, P. Bevan, L. Binding, N. Dix, K. Etheridge, A. Farina Childs, R. Gough, M. James, S. Kent, C. Mann, B. Owen, T. Parry, J. Roberts, M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds, S. Skivens, J. Taylor, L. Whittle (19)

Against the Motion:

Councillors: M. Adams, E.M. Aldworth, C. Andrews, J. Bevan, C. Bezzina, A. Collis, S. Cook, C. Cuss, W. David, M. Davies, D.T. Davies, M. Evans, A. Gair, J. Gale, N. George, C. Gordon, L. Harding, D. Havard, A. Higgs, A. Hussey, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, B. Jones, G. Kirby, P. Marsden, B. Miles, S. Morgan, L. Phipps, D. Poole, D. Preece, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, R. Saralis, J. Simmonds, E. Stenner, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, T. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski (41)

The motion was declared lost.

RESOLVED that the motion not be supported.

13. NOTICE OF MOTION – UNITY OVER DIVISION CHARTER

Consideration was given to the notice of motion proposed by Cllr Philippa Marsden.

In support of her notice of motion Cllr Marsden referred to the huge social and political changes that the country has seen over the last few years and the fact that this had given rise to major social divisions especially along the lines of race, ethnicity, religion and nationality. One of the most worrying consequences of this being the sharp rise in reported race hate crimes which had increased by almost 30% since 2016. The Unity Over Division Charter would be a commitment by this Council to eradicate racial discrimination and intolerance in all its guises.

Cllr Marsden thanked those who had supported the motion and advised that she would also like to add to the proposals that a Members webinar on Hate Crime Awareness be held.

Members voiced their support for the motion and for the webinar.

Having been moved and seconded and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation the motion was unanimously supported.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the notice of motion be supported;
- (ii) An Inclusion Champion be appointed, who will be the lead person for the Unity over Division Charter agenda, with the support of Trade Unions and the Council to collaborate, monitor, facilitate and promote workplace inclusion wherever possible.

- (iii) Ensure that all staff members including schools are given mandatory training on how to adhere to the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy and will ensure that this document is reviewed annually.
- (iv) Together with Trade Unions provide informative and up to date materials aimed at helping to promote equality and harmony within the workplace.
- (v) Stand together with Trade Unions to condemn incidents where there are local and national examples of hate crime and discrimination.
- (vi) Work with all appropriate other agencies and organisations to promote cohesion inside and outside the workplace.
- (vii) A Members webinar on Hate Crime Awareness and the Charter Over Division be held.

14. STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN, OBJECTIVE AND ACTIONS 2020-2024

Consideration was given to the report which having previously reported to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 25th February 2020 and Cabinet on 11th March 2020 now sought Council approval on the draft Strategic Equality Plan.

The Public Sector Equality Duty in Wales requires all public authorities to develop and publish a Strategic Equality Plan every four years. The Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 has undergone a full revision in order to reflect changes in best practice and objectives and to provide additional information. The combined Objectives and Action Plan have been developed to take achievements and progress into account and merged them into one operational document.

It was noted that the Plan has been developed so that the Council can set out how it aims to meet its commitment to equality and how it will meet its legal obligations contained within the Equality Act 2010. We have used key documents to help develop the revised plan such as the Corporate Plan 2018-2023 and Education's Shared Ambitions Strategy as well as information provided by Service Managers.

Members noted that feedback on the consultation process was very supportive of the draft objectives overall. Areas for improvement and barriers identified had been included as actions under each relevant Equality Objective. The Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 and associated actions; will ensure that the Council has a fit-for-purpose document which demonstrates compliance with the latest statutory Equalities and Welsh Language duties. It has been developed in line with legislative requirements and guidance produced by the Equality & Human Rights Commission.

Having been moved and seconded and for the reasons given in the Officers report by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation the recommendation contained therein was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Draft Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 be adopted as Council policy.

15. NUMBER OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Consideration was given to the report which outlined the findings of the Members survey carried out twelve months after the implementation of the current scrutiny committee structure

and had also been considered by the Scrutiny Leadership Group at its meeting on the 15th September 2020.

Members were asked to note that some of the comments arising from the survey included better attendance at both formal meetings and pre-meeting and that a full review of the scrutiny functions be undertaken in due course.

The Cabinet Member referred to the points raised within the survey in relation to attendance levels at scrutiny and full participation of Members and emphasised how important this was, and this sentiment was echoed by the Leader of the Plaid Cymru Group and Chair of the Scrutiny Leadership Group.

Having fully considered the report and its content and for the reasons contained therein it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation (in noting that there were 50 for and 1 abstention) this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the report be noted;
- (ii) the current number of scrutiny committees (5) be retained.

16. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE DURING THE PANDEMIC

The Mayor confirmed that the report was presented to Council for information purposes only and listed the decisions taken by the Chief Executive under delegated powers during lock down. Unless there were questions from Members the meeting would move on to the next item. As there were no questions and the report was noted for information.

17. GWENT CONTACT TRACING SERVICE

The Mayor confirmed that the report was considered as an urgent item by Cabinet on the 30th July 2020 and under the requirements of the Constitution any decision taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of Council, giving the reasons for its urgency. Therefore, Council was asked to note the reasons for the report's urgency and the Cabinet Decision.

The report was so noted.

18. CAERPHILLY HOMES INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL – LLANFABON DRIVE, TRETTHOMAS, THE CRESENT, TRECENYDD AND OAKDALE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

The Mayor confirmed that the report was considered as an urgent item by Cabinet on 9th September 2020 and under the requirements of the Constitution any decision taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of Council, giving the reasons for its urgency. Therefore, Council was asked to note the reasons for the report's urgency and the Cabinet Decision.

A Member expressed his disappointment in the design of the proposed development at The Crescent, Trecenydd, which he felt to be dull, boring and lacked imagination. The Cabinet Member for Housing and Property refuted the concerns raised and felt that the proposal was in fact exciting, bold and imaginative. The Member was reminded that this matter had still to

be considered by the Planning Committee and that would be the most appropriate juncture to address any issues or concerns about the design proposals.

The report was so noted.

The meeting closed at 7:30pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2020 they were signed by the Mayor.

MAYOR

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COUNCIL – 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

**SUBJECT: HEADS OF THE VALLEYS REGENERATION AREA
MASTERPLAN**

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members on the main issues identified by respondents during the public consultation exercise carried out between 17 February and 30 March 2020 on the Draft Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area Masterplan.
- 1.2 To approve the amended Heads of the Valleys Masterplan Regeneration Area (as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan) as a tool for guiding regeneration activity in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 On 2 January 2020, Cabinet approved the publication of the Draft Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area Masterplan (Masterplan) for the purposes of a formal, six-week public consultation process. The consultation period began on 17 February 2020 and ended on 30 March 2020.
- 2.2 In total, ten responses were received during this period. A Report of Consultation has been prepared that addresses the responses to the Masterplan. The Report considers the issues that have been raised, provides officer responses to those issues and makes recommendations on the proposed course of action. The Report of Consultation is included as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.3 The main issues raised in the consultation responses are as follows:
 - Greater flexibility in terms of potential redevelopment options for Capital Valley;
 - Greater alignment of housing and employment delivery;
 - Expansion of the Tech Valleys initiative to include the entire Masterplan area;
 - The role of Heolddu Comprehensive School and Leisure Centre;
 - The need for improvements to Gilfach Fargoed Station;
 - Empty shops and lack of on-street parking in Bargoed town centre.

2.4 These issues have been addressed in the Report of Consultation. As a result of the responses received, a small number of changes are proposed to the Masterplan and are indicated as track changes in the amended document.

2.5 Minor typographical changes and updates are also included in the amended document that is appended to the report as Appendix 2, although these are not set out in the Report of Consultation.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Council considers the representations received as part of the public consultation exercise and endorses the officer recommendations set out in the Report of Consultation.

3.2 That the Council formally adopts the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area Masterplan as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan and as a tool for guiding regeneration activity in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To provide a policy basis for the future development and regeneration of the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area.

5. THE REPORT

Background

5.1 The signing of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal signals the intention of the 10 South East Wales local authorities to increasingly work together through joint enterprise, on issues of long term development, infrastructure, land use, economic development and employment. It marks unprecedented investment from the UK and Welsh Governments, as well as local authorities, and offers the possibility of an integrated long term approach to investment within the region. The City Deal agreement sets out a series of priorities and recommendations for the future growth and investment within the Cardiff Capital Region, of which Caerphilly County Borough is part.

5.2 The County Borough's regeneration strategy, 'A Foundation for Success', was approved in July 2018 and provides the strategic framework for regeneration activity over the next five years. In addition to this, masterplans for Caerphilly Basin and Ystrad Mynach, the first two in a suite of five masterplans designed to complement this strategy, were approved by the Council in July 2018 and April 2019 respectively. These documents provide more detailed proposals for the regeneration and revitalisation of their respective areas.

5.3 The Valleys Taskforce Delivery Plan, 'Our Valleys, Our Future', identifies several priorities which are relevant to the Heads of the Valleys. These include:

- Creating 7,000 new jobs;
- Supporting entrepreneurship and helping businesses to grow;
- Ensuring people have the right skills for employment;
- Maximise the potential of the A465 dualling;
- More integrated community services;
- Creation of a Valleys Regional Park, linking green spaces and visitor attractions

and increasing tourism.

- 5.4 In addition, Phase 2 of the Metro will have a positive impact in terms of connectivity, both through increased journey frequency and the provision of enhanced facilities. Regionally significant interventions such as the A465 dualling and the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone requires the Masterplan to take a strategic perspective, and to ensure that proposals for economic development in the Heads of the Valleys take advantage of these initiatives.
- 5.5 The Masterplan will form part of the implementation plan for 'A Foundation for Success', with the latter to be reviewed every five years. Whilst the Masterplan identifies investment and development opportunities within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area, the Regeneration Project Board will prioritise projects and proposals for consideration by Cabinet and, therefore, delivery will be dependent on decisions made by Cabinet.
- 5.6 Council resolved to commence a full review of the Local Development Plan on 23 October 2019. Decisions taken with regard to investment and development opportunities set out within the Masterplan will inform the evidence base of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan.

Public Consultation Exercise

- 5.7 A public consultation exercise was held in respect of the Masterplan between 17 February 2020 and 30 March 2020.
- 5.8 Consultation emails were sent to all elected members, community councils within the Masterplan area, AMs and MPs.
- 5.9 Posters advertising the dates of the consultation, dates and times of consultation events and the locations of the associated documentation were displayed in libraries across the County Borough. The consultation was also advertised on the Council's website and social media channels.
- 5.10 Consultation material was also placed in all libraries across the County Borough, and staffed consultation events were held in Bargoed Library (Saturday 29 February 2020 and Tuesday 3 March 2020) and Rhymney Library (Wednesday 4 and Thursday 5 March 2020) to allow members of the public to discuss the Masterplan with officers.

Key Issues Raised

- 5.11 In total, ten responses were received during the consultation period. A Report of Consultation has been prepared that addresses the responses to the Masterplan. The Report considers the issues that have been raised, provides officer responses to those issues and makes recommendations on the proposed course of action. The Report of Consultation is included as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 5.12 Respondents were asked to comment on the Vision, Strategic Objectives, Development Strategy and site-specific proposals, and the responses have been grouped in the Report of Consultation to reflect this.
- 5.13 The main issues raised in the responses are as follows:
- Greater flexibility in terms of potential redevelopment options for Capital Valley;
 - Greater alignment of housing and employment delivery;

- Expansion of the Tech Valleys initiative to include the entire Masterplan area;
- The role of Heolddu Comprehensive School and Leisure Centre;
- The need for improvements to Gilfach Fargoed Station;
- Empty shops and lack of on-street parking in Bargoed town centre.

- 5.14 Additional representations concerned the present condition of the A4048 between Blackwood and Tredegar, and the potential for provision of a lake in New Tredegar to increase leisure activity, employment in associated areas and electricity generation.
- 5.15 Representations for support were forthcoming for the Vision, the Strategic Objectives and the Development Strategy, as well as the proposals generally. The redevelopment of Capital Valley is also supported.

Conclusion

- 5.16 The Report of Consultation sets out each of the issues with an officer response and a recommendation for any amendments or action. The Report of Consultation sets out some proposed amendments to the Masterplan. There are also a small number of changes arising from typographical errors and factual updating proposed. All of the proposed amendments have been included as track changes in the amended Masterplan which is appended to this report as Appendix 2.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 Delivery of individual proposals contained within the Masterplan will be dependent on financial constraints and the implementation of related initiatives e.g. South Wales Metro, Active Travel Fund. Funding sources identified to date are set out in Section 7 of the Masterplan document.
- 6.2 It is assumed that additional funding sources, including private sector investment, will be required for the implementation of some proposals, and for facilitating the delivery of schemes involving key sites.
- 6.3 All representations have been considered through the appended Report of Consultation.

7. LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES

- 7.1 The following Council policies are relevant to the Masterplan:

A Foundation for Success 2018-2023

- 7.2 'A Foundation for Success' is the over-arching regeneration strategy which seeks to provide the strategic framework for the future regeneration of the County Borough. This strategy will be supported by a suite of action plans and strategies aimed at bringing forward regeneration opportunities and developing key sites and premises.
- 7.3 The Heads of the Valleys Masterplan is the third of the suite of masterplans.

Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021

- 7.4 The Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (LDP) was adopted on 23 November 2010. It sets out the Council's land use policies and proposals

to control development in the County Borough up to 2021 and provides the basis by which planning applications will be determined, consistently and appropriately.

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

- 7.5 Appendix 3 of the Masterplan sets out how each priority within the document relates to the Corporate Plan objectives.
- 7.6 The following Masterplan objectives assist in delivering the six Corporate Plan objectives:

Objective 1 - Improve education opportunities for all

Objective B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably;

Objective E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism;

Objective F - Supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure;

Objective G - Supporting the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations to complement economic growth and resilience;

Objective H - Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establishing Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

Objective 2 - Enabling employment

Objective A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys;

Objective B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably;

Objective C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity;

Objective D - Reinforcing the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough

Objective E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism;

Objective F - Supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure

Objective 3 - Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes throughout the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being

Objective F - Supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure;

Objective G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations to complement economic growth and resilience;

Objective J - Ensuring all communities within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

Objective 4 - Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment

Objective C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity;

Objective D - Reinforcing the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough;

Objective I - Ensuring that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes;

Objective J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

Objective 5 - Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Objective E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism;

Objective H - Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establishing Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

Objective 6 - Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

Objectives A-J

8. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

8.1 Led by 'A Foundation for Success', the Masterplan takes a systematic approach to dealing with distinct, yet interrelated, aspects of social and economic inequality, with

the result that each of the seven Well-Being Goals are addressed by the objectives and priorities for intervention identified within it:

- A prosperous Wales;
- A resilient Wales;
- A healthier Wales;
- A more equal Wales;
- A Wales of cohesive communities;
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language;
- A globally responsible Wales.

8.2 Appendix 3 of the Masterplan sets out how each priority within the document relates to the Well-Being Goals.

8.3 The development of the Masterplan has been informed by the five ways of working:

Involvement – The proposals contained within the Masterplan were subject to consultation with the local community, and have been developed through engagement with stakeholders such as landowners, partner organisations including the Local Health Board and Idris Davies School, and local authority ward members and community councillors representing the various communities within the Masterplan area;

Collaboration – The development of the Masterplan has drawn upon the expertise from key representatives across local authority departments, including Planning, Regeneration, Housing, Engineering and Countryside. The delivery of the projects identified within the Masterplan will involve collaboration between the public, private and third sectors, and the Council will work closely with these partners to deliver schemes in a collaborative manner;

Long term – The objectives identified, and the projects that will deliver these objectives, are part of a longer-term vision of enhancing the role of the wider Heads of the Valleys corridor as a sub-regional economic hub capable of supporting local communities. The Masterplan recognises the need for development in order to support economic growth, but recognises that this development should be of a sustainable nature, both in terms of its purpose and its location;

Integration – The projects identified in the Masterplan will help deliver the objectives set out in the Council's regeneration strategy *A Foundation for Success* (as set out within Section 7 of this document), as well as proposals contained within the adopted LDP. They will also deliver against the Council's own well-being objectives by identifying projects that will lead to job creation and training opportunities, promote more healthy and active lifestyles and reduce the carbon footprint through improved Active Travel routes and facilities locally;

Prevention – The Masterplan recognises that there are a number of challenges within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area that need to be addressed, in order to realise the vision. The proposals identified will respond to these key concerns and will raise the profile of the area, developing the economy within the context of the A465 corridor, increasing and improving the tourism offer and enhancing town centres – all from the basis of improved connectivity, infrastructural investment and an advantageous strategic location in regional terms – thereby improving quality of life for those visiting, living and working in the Masterplan area.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 An equality impact assessment was undertaken as part of the process of formulating the Masterplan, which has been updated following the public consultation. It is not considered that there are any potential equalities implications for those groups identified under Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan.
- 9.2 The EqIA is included as Appendix 3 to this report. No representations were received in relation to equalities impacts during the consultation.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Funding sources (where known) for specific projects are identified in Section 7 of the Masterplan. Decisions on the funding and delivery of specific projects will be made by Cabinet, on the basis of the Council's Corporate Priorities and recommendations of the Regeneration Project Board.

11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no personnel implications.

12. CONSULTATIONS

- 12.1 The consultees listed below have been consulted on the report and their views have been incorporated accordingly.

13. STATUTORY POWER

- 13.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Ian Mullis, Planning Officer

Consultees: Cllr. Sean Morgan, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Transport and Sustainability
Cllr. Eluned Stenner, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Planning
Cllr. John Ridgewell, Chair, Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Cllr. Christine Forehead, Vice Chair, Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Cllr. Alan Higgs, Aberbargoed
Cllr. Alan Collis, Aberbargoed
Cllr. Walter Williams, Argoed
Cllr. Carol Andrews, Bargoed
Cllr. Tudor Davies, Bargoed
Cllr. Diane Price, Bargoed
Cllr. David Hardacre, Darren Valley
Cllr. Lindsey Harding, Gilfach
Cllr. David Harse, Moriah
Cllr. John Bevan, Moriah
Cllr. Mark Evans, New Tredegar
Cllr. Gaynor Oliver, Pontlottyn
Cllr. Carl Cuss, Twyn Carno

Christina Harrhy, Chief Executive
Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director, Communities
Steve Harris, Interim Head of Business Improvement Services & Acting S.151 Officer
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration & Planning
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property Services
Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community & Leisure Services
Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer
Mike Headington, Green Spaces and Transport Services Manager
Jeff Reynolds, Sport & Leisure Facilities Manager
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning & Strategy
Ryan Thomas, Planning Services Manager
Allan Dallimore, Regeneration Services Manager
Phil Griffiths, Green Space Strategy and Cemeteries Manager
Clive Campbell, Transportation Engineering Manager
Claire Davies, Private Sector Housing Manager
Jared Lougher, Sport and Leisure Development Manager

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Report of Consultation
- Appendix 2 Amended Heads of the Valleys Masterplan
- Appendix 3 Equality Impact Assessment

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Draft Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area Masterplan**Report of Public Consultation****Introduction**

This report has been prepared following public consultation on the Draft Heads of the Valleys Masterplan (Masterplan) held in early 2020. It summarises the key issues that were raised as part of the consultation, together with the officer response to the issues raised and any proposed changes to the Masterplan.

Public Consultation

The Masterplan was published for consultation on 17 February 2020, for a period of six weeks. Comments were invited on the document, which were required to be submitted to the Council by no later than Monday 30 March, the closing date.

Consultation emails were sent to all elected members, community councils within the Masterplan area, AMs and MPs.

Posters advertising the dates of the consultation, dates and times of consultation events and the locations of the associated documentation were displayed in libraries across the County Borough. The consultation was also advertised on the Council's website and social media channels.

Consultation material was also placed in all libraries across the County Borough, and staffed consultation events were held in Bargoed Library (Saturday 29 February and Tuesday 3 March) and Rhymney Library (Wednesday 4 and Thursday 5 March) to allow members of the public to discuss the Draft Masterplan with officers.

A total of ten responses were received. One was submitted using the paper representation form, one was sent via email (using the structure of the form as a basis for their response) and the remainder used the online representation form on the website. Respondents were asked to provide a postcode in order to determine the broad geographical area of responses. The analysis of this information indicated that seven respondents live in the Masterplan area, two live outside and one respondent declined to provide this information.

Respondents completing the online survey, together with those who filled out a paper representation form, were asked for their views on the Vision, Strategic Objectives and Development Strategy of the Masterplan. Respondents were also able to comment on site-specific proposals and identify any additional proposals that they considered should be included within the Masterplan.

The report sets out the responses in relation to the questions asked on the Vision, Strategic Objectives and Development Strategy. Representations made in respect of site-specific proposals are included under the relevant Strategic Objective. Only those that have been the subject of representations (either of support, comment or objection) have been included within the report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

In line with the Council's Equalities Monitoring procedures, respondents were asked (Q11) whether any of their answers to questions in the survey were impacted by any of the following: age; disability; ethnic origin; gender or gender reassignment; marital status; religious belief or non-belief; use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages; nationality; or responsibility for any dependents.

One response was received under Q11 concerning the regeneration of historic buildings and using the regeneration of Tredegar town centre as an exemplar. However, the relationship between this and any of the protected characteristics listed was not stated. It is therefore believed that this part of the form was completed erroneously, and that this response does not concern equalities implications. This response will instead be considered under Q7 (Do you have additional comments?).

Q2 Is the Vision for the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area fit for purpose?

The Masterplan sets out the following Vision:

“The Heads of the Valleys will capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465 and its strategic location along this corridor, complementing and strengthening employment opportunities and creating an exciting, vibrant place where businesses will want to locate and where people will choose to live and work.

It will strengthen and diversify communities by improving connectivity, supporting the role of the foundational economy and developing its role as a visitor and tourism destination by utilising its distinctive industrial heritage and natural attractions and spaces.

It will enable the provision of, and promote accessibility to, those commercial, leisure and community services that will equip people to lead more healthy and prosperous lives.”

Respondents completing the paper and online survey were asked whether they considered that the Vision was fit for purpose. The following representations were made:

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
Support for the Vision. It is based upon an understanding of local need and wellbeing, demand and supply factors and economic and market conditions	Support is noted	No amendment recommended
General agreement that the Vision is fit for purpose, but no mention of Heolddu Comprehensive School or the adjacent Leisure Centre	This relates to a site-specific proposal and should be considered as a response to Q6	No amendment recommended
Prevention of parking in Bargoed town centre, charging for parking in War Memorial Car Park, no provision of a bus bay outside the former Spar are causing problems. New bus station is too big and badly sited. Council should buy empty shops and offer ‘peppercorn’ rents for the first year	These relate to site-specific proposals and should be considered as a response to Q6	No amendment recommended

Does not focus enough on education in Bargoed	The role and importance of education throughout the Masterplan area is implicitly recognised in the Vision (enable provision of, and promote accessibility to, community services)	No amendment recommended
Decent transport links are necessary for HoV residents to travel to work. Ignores the state of the road between Blackwood and Tredegar (A4048)	Connectivity and transport links are central to the Vision and are referred to. The A4048 is a site-specific proposal and should be considered as a response to Q6	No amendment recommended
New Tredegar is in need of regeneration. Provision of a lake would generate electricity and allow for leisure activities such as fishing and boating, also creating employment in associated areas	This relates to a site-specific proposal and should be considered as a response to Q6	No amendment recommended

Representations submitted under Q2 concerning specific projects not explicitly referred to in the Masterplan are treated as new site-specific proposals and considered as responses to Q6 (Are there any additional proposals that should be considered?).

Q3 Do you agree or disagree with the Strategic Objectives?

The following representations were made:

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
Strategic Objective C (Expanding the area's sphere of influence and improving connectivity) will enable more people to benefit from the redevelopment of Capital Valley, bringing direct economic benefits through improved public transport access, enabling more jobs to be created	Support noted	No amendment recommended
General agreement with the Strategic Objectives, but no mention of Heolddu Comprehensive School or the adjacent Leisure Centre	<p>Education and leisure are explicitly referred to in Objectives B (Improving social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice) and H (Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities). However, as the response mentions, the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy is seeking to retain a leisure centre within the area, and it may be helpful for Objective H to mention national and local initiatives which have a crucial role in delivery of such facilities</p> <p>This relates to a site-specific proposal and should be considered as a response to Q6</p>	Amend Objective H to read "Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21 st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establishing Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets"
Broad agreement with the Strategic Objectives, though Objective A (Complementing, and integrating with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney) could be more ambitious by designating the	It is agreed that the approaches taken by local authorities in respect of the Heads of the Valleys need to complement each other and have regard to the context set by WG, City Deal and the Valleys Taskforce, as well as existing initiatives e.g. Tech Valleys.	<p>No amendment recommended</p> <p>Tech Valleys is to be piloted in the north of the County Borough – opportunities are to be explored with Welsh Government</p>

<p>entire Heads of the Valleys as a 'business development zone', in cooperation with WG and other local authorities</p>	<p>It is understood that Tech Valleys is to be piloted across the north of the County Borough, and the Council will work with Welsh Government to identify opportunities for its implementation.</p> <p>Objective A seeks to increase the spread of economic growth by optimising its proximity to the Ebbw Vale EZ, thereby expanding the benefit of local programmes such as this. However, whilst an overarching context is important for the whole HoV, especially with regard to programmes such as Metro and elements such as the A465 which are universally applicable, it should be accepted that there are differences in terms of local economic specialism, the position of particular markets based on geographical orientation and the proximity of particular neighbours. Therefore, it is important that solutions are employed which are best able to utilise local strengths and characteristics, whilst ensuring that this is done in a coordinated fashion and that economic growth accrues which offers comprehensive and sustainable benefit to the HoV as a whole.</p>	
<p>If implemented, a lake in New Tredegar would make a good eco project and improve the area as a place in which to live and to visit</p>	<p>This relates to a site-specific proposal and should be considered as a response to Q6</p>	<p>No amendment recommended</p>

As with Q2, representations submitted under Q3 concerning specific projects not explicitly referred to in the Masterplan are treated as new site-specific proposals and considered as responses to Q6 (Are there any additional proposals that should be considered?).

Q4 Do you agree with the Development Strategy?

The following representations were made:

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
Capital Valley is located in a sustainable location for further employment development having regard to the Metro and the A465 which will increase connectivity. Further development of this site for employment development complies with the Key Planning Principles and Section 5 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW)	Adherence to national planning policy is noted	No amendment recommended
No mention of Heolddu Comprehensive School or the adjacent Leisure Centre	The Draft Masterplan, including the Development Strategy, seeks to reflect the position taken by other, complementary initiatives where applicable. The Leisure and Tourism section of the Development Strategy focuses on those elements considered integral to the establishment and operation of the Valleys Regional Park. However, amending Objective H, as noted previously, would be helpful in terms of acknowledging the role of complementary strategies in the delivery of such facilities	No amendment recommended to the Development Strategy, but amendment recommended regarding the wording of Objective H (see previous table)
Broad agreement with the Development Strategy, but would like to see a greater commitment to aligning housing delivery across the HoV with sustainable job creation and improved transport links, in cooperation with neighbouring local authorities. The SDP should provide a framework for this	It is agreed that housing delivery should be aligned to job creation and improvements to infrastructure, and that local authorities should cooperate in delivery of this. Indeed, this is enshrined in national planning policy through PPW, and the newly published Development Plans Manual adds further detail in terms of how development plans (including SDPs) are to address some of	No amendment recommended

	<p>these issues, particularly housing and employment.</p> <p>How this approach is to be applied in a site-specific way going forward will be a matter for the emerging LDP, and the Masterplan cannot create new policy or put forward proposals that run counter to policies or proposals contained within the adopted LDP. The Delivery Strategy mentions the importance of the SME sector towards housing delivery in the area and it is anticipated that the document will act as a lever for bringing in additional investment that can help realise the delivery of housing in sustainable locations</p>	
<p>No imagination has been given to environmental issues, outdoor leisure activities and general wellbeing</p>	<p>The Development Strategy seeks to address these areas through sustainably located job creation allied to infrastructural improvement, an emphasis on education, training and upskilling, and – in relation to the environment, leisure and wellbeing – developing the Valleys Regional Park concept, supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and associated community benefit and the establishment of Integrated Well-Being Networks alongside the provision of community, leisure and education facilities</p>	<p>No amendment recommended</p>

Q5 Do you have any comments to make on specific proposals?

A Complementing, and integrating with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
<p>A-1 Redevelopment of Capital Valley is supported. The Masterplan should support a range of wider uses than those identified, in order to maximise flexibility, its economic prospects and the close proximity of the station. The site is key to the regional economy.</p> <p>Much of the site is within a C2 flood risk area and PPW states that local authorities should take a “de-risking” approach to unlocking the development potential of such sites. The Council should therefore work with the site owner to develop its potential, and engage in dialogue in respect of potential funding that may be forthcoming.</p>	<p>Support is noted.</p> <p>It is agreed that Capital Valley is a key site within a regional economic context, and the Masterplan notes its infrastructural attributes in terms of its strategic position close to the A465 and Rhymney Station, as well as the existence of a railhead.</p> <p>The response mentions the site in terms of its status as a secondary employment site within the LDP, which permits B1/B2/B8 development. It is envisaged that any redevelopment would focus on increasing the presence of one or more of these uses, thereby giving it significant flexibility within its continued role as an employment site. The uses cited in the response, and mentioned in the document (manufacturing [potentially advanced manufacturing in relation to automotive], processing, energy and institutional) are provided as examples of how the site’s role may develop within the context of the EVEZ/Tech Valleys, which must be taken into account as a significant, local influence and are intended to be neither exhaustive nor restrictive. Whilst the position taken by PPW is noted in respect of C2 land,</p>	<p>Addition of new bullet point under ‘Development Principles’ to read “Potential mixed-use development including housing or commercial uses”</p> <p>Amend fourth bullet point under ‘Development Principles’ to read “Optimise the site’s strategically advantageous position through a range of economic uses, including potentially targeting complementary uses to those forming the basis of the existing EZ/Tech Valleys”</p> <p>Continue to engage with site owner and WG regarding redevelopment options, site constraints and funding opportunities</p>

	<p>opportunities for other commercial uses, housing or mixed-use schemes should be considered.</p> <p>The Council welcomes the opportunity to continue to engage and work with the site owner with respect to bringing a positive redevelopment of the site forward, and to utilise this approach as a means of taking advantage of funding sources through City Deal which can help realise this.</p>	
<p>A-3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate. The whole of the north of the County Borough, including Bargoed and Gilfach, should be incorporated within the Tech Valleys initiative. This would need to involve WG, adjoining local authorities, Valleys Taskforce, employers and H/FE</p>	<p>It is agreed that a coordinated approach is required to achieve social and economic benefit across the whole of the HoV, and whilst the majority of the wider HoV is outside the scope of this document, it does seek to help facilitate economic development where it can through an adherence to regional and sub-regional approaches that apply, notably Metro, City Deal, Valleys Taskforce and the Ebbw Vale EZ. Rhymney is immediately adjacent to the EZ, has a large supply of existing, operational (though, in some instances, high vacancy) employment land and therefore there is an obvious synergy in taking these areas forward under a common approach, especially where sites are in need of redevelopment.</p> <p>The Council is presently exploring opportunities to expand the Tech Valleys initiative into the north of the County Borough in partnership with Welsh Government. Tying in certain components of this approach (public sector intervention potentially</p>	<p>Tech Valleys is to be piloted in the north of the County Borough – opportunities are to be explored with Welsh Government</p>

	<p>including business support and financial incentive) to activities that the VTF and others are engaged with across the whole sub-region, such as training and education, can assist in building up particular attributes that will, with the addition of locally specific economic interventions in specific locations, have social and economic benefit for the wider area, particularly as EZ-based operations become self-sustaining and reach a 'critical mass' from which certain sectors can further develop.</p> <p>Central to this is the role and function of settlements within the Heads of the Valleys going forward, which will be work undertaken as part of the review of the LDP (and, regionally, by the SDP). Allied to this will be the need to align housing and employment with each other and with infrastructure, and to consider how this process allows for an equitable and sustainable distribution of economic growth across the north of the County Borough.</p>	
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C Expanding the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
C-2 Other Stations (Bargoed, Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Tirphil). Improvements should be made to Gilfach Fargoed Station. If more trains stopped here, it would be better used. Additionally, it provides a gateway (without using a car) to Parc Coetir Bargoed	Proposals within the Masterplan concerning station improvements are 'led' by the priorities of Transport for Wales and actions that have been identified under the Metro programme. Gilfach Fargoed Station has not, as yet, been identified by TfW in this category and, therefore, it would not be prudent to include it	No amendment recommended

H Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
H – Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets. Heolddu Comprehensive School and the Leisure Centre should be included here, as both are important to residents of Bargoed and the surrounding area	<p>Proposals within the Masterplan concerning education reflect the Council's proposals outlined to date under Band B of the 21st Century Schools programme, which represents the key mechanism for delivering investment in schools</p> <p>The CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy is seeking to retain a leisure centre within the area, and it may be helpful for Objective H to mention national and local initiatives which have a crucial role in delivery of such facilities. However, Heolddu Leisure Centre is an existing facility, rather than a Masterplan proposal</p>	No amendment recommended, but amendment recommended regarding the wording of Objective H (Q3)

Q6 Are there any additional proposals that should be included within the Masterplan?

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
<p>Prevention of parking in Bargoed town centre, charging for parking in War Memorial Car Park, no provision of a bus bay outside the former Spar are causing problems. New bus station is too big and badly sited. Council should buy empty shops and offer 'peppercorn' rents for the first year</p>	<p>It would not be feasible for the Council to buy empty shops and offer them at 'peppercorn' rents. However, it does, and will continue to, engage with owners of retail units in an effort to bring them back into beneficial, and commercially viable, town centre uses.</p> <p>It is hoped that some of the measures contained within the Masterplan i.e. the potential for redevelopment at the bottom end of the town centre for a more sustainable mix of uses, increased journey frequency via the Metro can help increase footfall and revitalise Bargoed as a commercial location. Town Centre Management are aware of the issue of limited car parking in terms of its impact on local businesses, and it is understood that this is being looked at</p>	<p>No amendment recommended</p>
<p>No mention of Heolddu Comprehensive School or the adjacent Leisure Centre</p>	<p>The Draft Masterplan, including the Development Strategy, seeks to reflect the position taken by other, complementary initiatives where applicable.</p> <p>Proposals within the Masterplan concerning education reflect the Council's proposals outlined to date under Band B of the 21st Century Schools programme, which represents the key mechanism for delivering investment in schools and, as the response mentions, the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy is seeking to retain a leisure centre within the area. Consequently,</p>	<p>No amendment recommended, but amendment recommended regarding the wording of Objective H (Q3)</p>

	it may be helpful for Objective H to mention national and local initiatives which have a crucial role in delivery of such facilities	
Ignores the state of the road between Blackwood and Tredegar (A4048)	Whilst strategic connectivity and infrastructure issues are vital to the success of the Heads of the Valleys, these are addressed within the Masterplan, both conceptually and in terms of specific proposals. The A4048 is an important route in terms of linking communities such as Argoed (within the Masterplan area) to those outside. However, whilst issues of practical maintenance are important, these are more effectively addressed through other means	No amendment recommended
New Tredegar is in need of regeneration. Provision of a lake would generate electricity and allow for leisure activities such as fishing and boating, also creating employment in associated areas	<p>It is envisaged that development and implementation of the Valleys Regional Park (VRP) will have a positive impact across the whole Masterplan area and beyond in terms of increasing and broadening the scope of individual leisure attractions, particularly those that exist within the natural environment, thereby having a widespread benefit in terms of sustainability and well-being through the creation of a legible, sub-regional network</p> <p>It is not clear whether any work has been undertaken by the respondent in terms of feasibility for the proposed lake or the difficulties it would present to surrounding properties. The plan submitted would appear to involve the loss of the access from White Rose Way to New Tredegar Business Park, and possibly the units themselves, and this is not something which could be entertained</p>	No amendment recommended

Q7 Do you have additional comments?

Issues Raised	Officer Response	Recommendation
<p>An introduction should be included to emphasise that the document concerns the Darren and Upper Rhymney Valleys</p>	<p>The area to which the document refers is the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area, which covers a wider area than the Darren and Upper Rhymney Valleys and whose boundaries are delineated by the adopted LDP. Due to the intention that the document be approved as supplementary planning guidance for this area, it would be inconsistent to depart from this</p> <p>The first paragraph of Section 2 (The Study Area) sets out the extent of the area, although it is accepted that it does not presently refer to the Darren Valley, alongside the Upper Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys</p>	<p>Amend first paragraph of Section 2 to read “The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area is located in the northern part of Caerphilly County Borough, and comprises the Darren, Upper Rhymney and Upper Sirhowy Valleys, including the principal town of Bargoed and the local centre of Rhymney. It incorporates the wards of Twyn Carno, Moriah, Pontlottyn, Darren Valley, New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Gilfach and Argoed”</p>
<p>A diagram should be included setting out the extent of the area concerned, indicating each settlement therein</p>	<p>A map of the study area in its entirety is presently set out on page 12 of the document, on which each settlement is clearly labelled, as well as transport links and ward boundaries. It is proposed that this map be moved to the start of Section 2 in order to sit alongside the above description and more clearly assist readers’ understanding of the area to which the document relates</p>	<p>Move map on page 12 to page 5</p>
<p>Markham Colliery, Aberbargoed Plateau, Bedwellty School and the Bargoed 21st Century Schools proposals are not in the Upper Rhymney Valley and should not be included</p>	<p>These sites all fall within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area, therefore their inclusion within the document is appropriate</p>	<p>No amendment recommended</p>

<p>No mention is made of a potential new road between New Tredegar and Abertysswg, due to issues of instability concerning the A469</p>	<p>The document recognises the importance of increased accessibility in the Upper Rhymney Valley and explicitly mentions the aspiration for a new route between New Tredegar and Rhymney (proposal C-4, A469 Resilience Route, p.34). No specific route is identified in the document, as the feasibility work undertaken to date has only made a preliminary assessment of potential options</p>	<p>No amendment recommended</p>
<p>The Council should look at the regeneration of Tredegar, where lots of historic buildings are being regenerated</p>	<p>It is agreed that historic buildings, where work to maintain/bring them back into use is undertaken positively and sensitively, continue to play a valuable role in the settlements in which they are located</p> <p>Where there are opportunities for regenerating historic buildings, the Council will continue to work with land owners, Cadw and others in terms of bringing forward schemes that retain a practical purpose, maintain the character of the building in heritage terms and enhance local distinctiveness, legibility and sense of place</p>	<p>Amend Objective E to read “Maximising the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism”</p>

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Section 1: Introduction

This Masterplan sets out the future development and regeneration opportunities proposed for the Heads of the Valleys. It seeks to facilitate significant change in order to enhance the role of communities, enabling them to diversify, allowing industries to rise and demographics to alter for the better.

There is an exciting opportunity to facilitate significant change through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD), which will provide resources to unlock significant economic growth in the region, delivering jobs and private sector investment. Whilst CCRCD seeks to relieve pressure on Cardiff as its regional city it also seeks to promote growth in smaller towns and industrial communities in order to rebalance social justice and prosperity. This Masterplan seeks to provide a direction of travel to ensure a transition towards economic and social success.

The City Deal Investment Fund will also facilitate the delivery of the South East Wales Metro, which will make substantial improvements to connectivity by public transport across the region. This investment will improve frequency of services to Rhymney Station from Cardiff, improving north–south connectivity and the Masterplan sets out how this opportunity can be maximised.

The Valleys Taskforce also sets out an ambitious programme for change, identifying actions and programmes designed to make a positive change to the South Wales Valleys through the ‘Our Valleys Our Future’ Delivery Plan. Whilst the Delivery Plan sets out a number of actions, most pertinent to this Masterplan is the focus on making more land available in order to maximise economic development opportunities, harnessing the potential of the local foundational economy, taking advantage of improved connectivity and the role of the Valleys Regional Park.

The role of this Masterplan is therefore to provide a comprehensive framework for the future of the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area. This Masterplan is flexible and has the ability to adapt to changing economic and market conditions and meet the requirements and aspirations of both the private and public sector over this period through regular review. It is recognised that there are some projects that can be delivered within the short to medium term. However, in order to deliver long term regeneration goals, there is an aspiration to redevelop a number of key sites within the Masterplan area.

The Masterplan has been prepared within the context of the adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP), which sets out the Council’s land use objectives for the County Borough in the period up to 2021, but it also sets out longer term goals to ensure that the momentum of change also extends well into the next decade.

Many of the projects identified in the Masterplan are aligned to proposals contained within the adopted LDP. The adopted LDP plan period ends in 2021 and the plan will need to be reviewed to provide the policy framework to control development for the period beyond 2021. Furthermore, relevant proposals may also be included within a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region. The Masterplan will therefore need to be reviewed to take into account the relevant policies and proposals contained within the different tiers of development plans as they emerge.

The Masterplan has been prepared in the context of the overarching regeneration strategy for the County Borough, “A Foundation for Success” as well as the economic development strategy “Delivering Prosperity”. “A Foundation for Success” sets out four key themes that need to be addressed:

- Supporting Business
- Connecting People and Places
- Supporting People; and
- Supporting Quality of Life.

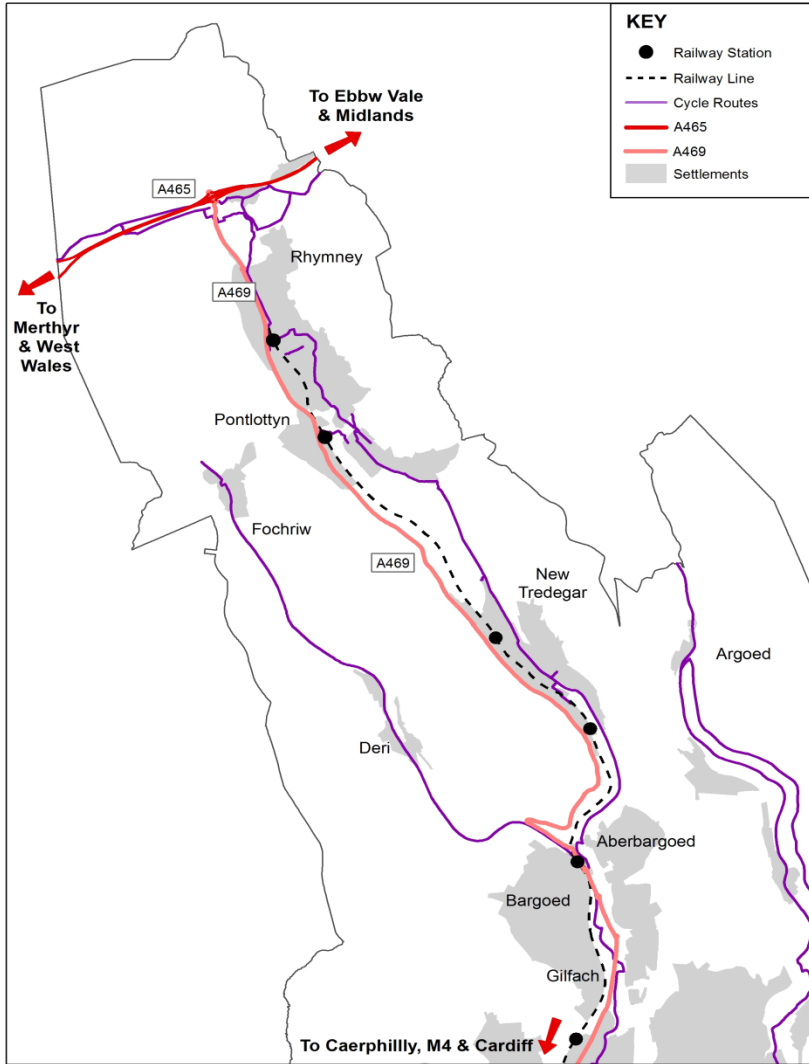
The Heads of the Valleys Masterplan is the third area-specific strategy, in a series of five, which will identify projects that will help address key issues and objectives set out within the wider Regeneration Strategy. It forms part of the implementation plan for ‘A Foundation for Success’ and the Economic Development Strategy ‘Delivering Prosperity’ which will be reviewed every 5 years. The Masterplan identifies investment and development opportunities within the Heads of the Valleys Area.

In order to capture regeneration opportunities throughout the County Borough, two further Masterplans will be produced for Greater Blackwood and the Newbridge to Risca Corridor.

Section 2: The Study Area

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area is located in the northern part of Caerphilly County Borough, and comprises the **Darren, Upper Rhymney and Upper Sirhowy Valleys, including the** Principal Town of Bargoed, **and** the Local Centre of Rhymney, ~~and the Upper Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys~~. It incorporates the wards of Twyn Carno, Moriah, Pontlottyn, Darren Valley, New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Gilfach and Argoed.

Study Area



This area suffers from significant challenges, as underlined by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019. Of the 20 lower super output areas (LSOAs) that constitute the nine wards, six of them are within the 10% most deprived in Wales in overall terms, with a further five in the 10-20% most deprived category. In addition, all nine wards are above average in terms of economic inactivity and unemployment, and the proportion of lower-skilled, lower-paying jobs is higher in the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area than for the England and Wales average. Relevant data is presented as an appendix to this document.

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area lies on the A465 at its northernmost point. This is a key transport artery for the South Wales economy, connecting the M4 at Neath to Abergavenny and Hereford, and providing links between West Wales and the Midlands. It is the only strategic east-west link that connects the Valleys communities providing access to employment, retail, leisure and other facilities. Significant levels of public funding has been already been spent on improving the A465 and further investment is being provided to complete the dualling of the route.

This Masterplan seeks to put into context the role that the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area plays within the wider A465 corridor and looks to complement, exploit and strengthen the opportunities that exist. To the west is Merthyr, a sub-regional centre, major retail destination and service centre and home to Welsh Government offices and major tourism attractions such as Bike Park Wales. Immediately to the east is Blaenau Gwent, home to the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) which is utilising publicly available finance to develop its automotive sector through the Tech Valleys initiative.

Whilst the study area of the Masterplan only relates to that part of the Heads of the Valleys within Caerphilly County Borough's administrative boundary, it has regard to the wider A465 corridor and identifies development and investment opportunities that will strengthen the Borough's position within this context.

Section 3: The Context

In providing the context to the Masterplan it is important to understand the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that currently exist within the Heads of the Valleys.

Strengths

- Excellent connectivity by road via the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road to the West Midlands, West Wales and Ireland;

- Located within a dramatic natural and semi natural environment;
- Improved public transport infrastructure in recent years including the provision of the new park & ride facilities and a new bus/rail interchange at Bargoed, Rhymney park and ride and frequency enhancements;
- Significant life-science companies are located in the HOVRA including Richards and Appleby, Williams Medical and Convatec;
- Provision of a new 3-18 teaching facility in Rhymney (Idris Davies School);
- A number of Welsh medium schools are located in the area, helping to promote and grow the Welsh language;
- The Integrated Health and Social Care Resource Centre for the north is located in Rhymney together with Hafod Deg Resource Centre, both of which provide vital cross cutting services to residents in the area;
- The existence of key community hubs e.g. local libraries, community centres, GP surgeries;
- The area contains two country parks within its boundary: Parc Coetir Bargod and Parc Cwm Darran; with Parc Bryn Bach straddling the boundary with Blaenau Gwent, providing excellent recreation, leisure and lifelong learning opportunities;
- A leisure centre at New Tredegar providing significant leisure opportunities;
- New house building is ongoing helping to diversify the housing stock in this area, e.g. the former Bedwellty School Site;
- Significant investment has been targeted at the council house stock throughout the area, improving the condition and quality of the stock and its energy efficiency;
- The Cadw-designated Historic Landscape of Gelligaer and Merthyr Common is located within the area, providing a significant cultural and historical resource for the County Borough;
- A number of heritage sites are based in the area e.g. Butetown and the Elliott Colliery Winding House;
- The Greater Bargoed Regeneration Scheme has improved the southern end of Bargoed town centre;
- A positive attitude towards community cohesion.

Challenges

- The Masterplan area and the Upper Rhymney Valley in particular has the highest concentration of deprivation within the County Borough;
- The Twyn Carno 1 LSOA is currently ranked as the 8th most deprived LSOA in Wales (WIMD, 2019);
- The area has high levels of economic inactivity, unemployment and long-term illness;
- The area has low levels of attainment with regard to education and formal qualifications;
- The general topography of the area, consisting of valleys and steep hillsides, hinders accessibility and has contributed to the problem of poor transport links and general physical isolation;

- Bus transport in the area is infrequent and unreliable as a means of accessing employment opportunities;
- Bargoed town centre has the highest vacancy rate of all of the principal town centres;
- There is low diversity in the range of housing in the area;
- Many of the communities in the area are isolated and there is limited provision of facilities and services.

Opportunities

- The City Deal for the region will provide an unprecedented level of funding for projects with the aim of promoting economic growth and job creation throughout the region, including addressing skills gaps and shortages;
- The decision by the First Minister not to progress with the M4 Relief Road has a potentially positive impact on the perception of the A465 as a strategically important and unencumbered transport route;
- Potential for the integration of the Rhymney employment land with the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone, in order to create a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone focussed on complementary and beneficial economic development along the A465;
- The natural and semi-natural environment in the area provides excellent recreational opportunities;
- The potential to enhance the benefits of its location adjacent to the Brecon Beacons National Park;
- The Upper Rhymney Valley offers significant potential in terms of renewable energy production;
- The area is the subject of major infrastructure improvements, including the dualling of the A465, Metro improvements and the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Rhymney to Bargoed works, all of which have the ability to provide training and apprenticeship schemes for the area as well as facilitating employment growth – the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water scheme also offers investment in community projects as part of scheduled works;
- The delivery of new industrial units at The Lawns will provide modern, affordable units for business start-ups and expansions;
- A significant level of employment land is available; although investment is needed to bring some of it back into beneficial use;
- The development of Angel Way and Lowry Plaza provides an excellent opportunity to act as a catalyst to regenerate and diversify Bargoed town centre;
- Capitalising on the improvements to the rail line and the increases in the frequency of services post 2023;
- Provision of a bus interchange on the A465 to improve east-west links by public transport, and to connect to the A469;
- Target training opportunities at Rhymney, New Tredegar and Bargoed and throughout the area, looking at the potential of delivering community transport through the RDP and Transport for Wales;
- Pilot improved use of digital technology for promoting green infrastructure and facilities and integrated digital technology training with employers and young people;

- Expansion of the area's leisure and tourism offer through the Valleys Regional Park would be beneficial both to the local economy and people's quality of life;
- Maximise the potential for heritage to be used as a tool for increasing tourism in the area;
- Potential to establish the Masterplan area as a visitor destination through increased tourist accommodation provision given its proximity to the National Park and other leisure and tourism facilities;
- The natural and semi-natural environment, including the country parks and the Historic Landscape of Gelligaer Common, provides excellent opportunities for local communities and visitors alike, including recreation, improved health and wellbeing and lifelong learning;
- Sections of cycle routes have already been implemented and there are further opportunities to create a network of routes and paths integrated into a wider regional network;
- RDP funding is available which could be used to facilitate a number of developments in the area.

Threats

- Merthyr and Ebbw Vale are identified as strategic hubs in the VTF Delivery Plan. The northern part of the Masterplan area therefore needs to ensure that it is able to develop its complementary employment role;
- No VTF 'hubs' are identified within the Masterplan area;
- The current vogue for experiential shopping and the growth in online retail are challenging for the existing town centres;
- Population decline is a significant threat to the Heads of the Valleys, potentially leading to the loss of local services and community sustainability;
- Socio-economic factors need to be addressed or they are likely to continue to have a significant impact on the Masterplan area;
- Levels of car ownership are low and IT infrastructure within the area is poor;
- Low land values and historic land conditions associated with the area's industrial past make many sites unviable and therefore unattractive to the private sector;
- Available financial resources may be insufficient to effectively address the challenges, especially as a result of the loss of EU funding;
- Low aspirations, low educational achievement and health issues may hinder the ability of residents to access employment opportunities;
- Negative perceptions of the area can undermine attempts at regenerating the area.

Section 4: The Vision for the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area comprises the towns of Bargoed, Rhymney and the Upper Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys, and lies alongside the A465 at its northernmost point. Development in this area needs to capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465, in order to help address

deprivation within this area. A Vision and a series of Strategic Objectives have been identified, based on the findings set out in Section 3 – these seek to address the HOVRA’s threats and weaknesses, by maximising the positive impact of its strengths and taking advantage of its opportunities.

The Vision is as follows:

“The Heads of the Valleys will capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465 and its strategic location along this corridor, complementing and strengthening employment opportunities and creating an exciting, vibrant place where businesses will want to locate and where people will choose to live and work.

It will strengthen and diversify communities by improving connectivity, supporting the role of the foundational economy and developing its role as a visitor and tourism destination by utilising its distinctive industrial heritage and natural attractions and spaces.

It will enable the provision of, and promote accessibility to, those commercial, leisure and community services that will equip people to lead more healthy and prosperous lives.”

The Vision has been prepared having regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The Vision for the Masterplan will be supported by a series of Strategic Objectives outlined below that will drive its delivery and translate directly into a series of projects and actions that:

- A. Complementing, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys** - *Identifying redevelopment proposals for Rhymney’s employment sites that link into Metro improvements, the role of Rhymney Station and the close proximity of the A465. Establishing strong infrastructural and sectoral links with the EZ is central to this;*
- B. Improving social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably** - *Tackling deprivation and improving access to economic opportunities through development of skills and integration of training initiatives with business. In terms of the foundational economy, ensuring that resources are more usefully spent shoring up indigenous businesses where profit and spend is more likely to remain or recirculate within the local economy. Central to this is building capacity within communities and establishing networks of collaboration;*

- C. Expanding the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity** - *Using the A465 and public transport infrastructure improvements to enable the population within the north of the County Borough to benefit from opportunities within the wider A465 corridor, including those that are presented in adjacent authorities;*
- D. Reinforcing the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough** - *Promoting its diversification for alternative uses and taking full advantage of its bus/rail connectivity, whilst retaining and consolidating a strong retail core;*
- E. Maximising the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism** - *Establishing a vibrant network of tourism, visitor and leisure attractions and promoting the natural heritage of the area in order to encourage the use of green spaces and create a vibrant and accessible visitor destination;*
- F. Supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure** - *Encouraging the development of renewable energy proposals in sustainable locations, including through the operation of community co-operatives, and ensure that community benefit can be derived from upgrades to public utilities;*
- G. Supporting the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations to complement economic growth and resilience** - *Unlock stalled housing sites in locations less favourable to volume builders and trial initiatives for innovative housing and self builds;*
- H. Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establishing Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets** - *Acknowledge that such facilities are important to the population and ensure that these facilities meet future needs. Collaboration delivered through networks of community hubs and people who deliver services and support can build community relationships and have a positive impact on well-being and social capital, especially in conjunction with other community schemes;*
- I. Ensuring that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes** - *A cross-cutting objective that recognises that people are disabled more by poor design, inaccessible services and other people's attitudes than by their own impairment;*
- J. Ensuring all communities within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are able to engage with, and benefit from, the Masterplan** - *Ensure that the proposals identified in the Masterplan have positive outputs for those that are living in those communities.*

Section 5: The Development Strategy

In order to deliver the Vision and Strategic Objectives, it is important to set out the development strategy in relation to the key land uses within the Masterplan area, having regard for the strategy of the adopted LDP, regional aspirations and the opportunities and challenges that form the context. The site specific delivery of the Masterplan is set out in Section 6.

Employment and Skills

City Deal presents a significant opportunity to revitalise the economy of the A465 corridor, providing funds to develop growth in key sectors, establish a network of redeveloped and reconfigured employment sites and improve linkages with the rest of the region and beyond. Work has been undertaken to determine a sectoral breakdown of the HOVRA's economy, identify those areas of sectoral strength that may exist and to establish where opportunities for economic growth may arise on the basis of this. This work is presented as an appendix to this document and its findings set out in Section 6.

The adopted LDP protects the following six sites within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area for employment use and these should continue to be protected (additional land at Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate is allocated for new development):

- Heads of the Valleys, Rhymney;
- Capital Valley, Rhymney;
- Maerdy, Rhymney;
- New Tredegar Business Park;
- Bowen, Aberbargoed;
- Angel Lane, Aberbargoed.

The Masterplan seeks to take advantage of the three Rhymney sites listed above plus The Lawns Industrial Estate by identifying them as potential redevelopment opportunities, in order to provide new business space, to complement the role of the nearby Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) and maximise the potential offered by increased connectivity through the Metro initiative.

It is envisaged that this will involve the provision of new starter units suitable for small business start-ups, and some larger units that cater for businesses who wish to take advantage of existing and growth sectors. The area, along with Blaenau Gwent, does have a life sciences presence, and the automotive focus of the nearby EZ may present opportunities for complementary development in associated supply chains and service sectors.

Alongside physical improvements to land and premises, there is a need for this process to link to the development of direct recruitment schemes being implemented by the Council's Business Liaison Officer.

Foundational Economy

The foundational economy provides essential goods and services for everyday life and includes infrastructure; utilities; food processing, retailing and distribution; and health, education and welfare. In Wales, it supports four out of every 10 jobs, and £1 in every £3 spent.

Common interventions utilised in relation to the foundational economy include those related to public sector procurement processes, ensuring that more of the revenue moving through it can be harnessed and retained in the local area. Other schemes include a pilot project in Blaenau Gwent, involving the collaboration of locally-active housing associations to support the development of SMEs.

Welsh Government has launched a £3m Foundational Economy Challenge Fund, offering support to organisations and businesses to introduce innovative ways of working. This is open to any organisation working within the foundational economy, and projects must be for its benefit.

Education and Training

Educational attainment and skills acquisition, along with other social and economic factors in respect of deprivation are key issues in respect of addressing inequalities in the Masterplan area. Data from the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019 indicates that of the twenty SOAs that constitute the HOVRA, six are in the most 10% deprived of all Welsh SOAs in terms of education (details are set out in Appendix 5).

Working in partnership with Careers Wales, Business Support Wales and business and industry, the Council will seek to increase the availability of quality jobs and identify opportunities to enhance access for residents to those jobs. The availability of a workforce with the appropriate range of skills is essential, and the focus should be concentrated on the following areas:

- Providing appropriate career support to aid people's understanding of the type of employment available to them and help them make the right choices to lead them into work;
- Ensuring that the appropriate soft skills and technical skills are provided, and engendering a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship;
- Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs (digital, technical and soft) and the training provided through the educational curriculum and by training providers;
- Ensuring that there are opportunities for upskilling in the current workforce, including the closing of skills 'gaps' in relation to potential growth sectors;
- Improving links between schools, further education and local businesses;

- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

Connectivity

The A465 is the key strategic east-west route between West Wales and the Midlands and the ongoing dualling programme will increase its capability in this regard, as well as providing a vital link with nearby centres such as Merthyr and Ebbw Vale. The increased accessibility offered by Metro will have similar benefits in respect of accessibility to the south, aiding access to external markets for businesses, jobs and other facilities for residents. Increases in journey frequency and the provision of earlier and later services will allow more people to travel in a manner which is conducive to labour market requirements, taking account of shift patterns.

It will also have the potential to bring employees and visitors in, and therefore 'gateway' sites such as the Bargoed and Rhymney Stations and their environs are important, both in their own right and as a means of signposting to nearby facilities. There is therefore the potential for land around local rail stations to be configured to have a positive impact on the local economy i.e. through the provision of business space and associated development, and to convey a positive image of the area by providing links to town centres and other facilities that exist elsewhere within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area.

Leisure and Tourism

The Heads of the Valleys is synonymous with both a strong industrial legacy and a series of distinctive landscapes, and the combination of these is a rich natural and cultural heritage. The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative seeks to establish a model for the management of a network of a highly-visible, high quality country parks, other natural assets, heritage sites and attractions across the Valleys, linked with towns and villages and the Metro and maximising the opportunities for walking, cycling and riding.

There are three existing country parks and one proposed country park in the HOVRA that will contribute to the VRP, namely:

Parc Bryn Bach (Blaenau Gwent/Caerphilly);
Parc Cwm Darran;
Parc Coetir Bargod;
Markham Colliery.

Other important heritage assets which will contribute to the VRP include:

the Winding House museum, New Tredegar;
Bute Town Conservation Area;
Hanbury Chapel and Library, Bargoed.

Town Centres

Retailing remains fundamental to the role and function of town centres. The Masterplan area comprises the Principal Town of Bargoed, the Local Centre of Rhymney and the smaller settlements of New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Markham, Argoed, Hollybush, Deri, Fochriw, Pontlottyn and Abertysswg.

- **Bargoed** – the town centre includes one national supermarket (Morrisons), a number of smaller national stores and over 100 largely independent commercial units and key services;
- **Rhymney** – comprises a range of local shops and services;
- **Neighbourhood retailing** – in accordance with national and local planning policy, the Masterplan does not promote the provision of major retail development outside of designated retail areas, but the development of some retail to support local needs is a key part of promoting sustainable development.

Both Bargoed and Rhymney town centres have vacant units, and there is potential to diversify the range of uses within both towns, whilst ensuring that they expand on their roles as service centres with a viable and vibrant retail and commercial basis.

Housing

The strategy for the adopted LDP seeks to exploit appropriate development opportunities where they exist, with a view to creating a viable future for all communities in the Heads of the Valleys. It also seeks to accommodate new housing in villages where there is a need to diversify stock and in order to retain the existing population.

The Heads of the Valleys has experienced less development pressure over the lifetime of the LDP due to the perceptions of volume housebuilders regarding profitability. Whilst some small-scale development has taken place, many of the sites allocated for housing in the LDP remain undeveloped, despite their sustainable locations. However, there is significant potential for the development of sites by SME builders and self-build plots, as well as new housing association sites, to provide new sustainably located housing development in order to increase the amount and quality of housing stock in this area.

Community Facilities

The provision and location of community facilities are of crucial importance to the sustainability of settlements and to the well-being of their populations. In addition to existing facilities in the HOVRA, a number of new facilities have opened, or existing ones improved, since the adoption of the LDP:

- Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre (Hanbury Chapel);
- Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre;
- Hafod Deg Resource Centre, Rhymney;
- Idris Davies School, Abertysswg – the first English medium school in the authority that offers a through school education for pupils between the ages of 3 and 18; this provision also incorporates Flying Start and wraparound childcare.
- Rhymney Library.

The rationalisation and sharing of facilities to fulfil several community purposes can provide benefits in the form of community ‘hubs’, allowing people and groups to use them for a variety of uses. This can have a positive impact in terms of social capital, engendering networking opportunities, knowledge sharing and the development of transferable skills which are of invaluable importance in a modern social and economic context.

Section 6: The Masterplan Framework

This section sets out the site specific projects and proposals that will collectively deliver the Vision and Objectives. Many of the projects are interrelated, and therefore implementation of some projects may be reliant on other proposals progressing sequentially or concurrently.

A – Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys

City Deal presents an opportunity for the A465 corridor to develop its economy in an integrated way, exploiting improvements in connectivity to bring about sectoral growth on the basis of existing strengths, and in a manner which is complementary to other parts of the region, through the development of modern business premises.

Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone comprises eight sites which are intended to deliver the objective of the Tech Valleys initiative – supporting the improvement of infrastructure links and development of 450,000 sq ft of new industrial/commercial floorspace, generating up to £20 million of private investment and potentially 1,000 permanent jobs.

The five ‘key’ sites within the Enterprise Zone (EZ) are as follows:

- Bryn Serth (20.2 ha);
- Rassau Industrial Estate (7.1 ha);
- Rhyd-y-Blew (29.2 ha) – development of a technology park at this location in lieu of the Circuit of Wales scheme, including a 50,000 sq ft advanced manufacturing unit;
- The Works (6.2 ha) – development of 22,000 sq ft of B1/B2 starter units;
- Tredegar Business Park (2.1 ha)

All of these sites benefit from close proximity to the A465, allocation within the Blaenau Gwent LDP for class B uses, a simplified planning regime via a local development order (LDO) and financial support from Finance Wales and the Welsh Business Rates Scheme. An opportunity exists to extend the EZ to incorporate employment sites in Rhymney to provide ancillary, complementary and service employment opportunities.

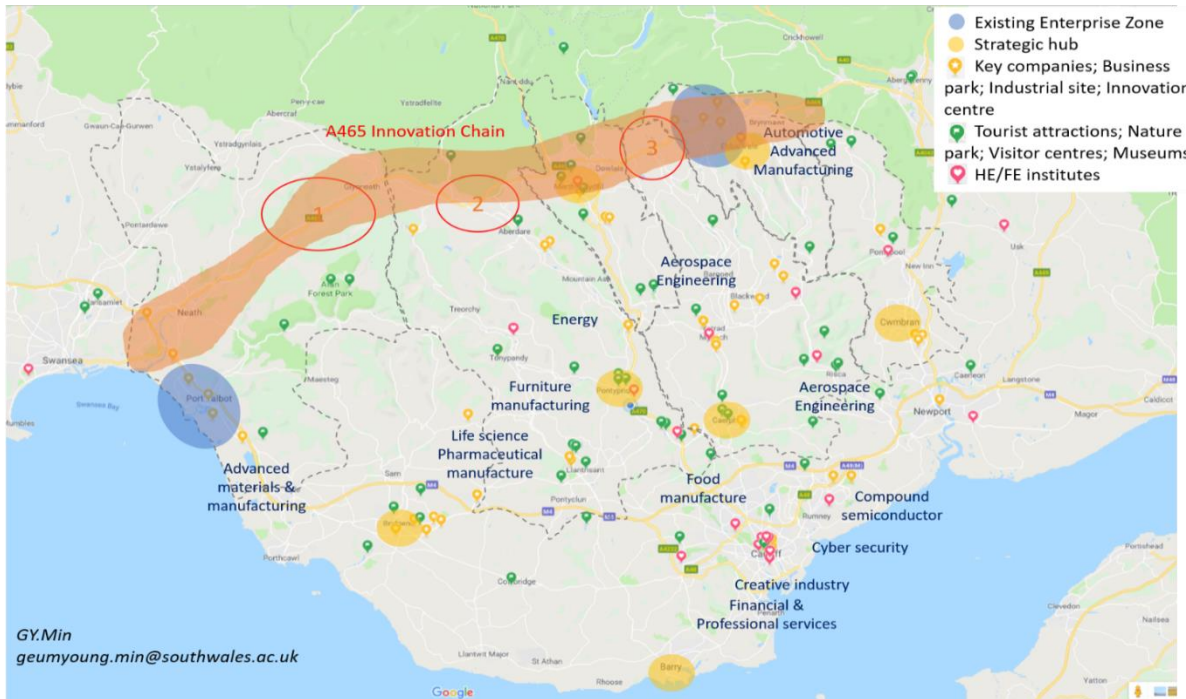
Establishment of an A465 Innovation Chain

Work undertaken by the University of South Wales for the Valleys Taskforce recommends the establishment of an ‘innovation chain’ to maximise the impact of the A465 dualling. The aim of this is to provide a series of strong innovation clusters in order to boost the regional economy and attract external investment. Three zones are identified, based on existing characteristics:

- Zone 1 (Glynneath area, Neath Port Talbot): energy/environment cluster;
- Zone 2 (Hirwaun-Aberdare area, Rhondda Cynon Taf): IT/digital cluster;

- Zone 3 (Dowlais, Merthyr - Bute Town, Caerphilly): extension of Tech Valleys and Merthyr industrial sites.

A465 Innovation Chain



The main focus of Zone 3 is to provide greater connectivity between the automotive presence in Ebbw Vale and those additional facilities that exist in Merthyr – some industrial as well as retail and leisure. The USW work envisages the addition of R&D facilities, support for business start-ups and conferencing and hospitality facilities for business and investors along this corridor. The Masterplan seeks to build on this approach by developing the role of Rhymney’s existing employment sites, in order to complement the focus on automotive and advanced manufacturing within the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone.


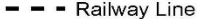
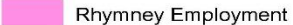

Rhymney is situated between Ebbw Vale and Merthyr on the A465 and, although it has no designated role as set out within the VTF delivery plan, it possesses a 'critical mass' of existing employment land and premises which is a comparative strength in the HOVRA, which illustrated that Rhymney can compete with neighbouring areas to attract and retain business. The Rhymney employment cluster comprises the following sites:

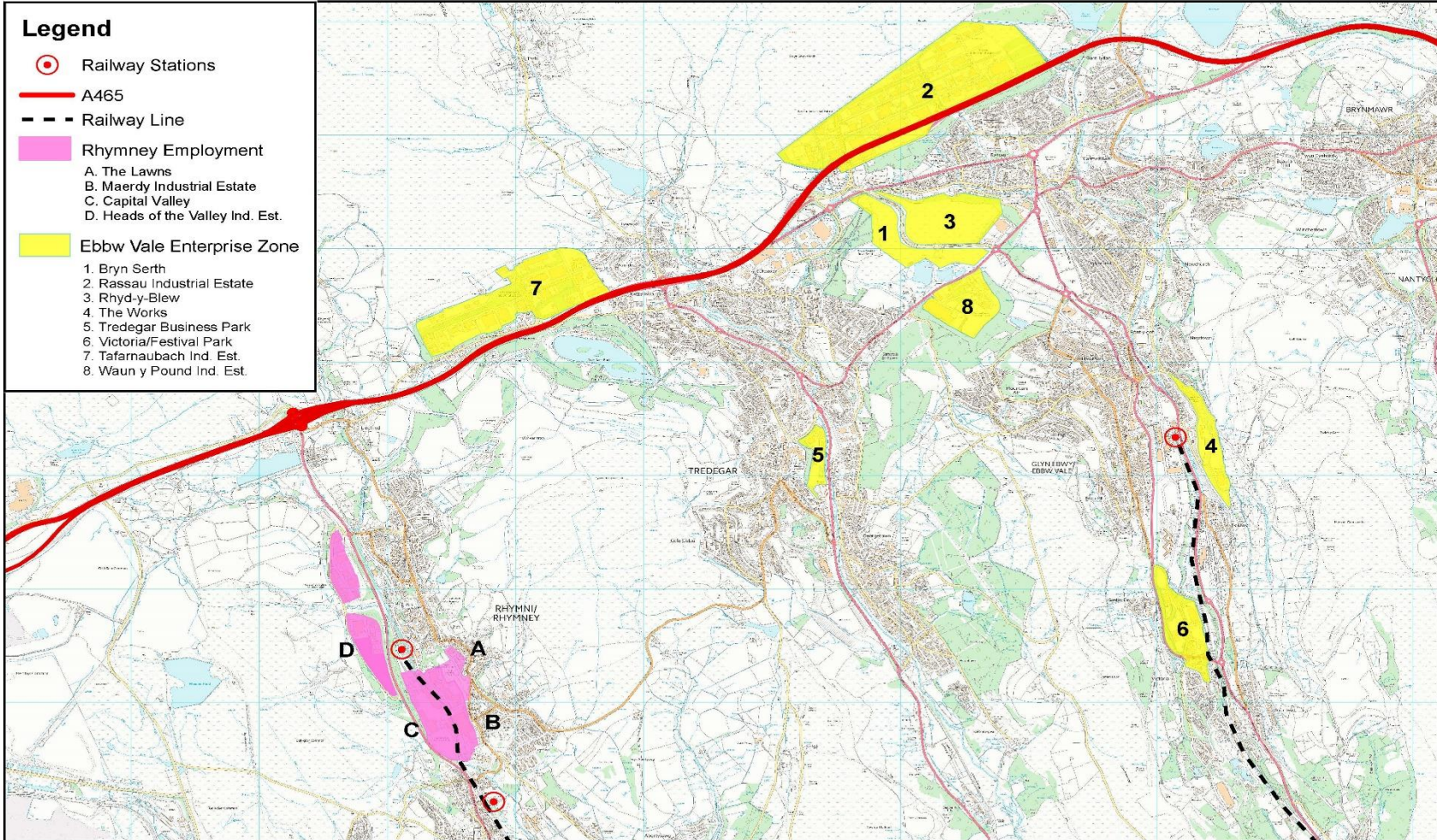
- Heads of the Valleys (19.5 ha) – 5.2 ha of undeveloped land remains available for development;
- Capital Valley (14.8 ha) – 3.3 ha at the southern end is undeveloped;
- Maerdy Industrial Estate (12.5 ha);
- The Lawns Industrial Estate (7.3 ha) – there is planning consent to develop 15 new units on the residual land available.

This cluster of industrial estates is situated either side of the A469 north-south link road, in very close proximity to the A465, offering excellent vehicular and freight access to Merthyr Tydfil to the west and the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone to the east. Rhymney Station provides excellent rail access through the County Borough to Cardiff, whilst there is the capability to transport freight from the Capital Valley railhead, which is unique in the Heads of the Valleys area.

The following map identifies the EZ sites as well as the Rhymney cluster, and the key transport routes that exist in the local vicinity:

Legend

-  Railway Stations
-  A465
-  Railway Line
-  Rhymney Employment
 - A. The Lawns
 - B. Maerdy Industrial Estate
 - C. Capital Valley
 - D. Heads of the Valley Ind. Est.
-  Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone
 - 1. Bryn Serth
 - 2. Rassau Industrial Estate
 - 3. Rhyd-y-Blew
 - 4. The Works
 - 5. Tredegar Business Park
 - 6. Victoria/Festival Park
 - 7. Tafarnaubach Ind. Est.
 - 8. Waun y Pound Ind. Est.



Given Rhymney's proximity to the EZ and the need for mutually complementary employment growth in order to deliver economic benefits to this part of the A465 corridor, it is proposed that the scope of the existing Ebbw Vale EZ be expanded to create a **Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone**, complementing the planned growth in the automotive sector at Ebbw Vale and the retail/leisure offer at Merthyr (including the forthcoming Rhydycar West scheme). Collectively, these proposals will build on the benefits of the A465 dualling and the newly developed Metro hub at Rhymney Station.

In terms of the sectoral analysis undertaken in respect of existing sectors operating within the area, the Rhymney area does accommodate companies which are active in the area of healthcare more generally, be it manufacturing or supply. This part of the HOVRA, encompassing Rhymney and the broad cluster of related firms in Blaenau Gwent (including PCI Pharma at Tafarnaubach), therefore has the potential to build on this specialism, provided that a) a suitable workforce can be retained and expanded upon; and b) the customer base is sufficiently accessible.

An enlarged Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone may also present opportunities for the HOVRA more generally. Whilst the growth of the automotive sector has reportedly been slow, there are examples of firms operating within the sector and, should a critical mass be reached whereby the sector exhibits clustering characteristics in the area (technical expertise and social capital locally inherent to that particular field), opportunities for expansion will arise, either in the form of additional automotive or other, complementary sectors. Whilst this process is heavily reliant on the development of technical expertise and skills, the Rhymney area does have sites that could accommodate such development in the form of Capital Valley (which requires redevelopment) and Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate (which has undeveloped land).

Work undertaken by JLL/Sutton Consulting on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region has presented findings in terms of take-up and demand for the different categories of employment premises and recommendations as to how these should be addressed spatially across the region. Those pertinent to the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are:

Traditional Small B1/B2/B8 Industrial Units

Studies across the CCR have identified very high occupancy rates for such units. It is recommended that the average site offered should be 1,500–2,000 sq ft. Focus on provision of these units should be on those parts of the CCR outside Cardiff and Newport where new private sector development of such floorspace is viable. Potential locations in Caerphilly County Borough include Caerphilly/Bedwas, mid Valleys locations (Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood) and Rhymney. Further development of such premises will benefit local enterprise, including – potentially – some elements of the foundational economy.

Large B2 Industrial and Manufacturing Units

There has been a steady take-up of floorspace across the CCR since the 2007-10 economic downturn and there is now a near historic low in terms of supply, particularly regarding modern floorspace. There is little speculative development but the flow of foreign direct investment remains slow but steady. Recommended locations for intervention include the provision of large manufacturing units at Oakdale and Rhymney (1 x 50,000 sq ft and 1 x 25,000).

Metro Stations as Business Hubs

A pilot programme is suggested to explore the feasibility of converting stations into well-connected business hubs as part of a sustainable regeneration masterplan, with the local station at the centre. It is anticipated that Metro will generate sufficient commuter traffic to justify commercial development at key locations and, in time, facilitate investment beyond the immediate station environs. Public sector intervention will be required in the first instance to bring forward sites of sufficient quality and scale. Three pathfinder schemes are recommended as an exemplar (10,000 sq ft employment floorspace) with potential locations including Rhymney.

Other

With the growth in prominence of electric vehicles, the lack of charging infrastructure across the CCR is highlighted. With the ongoing A465 dualling programme, there is potential to create an EV-friendly service station on the A465 which could also provide tourism and visitor services.

Rhymney is identified as being a location that would benefit from the development of small business start-up units, demand for which is strong a) across the region due to prevailing high occupancy rates; and b) locally due to a low proportion of suitable stock. Its location just outside the Ebbw Vale EZ, as well as good transport links provided by the A465 and A469 southbound would enhance its attractiveness as an area for developing complementary activities to those in the EZ with the provision of suitable premises. Other factors could also work in its favour, if public funding is utilised to develop the potential of these attributes:

- Potential for increased economic integration with the rest of the region due to the increase in journey frequency at Rhymney Station and the potential role of the Station as an economic hub for the HOVRA;
- The existence of a railhead at Capital Valley gives the area freight transfer capability, which is unique in the wider EZ area;
- The collaborative aspect of the proximity of existing commercial/industrial uses elsewhere in Rhymney, particularly the adjacent Lawn and Maerdy Industrial Estates;
- Opportunities to encourage all industrial estate owners to re-brand their premises as a single business location, pooling resources and encouraging a partnership approach to development in this sector (possibly with those in the EZ);
- Rhymney does have an existing life sciences presence, and the provision of modern business stock could develop this further.

A-1 Capital Valley

Capital Valley is an existing industrial estate, comprising older, low quality industrial and warehouse accommodation. Land in the south is in use for open storage while there are multiple derelict/demolished buildings in the north. Much of it is within TAN 15 flood zone C2.

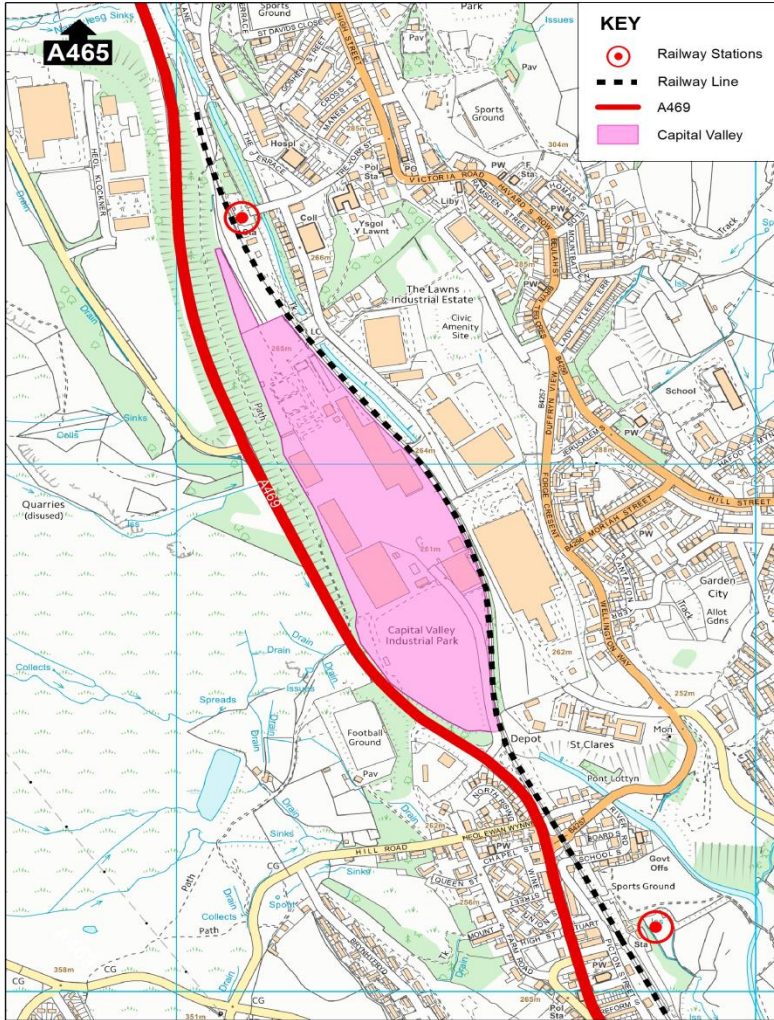
There is concern that the existing stock is not fit for purpose in places, specifically that there is a shortage of smaller, modern units suitable for new business start-ups. Vacancy rates on Capital Valley as of 2018 were 52.6% in terms of numbers of units; 37.2% in terms of floorspace. Notwithstanding this, the existing businesses on the site employ circa 200 people.

Redevelopment of the site to tailor it (at least in part) to the needs of specific sectors, complemented by investment in the development of a range of particular skill sets, would allow such businesses to take advantage of an appropriately trained and upskilled workforce. Key areas that could be targeted are manufacturing (potentially advanced manufacturing in relation to automotive), processing, energy and institutional, potentially involving mixed-use schemes including housing or commercial uses.

Development Principles

- Redevelopment of the site for small, start-up units, and larger B2 development;
- Potential mixed-use development including housing or commercial uses;
- Maximising the existence of a railhead;
- Integration with Rhymney Station and the town centre, especially due to increased journey frequency;
- Optimising the site's strategically advantageous position through a range of economic uses, including potentially targeting complementary uses to those forming the basis of the existing EZ/Tech Valleys; ~~Targeting of complementary uses to those forming the basis of the existing EZ/Tech Valleys;~~
- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

Capital Valley



A-2 The Lawns Industrial Estate

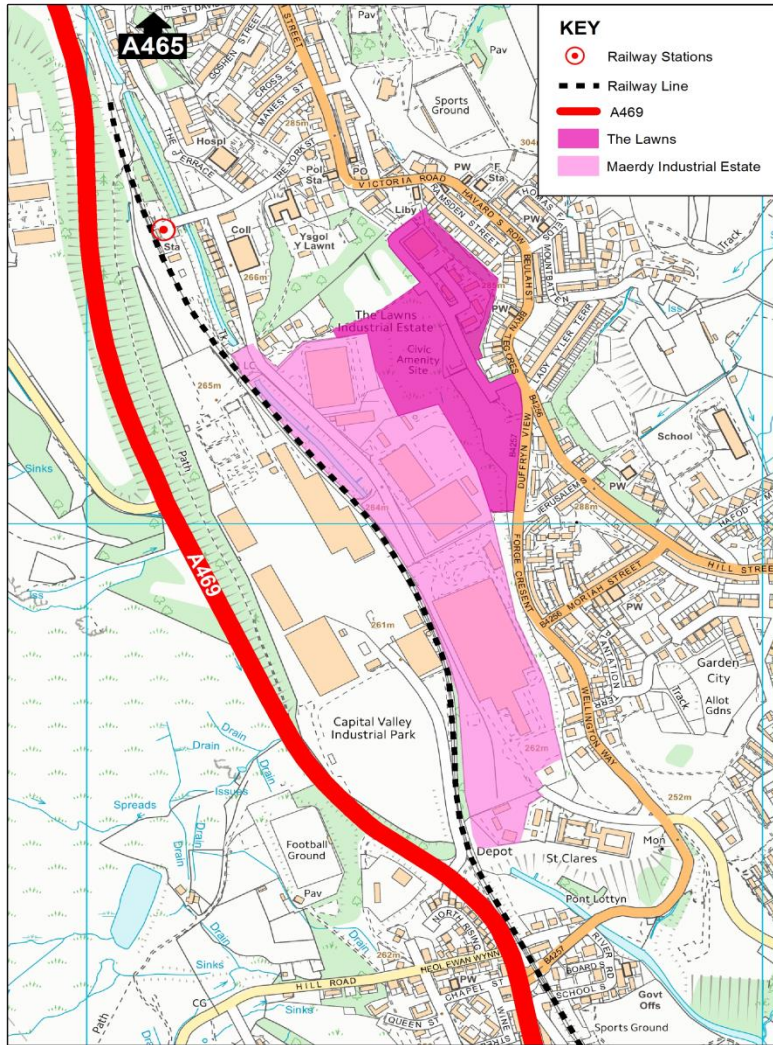
The Lawns Industrial Estate (lying immediately adjacent to The Maerdy Industrial Estate) is centrally located in Rhymney on the north eastern side of the cluster of estates and is the smallest of the four. Existing units are of moderate quality, and the majority of them are used for storage, office space or other less industrial facilities/use, also on site is a civic amenity centre. Access to the Lawns estate is only possible from the southern end via a link road off the B4257. There is a strong and ever increasing demand for expansion and enhancement of the estate for light industrial, high quality 'starter units'. As well as potential, additional opportunities for expansion of the estate in the future, the Council aims to bring into beneficial economic use a parcel of prime underutilised land (approx. 0.65Ha in size) adjacent to the existing estate to significantly expand the site's employment offer. This will result in the design and construction of new high quality light industrial factory units and associated infrastructure, to be delivered in 2020. The scheme will consist of the following key elements:

- New access highway infrastructure & parking areas;
- New single storey employment buildings (x3) – with internal units ranging in size between 50, 70 & 100 sq.m;
- Associated soft and hard landscaping features.

Development Principles

- Development of new start units to satisfy demand;
- Better integration of business space within the sites, enhanced legibility of access;
- Reduced commuting out of the area through increased provision of local jobs;
- Maximise opportunities brought about by Metro, due to proximity to Rhymney Station.

The Lawns and Maerdy Industrial Estates



A-3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate

Located off the A469 and divided into two parts, the northern part of the estate together with a portion of the southern part is protected for employment use in the LDP. The remainder is allocated for new employment development. The northern section comprises mid-sized industrial premises, the southern section comprises a row of smaller units, one large property and vacant land.

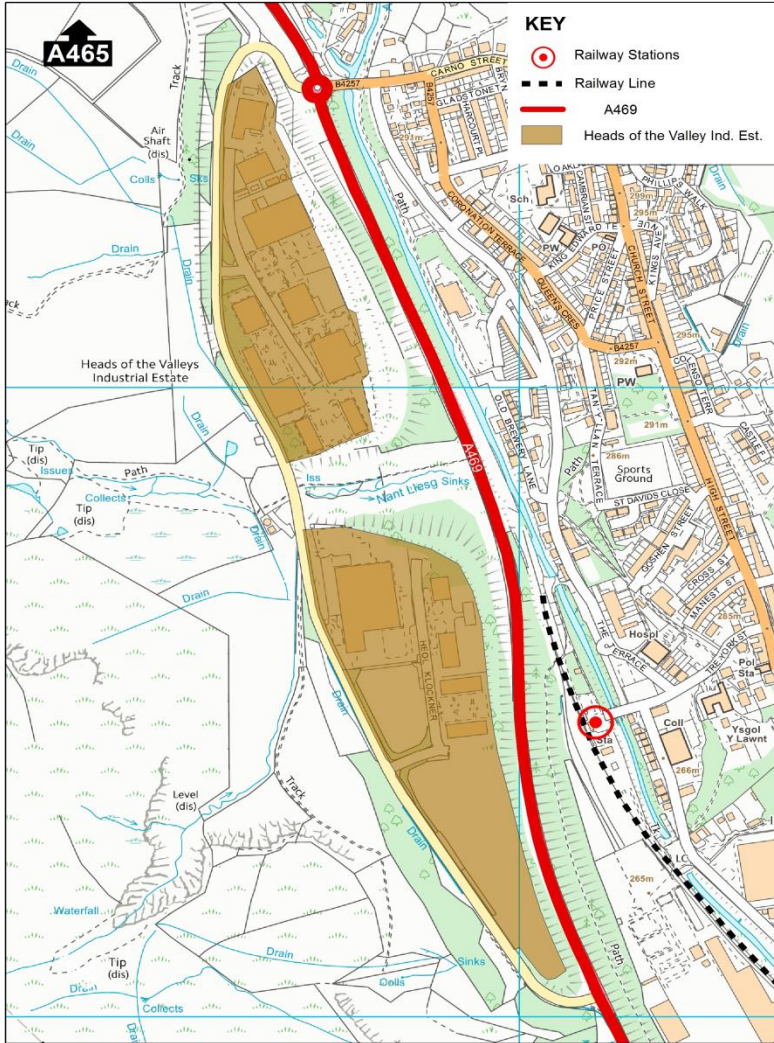
Sharp Clinical Services, part of UDG Healthcare plc, has recently invested £9m to fund a new multiple-phase pharmaceutical manufacturing, packaging and distribution facility at this location adding to the range of life science manufacturing facilities on the estate (Convatec Ltd is also located here) demonstrating the attractiveness of the area to multi-national life science companies.

The site's extremely good transport links in relation to the A465, as well as the availability of undeveloped land, enhance its status as a candidate for the location of life science facilities and for business conferencing provision to serve the wider A465 corridor.

Development Principles

- Good strategic location on the A469 and very close to the A465;
- Availability of undeveloped land;
- Build on collaborative aspect of the proximity of existing commercial/industrial uses elsewhere in Rhymney, particularly Capital Valley and the Lawns and Maerdy Industrial Estates;
- Opportunity to develop role of existing sectors e.g. life sciences;
- Potential location for sub-regional business conferencing facility, to be developed as part of an overall improvement to the site's environment;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate



B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably

B-1 Education, Training and Skills

In order to combat the economic deprivation that is present in much of the HOVRA and in conjunction with the physical proposals set out under Objective A, there is a need to ensure the provision of suitable education and training initiatives, programmes to reduce worklessness and the development of transferable skills.

This will provide several opportunities in relation to economic prosperity:

- To provide local people with the necessary skills required for employment, generally bringing about an increase in skill levels and improving people's access to good quality jobs;
- To foster a renewed spirit of confidence and entrepreneurship and increase the likelihood of higher levels of indigenous business formation and economic growth;
- To attract key employers, particularly those operating in higher value-added sectors, as part of an overall 'package' including modern, fit-for-purpose employment premises and good sub and inter-regional connectivity.

Having regard to the role of the HOVRA within the context of the wider Heads of the Valleys region, such an approach needs to be appropriately tailored to the economic aspirations set out by the Valleys Taskforce and the Tech Valleys initiative. In practice, this means the propagation of skills tailored to the area's key growth areas.

As outlined in *A Foundation for Success* and its supporting document *Delivering Prosperity*, there is a need for co-ordinated delivery between relevant organisations in order to ensure a comprehensive approach regarding the following:

- The provision of appropriate career support for children and adults;
- Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs and the training provided through the curriculum and by training providers;
- Ensuring that there are opportunities for upskilling among the current workforce;
- Improve links between educational institutions, including schools, and local businesses;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

As part of this, Valleys Taskforce is piloting a project across its area which seeks to connect social and economic challenges with crowdsourced entrepreneurial solutions, utilising a cloud-based, open innovation platform to establish links with local educational institutions. Essentially, the project will connect local SMEs with a wealth of intelligence contained in Universities and Colleges to offer solutions to everyday business problems.

Specific actions in relation to education, training and skills are set out within *A Foundation for Success*. In addition, the Council is preparing a Skills, Training and Employment Strategy which will further develop ways of improving skills attainment.

B-2 Foundational Economy

The foundational economy has been defined as the “social consumption of essential goods and services”. It includes things such as healthcare, education, food processing and retail, utilities and infrastructure. By its very nature, it exists where demand is localised and permanent and, therefore, the foundational economy exists across the whole of the HOVRA.

For this reason, this is a cross-cutting objective that covers the whole area, rather than particular sites. Resilience can be improved through investing in firms and organisations within the foundational economy, and the Welsh Government Foundational Economy Challenge Fund will offer support to organisations and businesses to introduce innovative ways of working. The Council’s Business Support service can assist organisations who may wish to access this funding.

Business Support also has a role in terms of working with businesses to establish networks of collaboration, ensuring that local supply chains can be established where they don’t already exist, serving to keep money within the local economy. Related to this is the provision of suitable business stock – the delivery of modern start-up units on estates such as Capital Valley and The Lawns will assist in adding to existing premises in places such as New Tredegar and providing fit-for-purpose business space for local firms. The Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model will provide key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants (specifically relating in work support and upskilling existing workforces).

Council procurement processes can also assist by investing in Heads of the Valleys organisations on locally specific contracts where possible. This will ensure that contracts are socially beneficial, ensuring that infrastructure projects deliver community benefit. This needs to be done in such a way that builds capacity in local businesses, offering long-term employment and training.

Education and training providers will be important in building the relevant skills required to enable organisations to maintain networks of collaboration, and in accessing Welsh Government funding opportunities. Integrated Well-Being Networks, which seek to connect the strengths and assets of communities, will also be relevant, and these will be discussed more fully under Objective H.

C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity

The HOVRA lies within the wider A465 corridor, which stretches from Neath in the west to Abergavenny in the east (in a Welsh context) before crossing into the Midlands, with settlements in the northern part of the area in particular operating within the sphere of influence of nearby centres such as Merthyr and Ebbw Vale. Notably it now takes the same time by road from Rhymney to travel to the Midlands or London as it does from Cardiff. However the A465 route has the added benefit of avoiding the congestion of the Brynglas Tunnels and the Severn Bridge making the HOVRA an attractive proposition for businesses to locate.

A465 Dualling

Dualling of the A465 Heads of the Valleys trunk road continues with Section 3 (Brynmawr to Tredegar) finished in 2015. Section 2, from Gilwern to Brynmawr, is now well underway although is more technically challenging. Sections 5 and 6, from Dowlais Top to Hirwaun, will then follow and complete the project. Whilst the A465 provides opportunities in terms of increasing accessibility between settlements within the corridor, it risks concentrating development and its associated benefits in those that are regarded as being of strategic importance in a regional context i.e. Merthyr. The creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone will provide the basis for realising comprehensive economic benefits along the entirety of the A465 corridor, by matching investment in transport infrastructure with investment in the physical fabric of local economies and also in terms of the educational and skills requirements that are vital to support economic growth sectors.

The A469 resilience route remains a key aspiration in terms of improving connectivity between the northern and southern ends of the HOVRA, and improving resilience in terms of the area's highways infrastructure.

South Wales Metro

The South Wales Metro initiative will provide an opportunity to build on existing provision within the HOVRA:

- The creation of a multi-modal and integrated transport network, involving traditional rail, light rail and bus rapid transit (BRT);
- £77 million investment in a package of Phase 1 infrastructure improvements across the region;
- Phase 2, which will involve the major transformation of the existing rail network across the region, delivering faster and more frequent services (four trains per hour), new stations, enhanced integration and the introduction of a new and improved rolling stock. This will deliver increased accessibility, improving access to employment and other services and facilities across the wider region and especially to communities on the core valley lines north of Cardiff and, specifically, the Rhymney Valley Line.

In terms of timescales, the implementation of Phase 2 is anticipated up to 2023, with further phases (beyond the core valley lines) to follow.

Metro is intended to act as a catalyst for transforming the economic and social prospects of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR). Increased connectivity will bring about the following:

- Direct economic benefits through easier access to employment across the region;
- Agglomerative benefits;
- Development and regeneration benefits on key corridors and around key stations;
- Environmental and sustainability benefits;
- Ensuring the community is fully engaged and has valued input into proposed works. The use of existing Community Regeneration hubs can be developed upon to ensure all elements of work are integrated alongside existing community benefit related contracts.

Locally, the Rhymney Valley Line operational enhancements to enable more frequent and faster services will be delivered through Phase 2. Potential bus rapid transit routes between Rhymney and Ebbw Vale, and Rhymney and Merthyr, are also options for the future.

A pilot programme is suggested to explore the feasibility of converting stations into well-connected business hubs as part of a sustainable regeneration masterplan, with the local station at the centre. It is anticipated that Metro will generate sufficient commuter traffic to justify commercial development at key locations and, in time, facilitate investment beyond the immediate station environs. Public sector intervention will be required in the first instance to bring forward sites of sufficient quality and scale. The Council will work with Welsh Government and Transport for Wales to pursue a pilot at Rhymney Station.

Electric Vehicles

The Council is currently exploring the feasibility of providing electric vehicle charging points, following a commitment to increasing the use of electric vehicles and creating an all-electric public transport network. Funding has been obtained through the OLEV scheme for charging points in car parks near residential areas without off-street parking and a scheme is envisaged at Dyffryn Terrace, Eliot's Town, with the potential for additional locations to benefit including Pontlottyn Station and Parc Cwm Darran.

Digital Connectivity

Digital Connectivity is critical if the economy of the HOVRA is to improve. Welsh Government established the Superfast Cymru initiative in order to extend the coverage of superfast broadband to those areas across Wales not covered by commercial rollout. This programme concluded in 2016 and has had substantial success in rolling out superfast broadband provision across the country.

The quality and speed of such digital connectivity is of great importance for the business community, in terms of being able to address new market opportunities, the scaling up of operations and impacting positively on profitability. However, the success that can be delivered through the provision of such infrastructure is dependent on take-up rates, and therefore businesses throughout the HOVRA will be encouraged to unlock their full potential through the use of digital technology.

In some parts of the HOVRA, areas of poorer connectivity may persist, and therefore opportunities to address this should be pursued, both through:

- Extended provision of enhanced digital infrastructure, where necessary; and
- The linking of enhanced infrastructure to businesses and homes, through redevelopment and adaptation;
- Use of existing services such as Digital Fridays, local libraries and local outreach venues to improve digital literacy and provide access to broadband in deprived areas where people would not be able to access ICT provision;
- Link to the Gateway to Employment model to improve basic skills in the most deprived and isolated communities.

C-1 Land around Rhymney Station

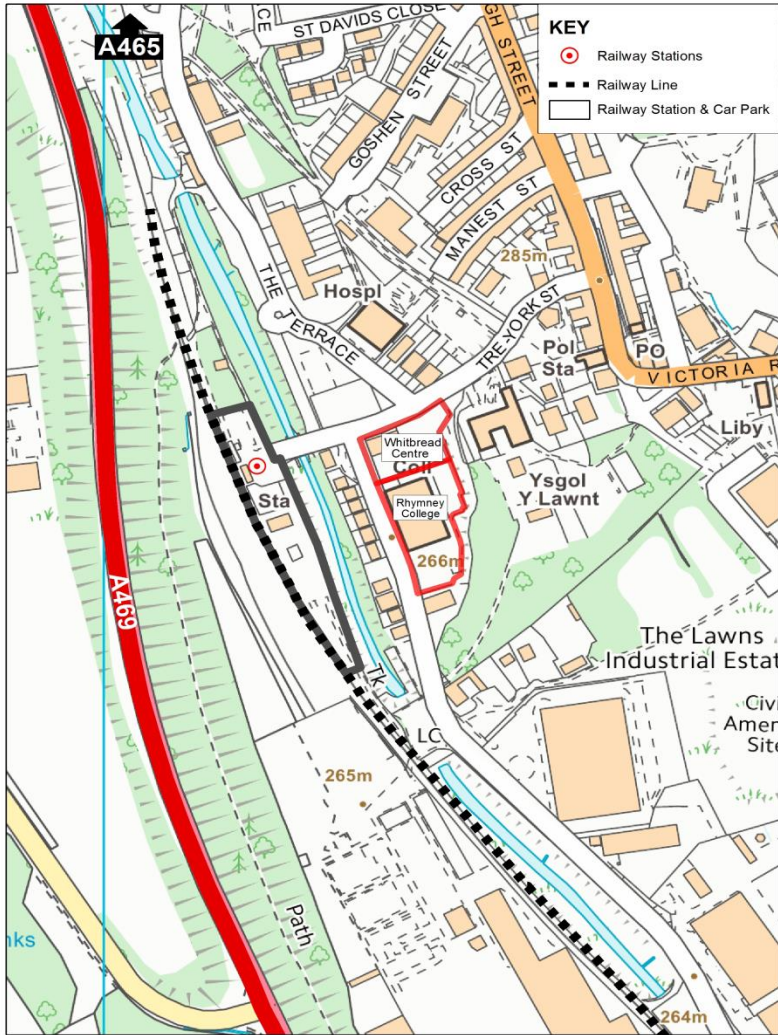
Within 100m of Rhymney Station lies the Whitbread Enterprise Centre and the former Rhymney College. There is potential for part of this land to be redeveloped as a multi-functional business hub, offering business units, live-work space and a commercial element including meeting facilities. In conjunction with the increased journey frequency brought about by Metro, this would allow the station and its immediate environs to maximise the economic advantage offered by increased connectivity to external markets, as well as to create a multi-purpose focal point in close proximity to Rhymney town centre and to additional, new business premises at The Lawns.

As part of the investments being made in Metro, the Council is working with Transport for Wales to secure station improvements at Rhymney Station. The improvements will include enhanced stabling facilities, platform extension and remodelling, additional parking, a new toilet block and waiting rooms, cycle racks and ticketing and wifi upgrades.

Development Principles

- Economically advantageous due to proximity to rail station, as well as existing firms located on nearby industrial estates;
- Optimisation of vacant/underused land;
- Provision of start-up/incubator units suitable for firms requiring access to transport infrastructure;
- Development of multi-functional element;
- Further enhancements to Rhymney Station as part of Metro;
- Increase in journey frequency.

Land around Rhymney Station



C-2 Other Stations (Bargoed, Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Tirphil)

General improvements are planned by Transport for Wales under the Metro proposals for Bargoed Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil Stations, including level boarding, lighting and cycle racks, ticketing and wifi. There is also an aspiration for additional parking at Bargoed Station, which will be covered further on.

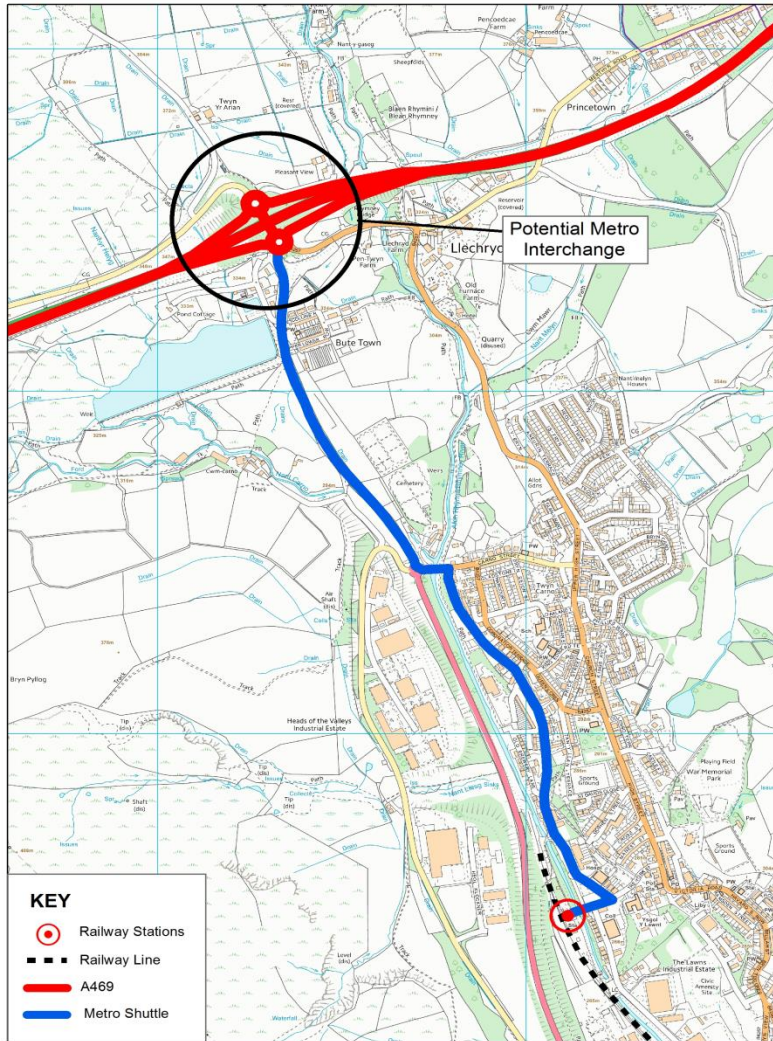
The possibility of installing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure at Pontlottyn Station is also being considered under the OLEV grant scheme.

C-3 A465/A469 Transport Hub

There is the potential to explore the development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469, linking the major east-west and north-south routes in this part of the Heads of the Valleys corridor. This scheme would be likely to come forward under a later phase of investment (post Phase 2 of Metro) under Metro Plus, and financed through City Deal.

Development Principles

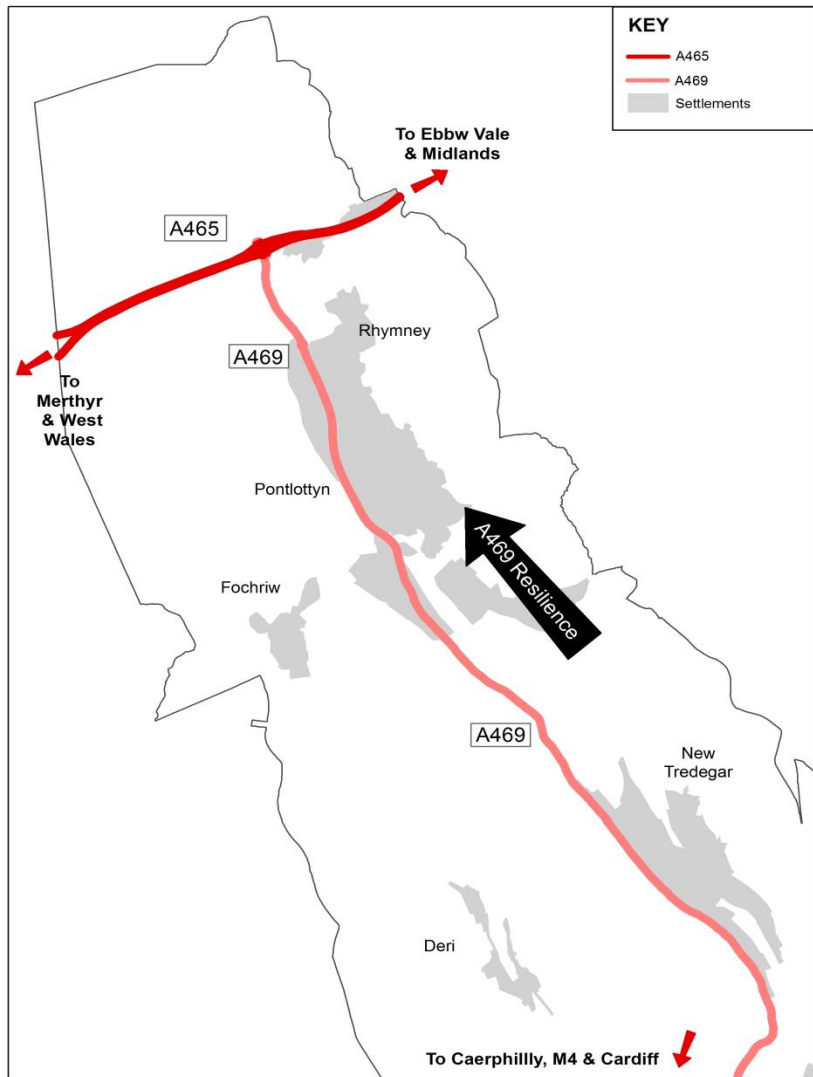
- Provision of park and ride between the A465 and Rhymney Station;
- Development of links with planned and existing active travel routes (C-7);
- Close to tourism and leisure amenities – Bute Town heritage offer, Bute Town Reservoir, Parc Bryn Bach;
- Creation of sustainable transport links between the A465 and new employment provision at the proposed Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone.



C-4 A469 Resilience Route

Whilst Metro and the increasing role of public transport is of key importance to the sustainable development of the HOVRA, the integration of different modes is of key importance in terms of ensuring that communities are well-connected. The closure of the A469 between New Tredegar and Rhymney, due to a landslip in February 2014, has demonstrated the importance of this route to the accessibility of the Masterplan area. Investment is required to ensure greater resilience for the route to maintain accessibility to this part of the county borough. Greater levels of connectivity is essential to the development of sustainable communities and increasing the area's attractiveness as a business and visitor destination.

Feasibility work has previously been undertaken regarding the development of a new highway route between New Tredegar and Abertysswg, and currently ground investigations are underway at the existing route. An assessment can then inform the best option to secure the route for the future. Once all avenues and cost benefits have been examined, funding options will be explored.



C-5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney

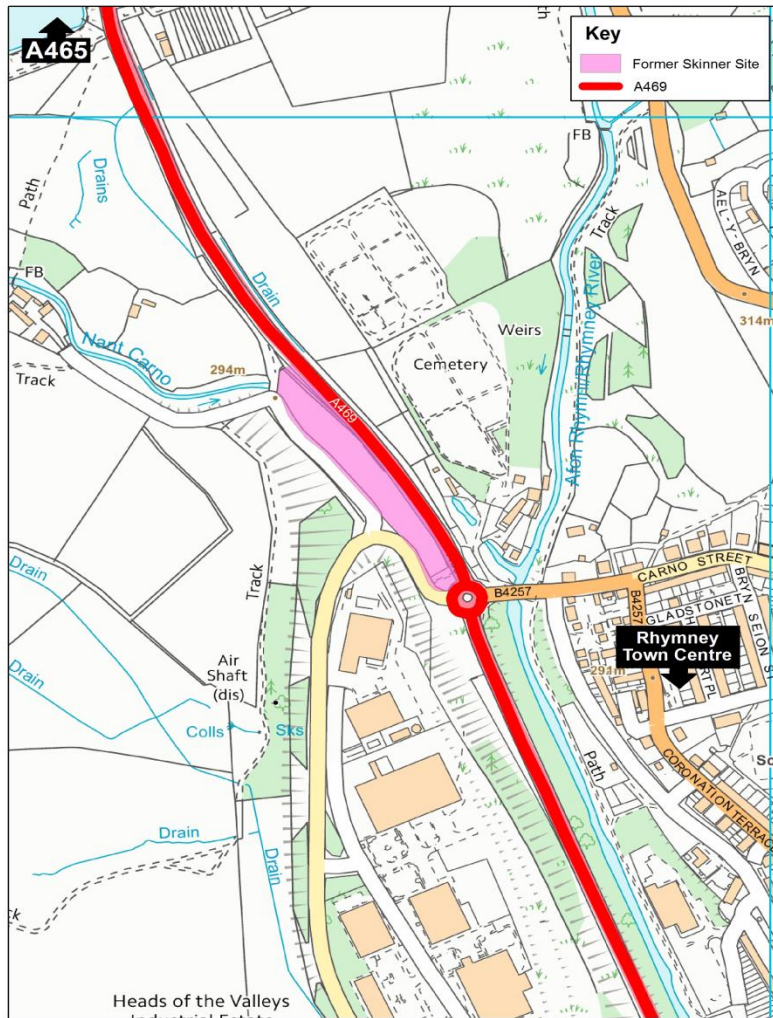
The site forms a vacant strip of land to the north of Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate, which formerly accommodated the Ron Skinner car dealership. The site is approximately 0.8ha and is situated immediately adjacent to the A469 and in very close proximity (within 1 km) to the A465, although lies wholly within a C2 flood risk area.

The site's location, ideally situated along major transport arteries, provides an opportunity to tackle two issues:

- The need for a service location on this stretch of the A465, in order to act as an 'attractor' to traffic passing between Merthyr and Blaenau Gwent;
- The shortage of electric vehicle charging points in this part of the County Borough and along this stretch of the A465 – there are none between Merthyr and Brynmawr.

Development Principles

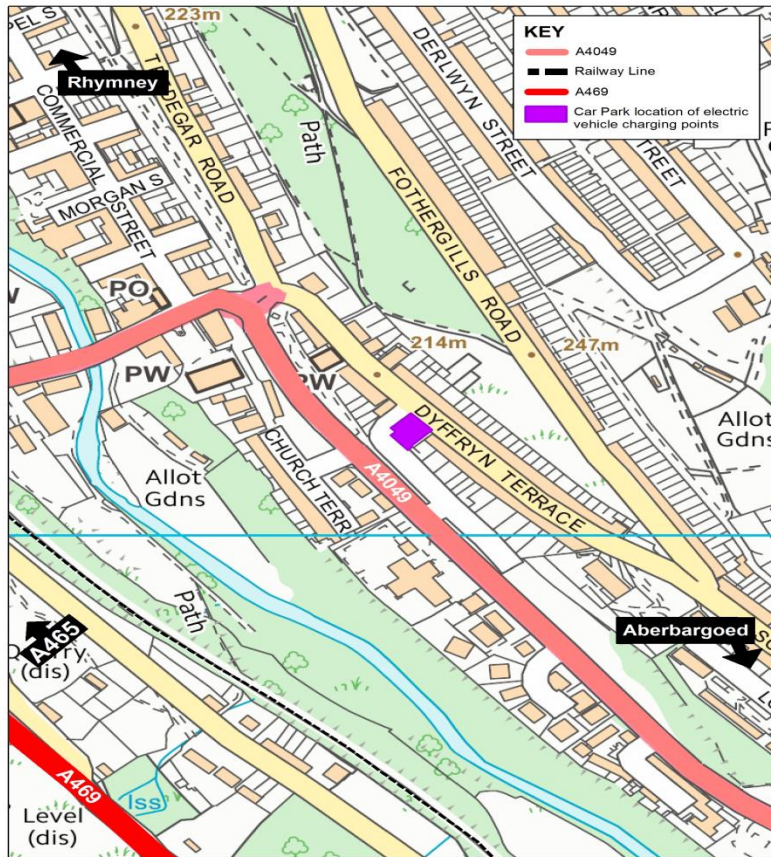
- The site has flood risk and, due to previous uses, potential contamination issues which need to be addressed;
- Highly accessible, cleared, developable brownfield site;
- Opportunity to realise some form of commercial/service-related development just off the A465;
- Development at this location would act as an 'attractor' to the area, increasing levels of consumer spending;
- Very close to Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate – development of a regional business conferencing facility at this location could enhance the economic attraction of such a development;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.



C-6 Dyffryn Terrace, Elliots Town

Funding has been obtained under the OLEV grant scheme for the installation of electric vehicle charging points at Dyffryn Terrace, Elliots Town. This will enable the provision of two charging posts serving four parking bays for residents without off-street parking.

Dyffryn Terrace, Elliots Town

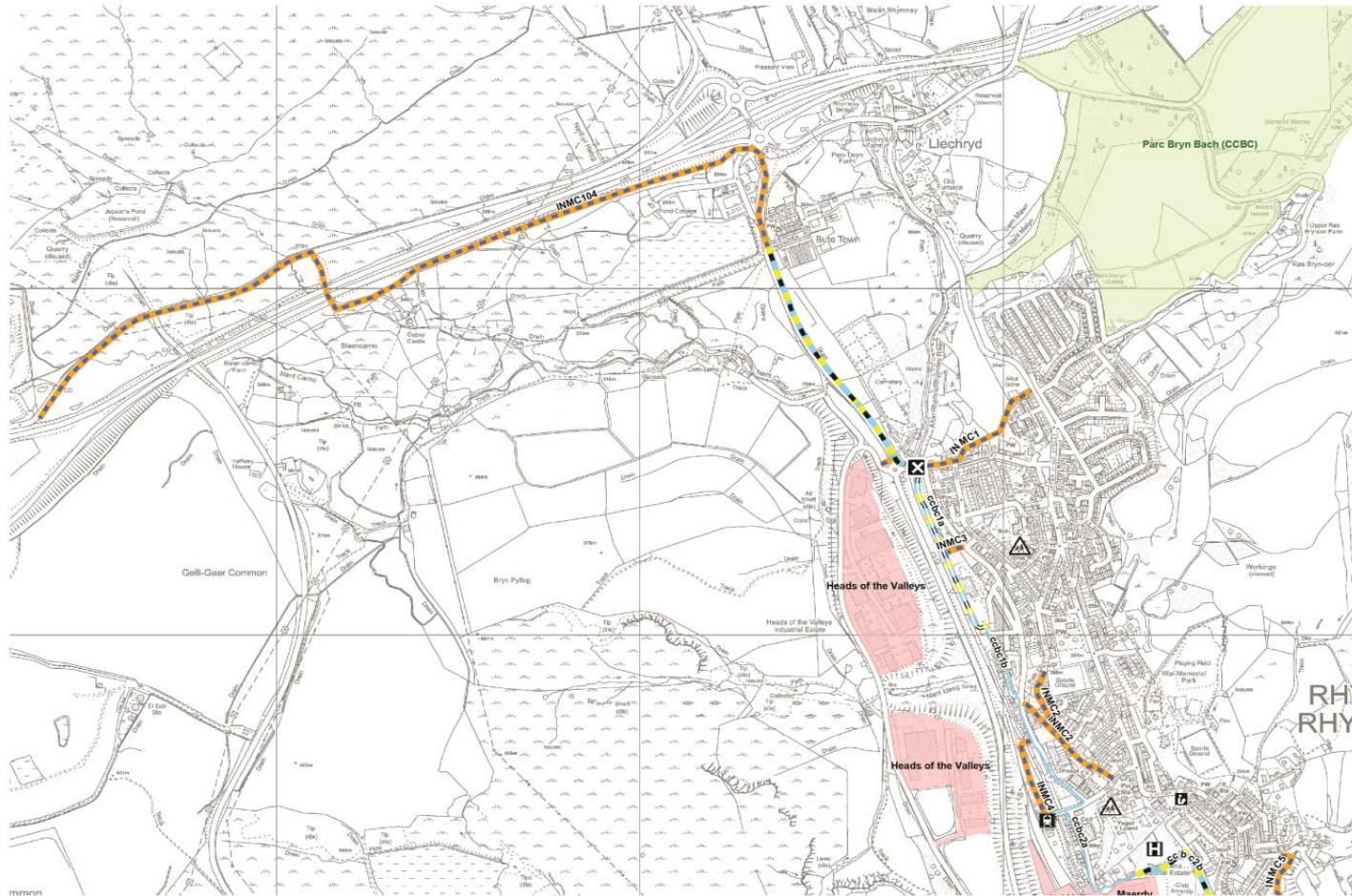


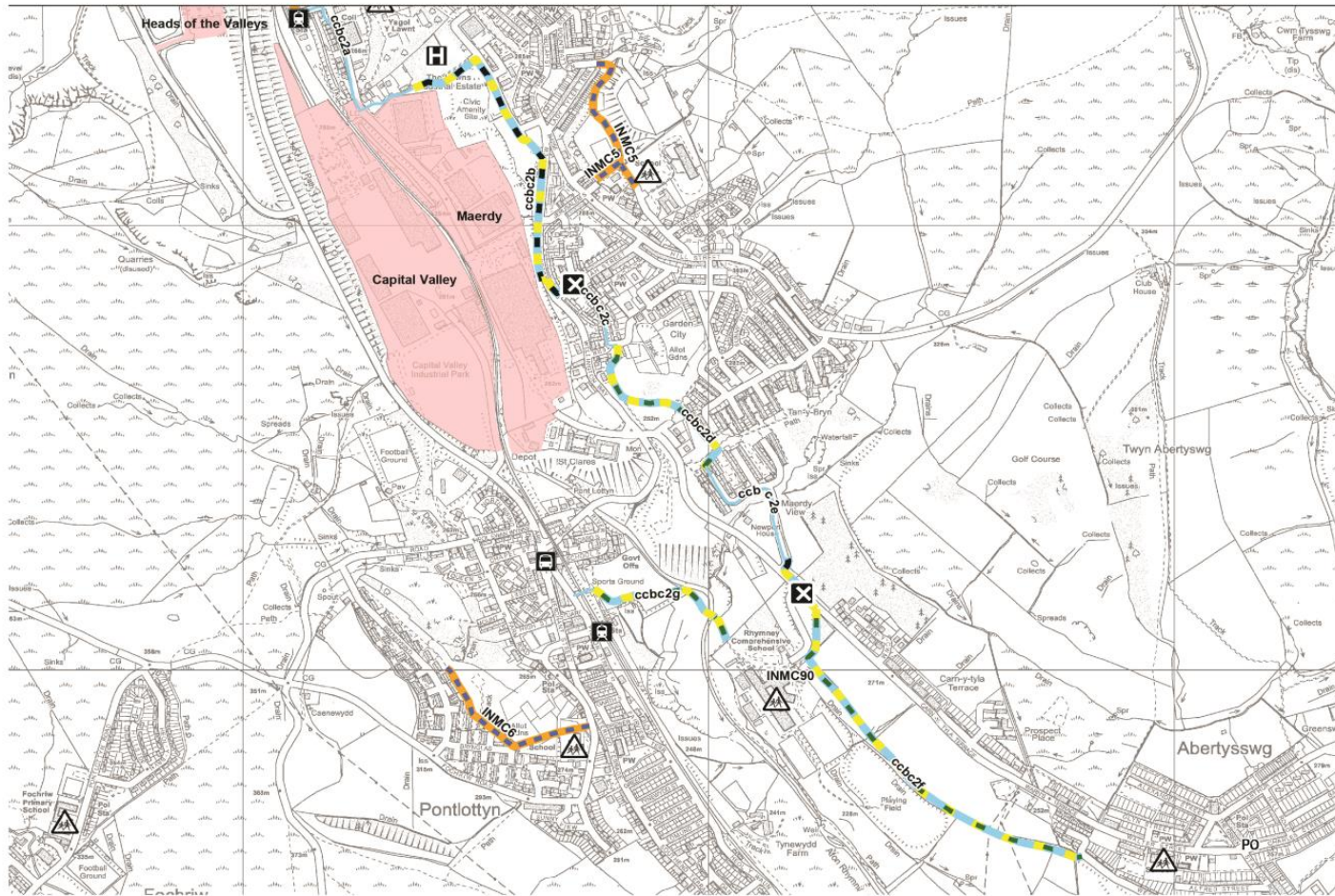
C-7 Active Travel Routes

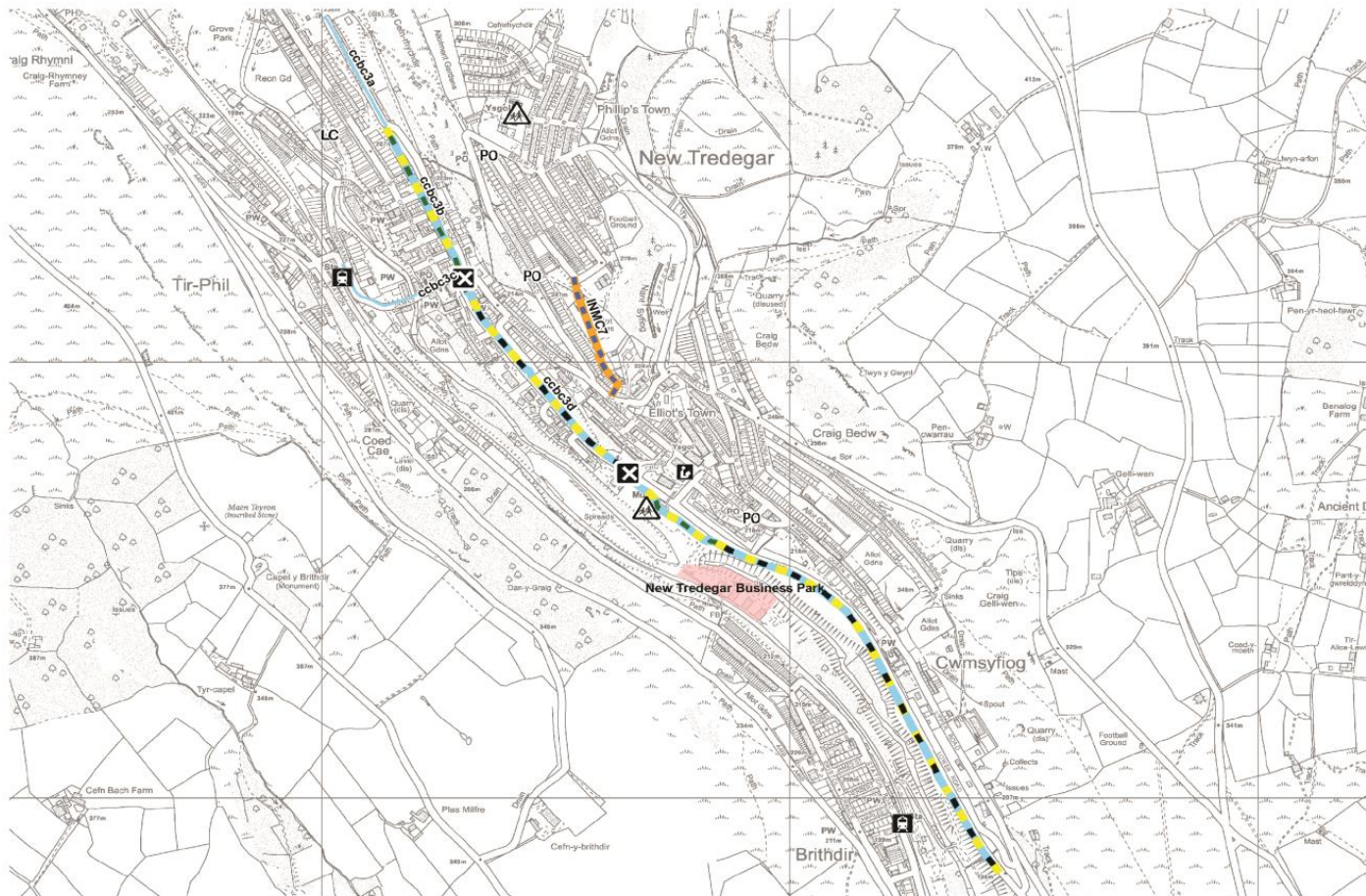
Active travel covers walking and cycling routes for everyday journeys, including to school, to work, to shops and to access services, such as health or leisure centres. Active travel routes are important for promoting healthier lifestyles and for increasing connectivity and accessibility.

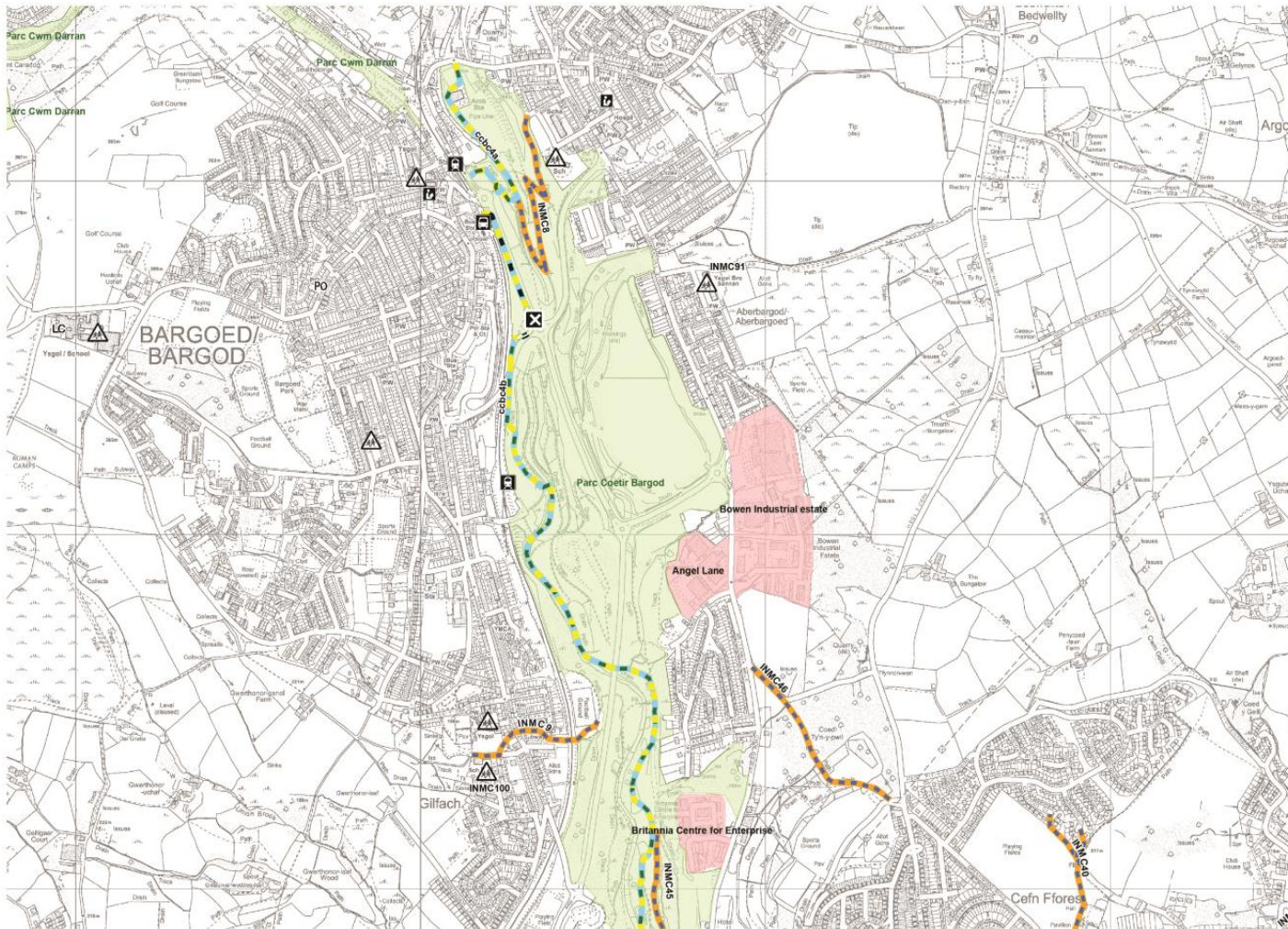
The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 specifies designated locations for provision of active travel routes. Whilst not all locations within the Masterplan Area fall within such designation, a number of schemes have been identified in the Masterplan area. These are based on the Existing Routes Map (approved by Welsh Government in 2018) and the Integrated Network Map, which sets out the Council's proposals for the next 15 years. These schemes incorporate a combination of cycle routes and footpaths as well as shared routes and are set out below:

Community	Description	Status	Type of Use
Rhymney	New link from Ty Coch to existing route and the Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	New	Shared use
Rhymney	New link from existing route to the primary school, town centre and leisure facilities	New	Shared use
Rhymney	New link from existing route to Twyn Carno residential area	New	Shared use
Rhymney	Alternative traffic free link from existing route direct to Rhymney Station	New	Shared use
Rhymney	Improvements to an existing link from Brynawel Primary School via recreational area to Mount Batten	Upgrade	Shared use
Pontlloftyn	New traffic free link from Brynhyfryd housing estate to Pontlloftyn village centre via school site	New/upgrade	Shared use
New Tredegar	Improved shared use link from White Rose Primary School to Phillipstown via School Street	New	Shared use
Aberbargoed	New shared use traffic free link from Aberbargoed to Bargoed Station. Links to existing Active Travel route	New	Shared use
Gilfach	New link from Gilfach Fargoed/Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed to leisure facilities	New	Shared use









D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough

Bargoed serves as the principal town for the north of the County Borough and therefore has a role as its main retail, commercial and service location. In recent years, there have been positive developments in Bargoed town centre with the completion of Angel Way which has improved accessibility, the development of Morrison's and Lowry Plaza and the relocation of Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre into the former Hanbury Chapel. However, challenges remain in the form of high vacancy rates (22.9% in 2018), particularly at the northern end of the town centre close to the bus and rail stations.

The close proximity of the stations, coupled with the planned network improvements as part of the Metro proposals, provides an opportunity for Bargoed to diversify its role and increase other uses (service provision, offices, residential) in addition to consolidating its retail offer. There remains a need for further commercial development on the remainder of the retail plateau, and the creation of a 'business quarter' at the northern end of the town centre involving redevelopment of the vacant retail units, maximising the proximity to the bus/rail/road network.

D-1 Land at Bargoed Station

An aspiration exists through the Metro initiative to expand car parking provision at Bargoed, in line with the planned increases in journey frequency, although land has not yet been specifically identified. As part of this, there is the potential for provision of EV charging infrastructure, in line with the Council's commitment to creating an all-electric public transport network. General station improvements, including a new toilet block, are also planned by Transport for Wales.

Development Principles

- Increasing the capability of Bargoed to serve as a park and ride location, enhancing the facility's sustainability;
- Site's location adjacent to the bus station strengthens its potential as a multi-modal interchange;
- Greater utilisation of the station could increase footfall in the town centre;
- Optimisation of the role of the northern end of the town centre through the 'business quarter' concept (D-2).

D-2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street

The area of the town centre in question consists of a number of largely vacant retail units, the Emporium building, the Council's Ty Bargoed office and the associated car park.

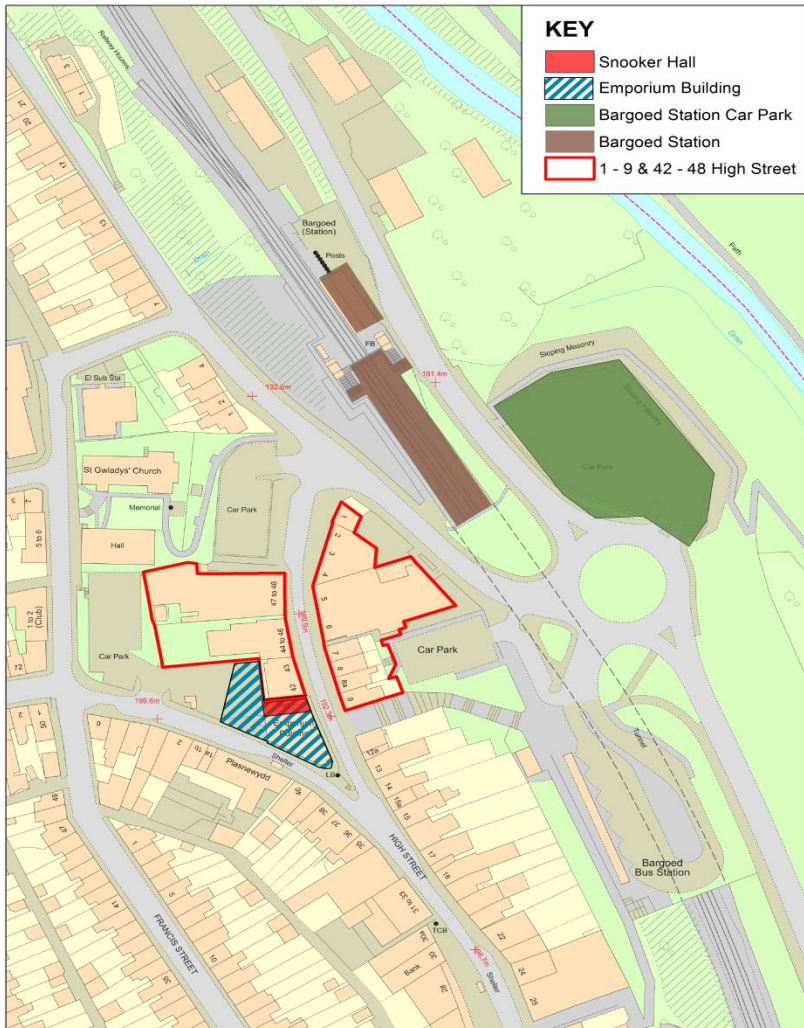
Metro has the potential to expand Bargoed's sphere of influence within a regional context. The rail and bus stations are situated at the northern end of the town centre and can therefore act as a linkage with this area. The integration of these elements provides an opportunity for redevelopment of this part of the town centre and the attraction of additional, non-retail uses such as service provision or offices, possibly incorporating housing as mixed-use development, diversifying the town centre's role and increasing the viability of existing retail and service uses. However, in order to achieve this, facilities

such as the station need to be presented in a positive light in terms of their appearance, functionality and the links that exist with the area in its immediate vicinity, including the northern end of the town centre.

The distinctive quality of the Emporium building should be maximised as a focal point within the town, possibly as a location for independent retail, building on an increase in footfall brought about by the redevelopment of the northern part of the town centre.

Development Principles

- Redevelopment of vacant premises for services/offices/residential;
- Opportunity for redevelopment in close proximity to station, to take advantage of Metro links;
- Emporium building as a potential location for independent/artisan retail;
- Addition of uses that complement existing ones e.g. offices, thereby consolidating the viability of existing retail and service uses and increasing footfall.



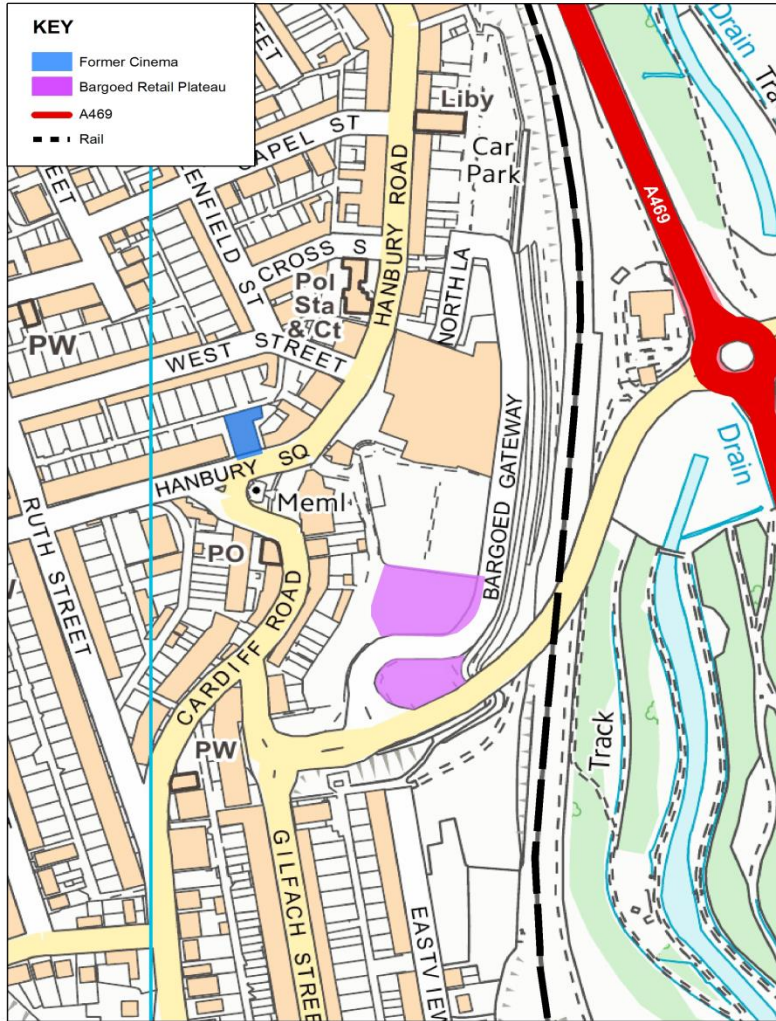
D-3 Bargoed Retail Plateau

The development of Bargoed Retail Plateau has helped to transform the southern end of the town centre, with the development of a new Morrison's supermarket, Lowry Plaza and public realm improvements. However, land remains at the southern end of the plateau which is ideally situated for additional commercial development, given its proximity to Angel Way. Permission was granted in 2019 for a family/pub restaurant, indicating market interest.

Development Principles

- Development for commercial use, complementing existing retail uses at Lowry Plaza and Hanbury Road/High Street;
- Good access to town centre and Angel Way;
- Diversification of the town centre offer through additional commercial use e.g. pub/restaurant;
- Potential for increased footfall, benefiting existing uses.

Bargoed Retail Plateau and Former Cinema, Hanbury Square



D-4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Square

The site comprises the former cinema on Hanbury Square, which is presently vacant and allocated for commercial development in the adopted LDP. Planning permission had been granted for office development in 2007. The site lies in close proximity to the new development at Lowry Plaza and Bargoed Retail Plateau. It is anticipated that development of the remainder of the retail plateau for commercial use will increase footfall at this end of the town centre and heighten developer interest. Consequently, there is an opportunity to redevelop the cinema for an alternative use, including mixed-use or residential.

Development Principles

- Reutilisation of existing stock;
- Opportunity to bring cinema back into a beneficial, town centre use;
- Potential for increased developer interest and diversification of town centre uses.

E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism

The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative seeks to establish a model for the management of a network of country parks, other natural assets, heritage sites and attractions across the Valleys, linking with towns and villages. It seeks to do this through three interlinked delivery themes:

- Conserve and enhance the area's distinctive landscape qualities;
- Promote well-being through the enjoyment and understanding of its landscapes;
- Promote sustainable natural resource management and economic and community development that support its cultural heritage.

Welsh Government has identified four sites within the wider A465 corridor as VRP 'Discovery Gateways':

- Blaenavon World Heritage Visitor Centre (Torfaen);
- Dare Valley Country Park (Rhondda Cynon Taf);
- Cyfartha Park (Merthyr);
- Parc Bryn Bach (Blaenau Gwent/Caerphilly).

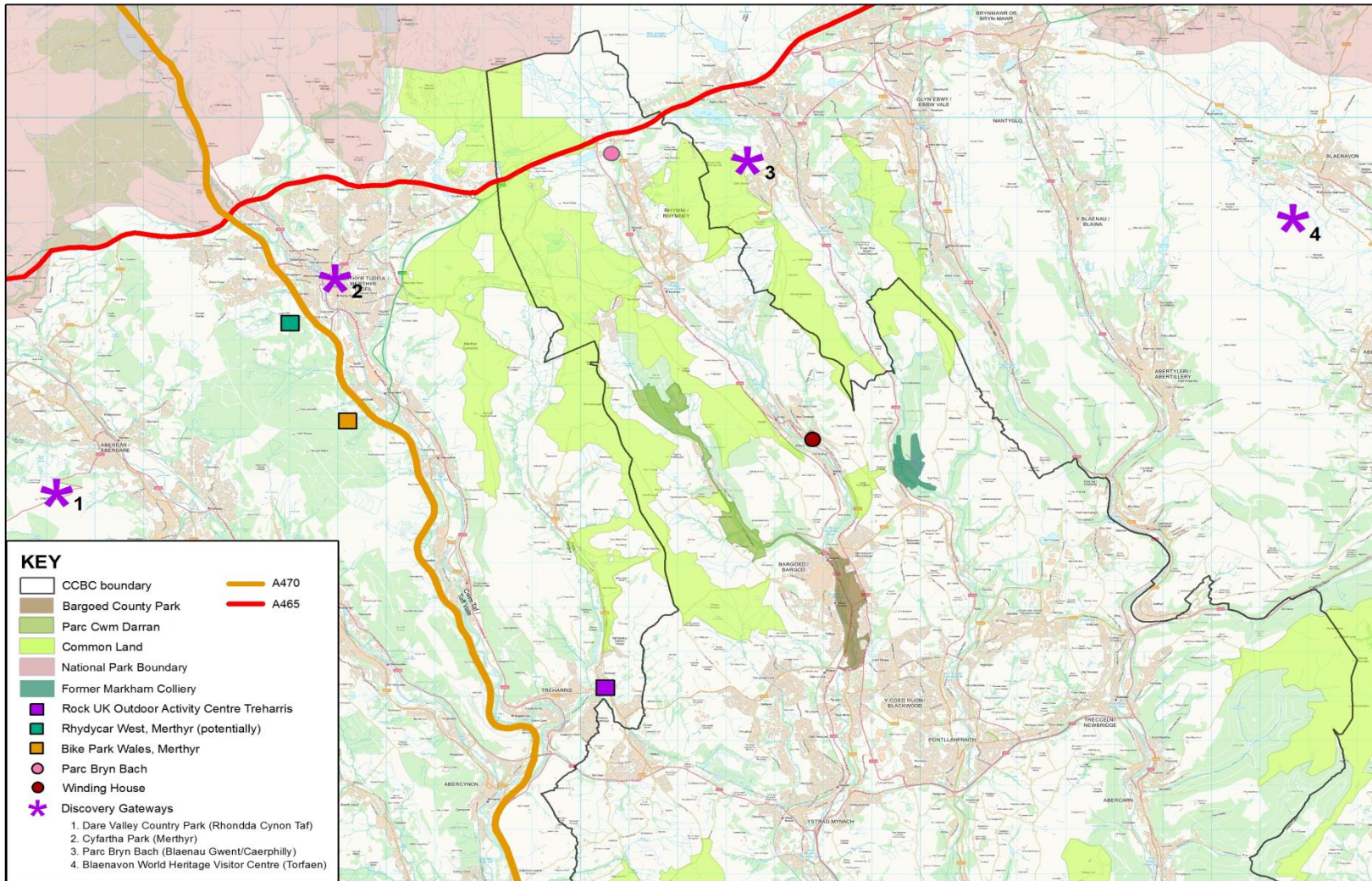
Work is ongoing to assess the attributes of these sites with a view to putting in place development plans, which aim to provide consistently high quality facilities to act as a framework for the development of a network across the Valleys. In the HOVRA this will include opportunities for facilities that can complement the existing offer within the County Borough and further afield at:

- Parc Cwm Darran;
- Parc Bryn Bach;
- Bute Town Conservation Area, Bute Town Reservoir;
- Winding House, New Tredegar;
- Markham Colliery;
- Parc Coetir Bargod;
- Common land.

Activity needs to focus on maximising visitor demand, as well as establishing networks between facilities, having regard for the Discovery Gateways in the area and the additional attractions that are interlinked. In the context of the wider A465 corridor, these include:

- Brecon Beacons National Park;
- Bike Park Wales, Merthyr;
- Rhydycar West, Merthyr (potentially);
- Zip World facility, Hirwaun (potentially);
- Rock UK outdoor activity centre, Treharris.

Discovery Gateways, Country Parks and Existing Attractions



Accommodation

Accommodation is one aspect that, along with the wider themes of economic development and the growth of the tourism and visitor sectors, can contribute to economic growth in more general terms. The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area is presently lacking in terms of good quality accommodation and this correlates with a need to increase the value of its local economy and to maximise its offer as a location for visitors with the attractions and facilities to match.

The increased connectivity brought about by Metro and the A465 dualling will be beneficial in terms of providing stronger links between visitor attractions, but also between the Heads of the Valleys, the remainder of the Cardiff Capital Region, and elsewhere. This can therefore aid the area in terms of marketing itself as a destination based on three aspects:

- Its natural environment, including the opportunities that this provides as an activity destination;
- Its social and cultural heritage;
- Its developing and strengthening economic base, which offers new business opportunities.

Experience from elsewhere demonstrates that the accommodation sector develops on the back of increased demand as a destination e.g. accommodation has been developed in Merthyr on the back of Bike Park Wales. In the HOVRA, the focus of this needs to be twofold, concentrating on accommodation provision for employment/business purposes as well as for leisure visitors.

E-1 Parc Cwm Darran

Parc Cwm Darran is one of the County Borough's five country parks and is situated two miles north of Bargoed. It offers the following facilities:

- Walking routes;
- Waymarked trails;
- Cycle route;
- Lake, including angling facilities;
- Picnic areas;
- Campsite;
- Visitor centre and café.

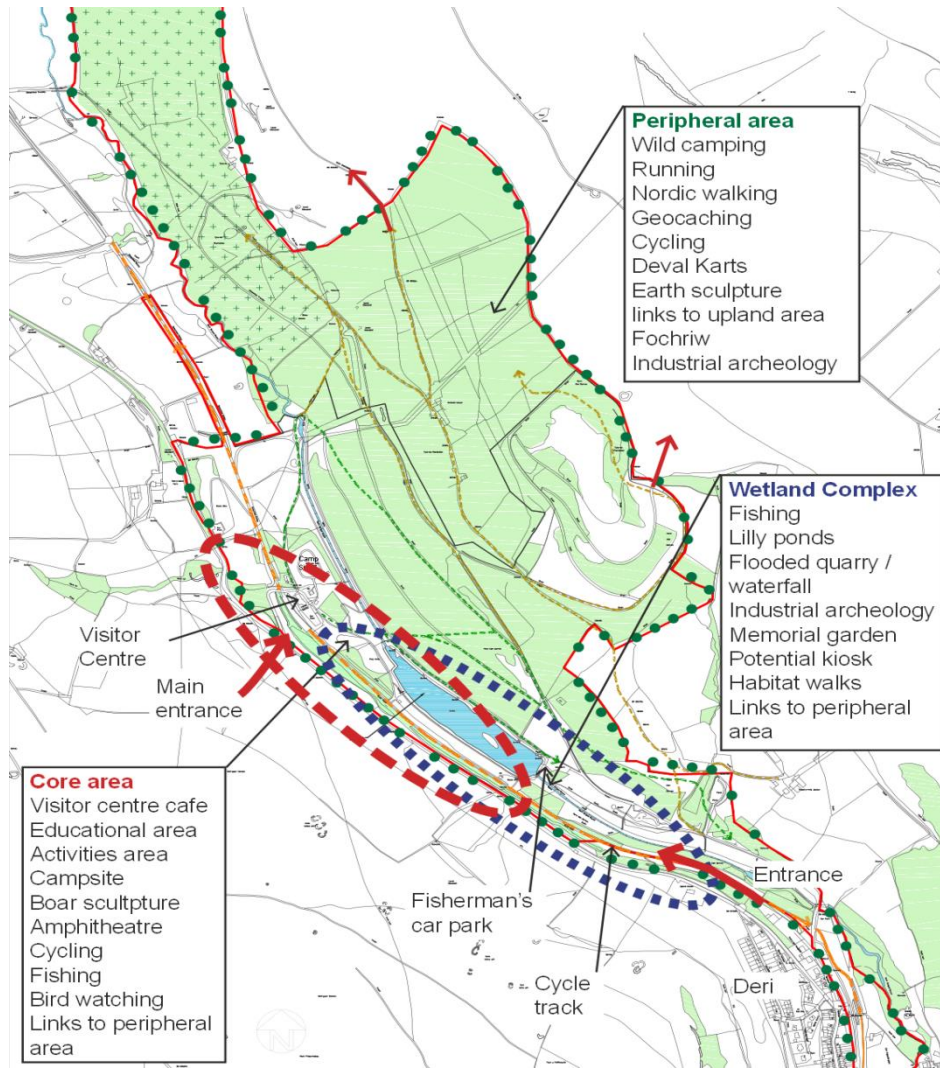
There are opportunities for Parc Cwm Darran to expand its role as a visitor attraction and community resource, within the remit of the Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative. It is already regarded as being a 'centre of excellence' for the provision of environmental training with the Probation Service, and this

aspect of the park's role could be utilised to increase social capital within the community through the provision of training and education, and the development of community woodland projects in conjunction with the work being done by Community Regeneration.

From a visitor perspective, there is an intention to optimise the use and offer of the park's facilities. A visioning exercise has been undertaken which seeks to create 'two parks in one' in order to make it a regionally attractive destination:

- Core area – shop, appropriately located micro businesses, more welcome information, extension of campsite with a wider range of accommodation, installation of electric vehicle charging points;
- Wetland area – centred around the southern car park, retention of fishing area and creation of additional ponds and wilder areas to add interest;
- Potential for use of NRW land within the park as a 'peripheral area', with development of wild camping and activities such as Nordic walking. The foundational economy could be assisted by supporting local contractors to access felling contracts, and ensure that wood is used by local firms and organisations – social contracts could be utilised to secure possible placement opportunities, in this regard.

Work is also ongoing in relation to the reclamation of Fochriw Tips to the north of the park, which could help facilitate the extension of the cycle route and provide a link to the Brecon Beacons National Park, thereby opening the site up to a wider network.



Source: HLC Ltd

Development Principles

- Extension of cycle route to provide better linkages;
- Maximising visitor facilities to a wider market;
- Development of an improved range of facilities, marketing the park to a wider audience;
- Development of social capital through education, training and working in partnership with the community;
- Increased visitor accommodation through expansion of the campsite.

E-2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links

Parc Bryn Bach

Parc Bryn Bach is a 340 acre country park straddling the boundary between Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly, and forms one of the two VRP 'Discovery Gateways' situated in the A465 corridor. It offers a range of outdoor activities and opportunities for skills development and contains within it a:

- 36 acre lake;
- Visitor centre;
- Caravan and campsite.

Bute Town

Bute Town is a good example of a 19th century model village built to house workers at the nearby ironworks. The three rows of houses are listed and, along with the pub and church which remain in operation, they lie within the Bute Town Conservation Area. The village lies in close proximity to the Rhymney Valley Riverside Walk and Rhymney Upper Furnace, the site of the first ironworks to be built in the Rhymney Valley which survives as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM).

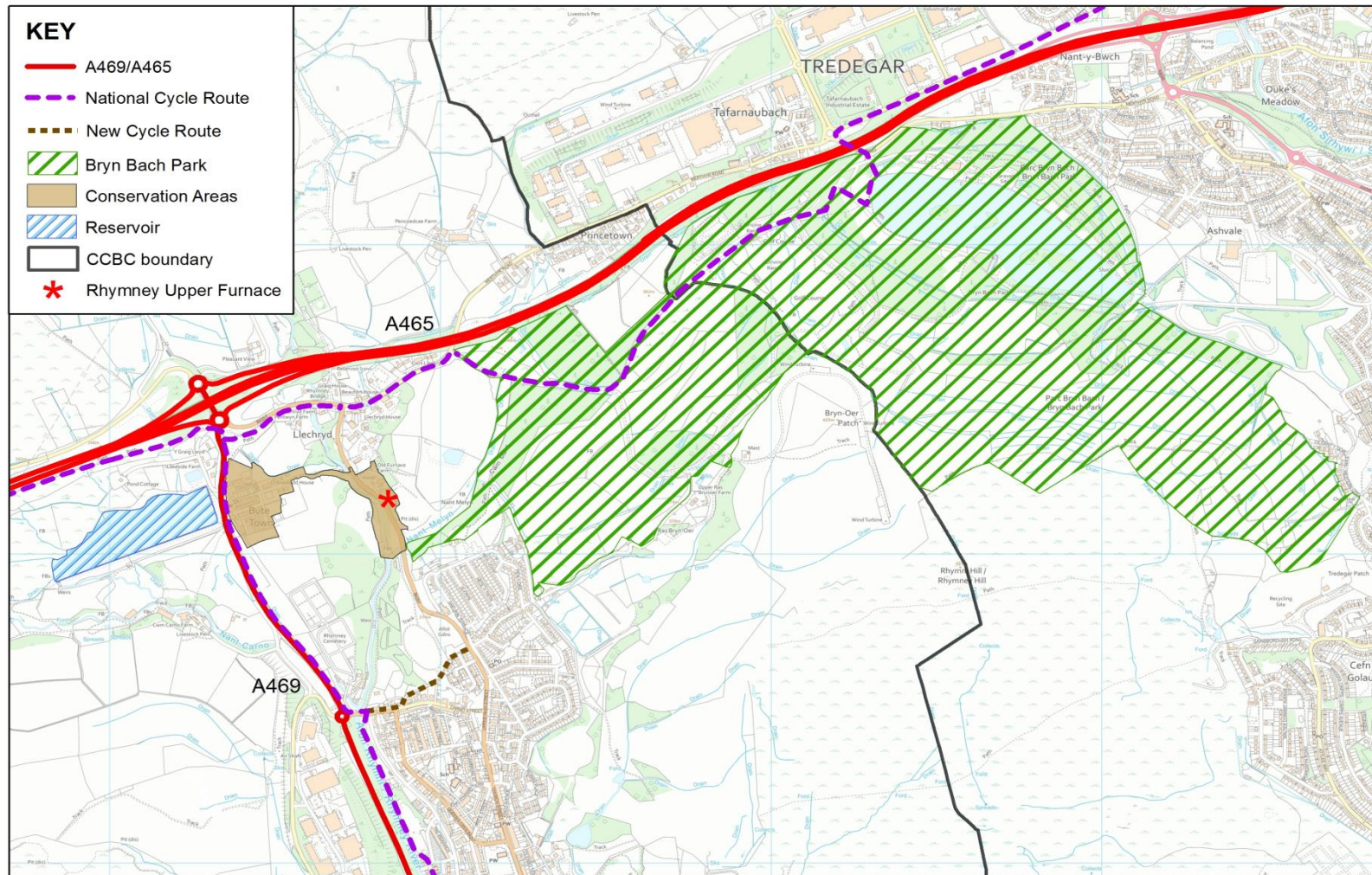
Interpretation work in respect of the SAM remains an aspiration and would better highlight this historically and culturally important site. The proximity of Bute Town and Rhymney Upper Furnace to Parc Bryn Bach and the upper stretch of the Rhymney Valley Riverside Walk presents an opportunity for co-ordination of these elements as visitor attractions under the VRP initiative.

Bute Town Reservoir

Bute Town Reservoir, located across the road from the village, is a popular local destination for activities such as walking and angling and is served by the existing Rhymney Valley Cycle Route. There is potential to develop the role of this facility through the extension of the cycle route network to link it to Parc Bryn Bach. The route of this potential extension is set out in the adopted LDP.

Development Principles

- Co-ordination of Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and the Bute Town Reservoir as a network of attractions with an extension of the cycle route and utilisation of existing public rights of way to improve connectivity between them;
- Interpretation work in relation to Rhymney Upper Furnace, providing a link to the area's heritage;
- Extension of links to attractions elsewhere in the area – Bryn Oer Tramroad in Brecon Beacons National Park, Parc Cwm Darran.



E-3 Winding House, New Tredegar

The Winding House in New Tredegar was developed on land formerly occupied by Elliot Colliery and offers extensive exhibition space, a gallery, and catering and office/meeting facilities. The museum seeks to act as a mechanism for economic regeneration where the impact of visitor revenue is likely to be greatest. There is an aspiration to widen the appeal of the exhibitions, in order to bring in an audience from further afield.

The 5 to 9 Club has been successful in terms of offering assistance to new start-ups, whilst future activity seeks to build on this by using part of the facility for developing local business activity. In addition, office space will be utilised on a temporary basis by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water when they roll out infrastructure improvement to the HOVRA. This presents an opportunity to integrate tourism, educational and economic activity as well as to increase interaction between these areas and the role of public institutions such as utility providers, leading to the potential sharing and broadening of skills and widening the scope of future business models. Building on the success of the 5 to 9 Club and Welsh ICE in Caerphilly, the Council aspires to utilise some of this space to allow new businesses to innovate and grow, based on a culture of knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Whilst utilisation of office space within the facility will increase the supply of business space available locally, it will also help to broaden its base as a valuable community asset, serving as a hub from which the local community can build social and business-related networks.

Development Principles

- Maximise potential as a visitor attraction e.g. exhibition space;
- Providing assistance to local business start-ups;
- Broadening the area's supply of business space;
- Role as a community hub, and development of social capital through integration of visitor, educational and economic activity;
- Links with Community Regeneration employment programmes.

E-4 Markham Colliery

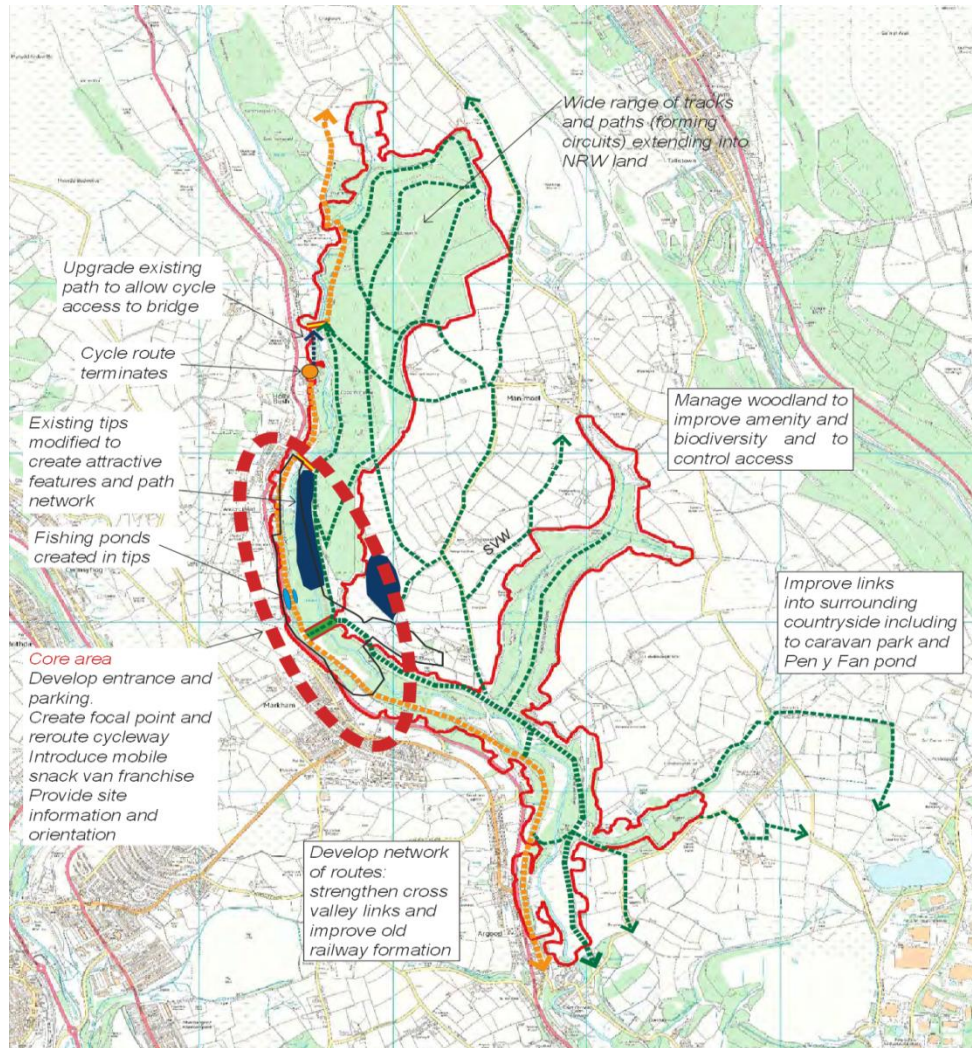
This site has been vacant since the closure of the colliery in the mid 1980s and is allocated in the adopted LDP as a new country park to establish a key, local component of the Valleys Regional Park. An extension of the Sirhowy Valley Cycle Route between Hollybush and Argoed passes through the site. Options include utilising the attractive, parkland landscape for leisure activities that will increase dwell time through expanding the site's visitor offer, and exploring the potential for development that can link into the rural economy.

A visioning exercise has been undertaken which seeks to maximise the potential of the site as a visitor destination, based on its woodland and riparian characteristics, and for contributing to the local economy. Other than forestry operations in the east of the area, the only interventions to date have been the development of the site entrance and the cycle route. Proposals include:

- Developing the site as a 'gateway' to the north and east over an extended period, once the function has been established, including:
 - Links to Penyfan Pond and the caravan park and equestrian centre;
 - Extension of the cycle route;
 - Creation of a circuit of tracks and paths, extending into NRW land for uses such as horse riding, building on the accessibility offered by the existing network of routes;
 - Woodland management, allowing for camping, and providing a visual connection between the tips and the cycle route;
 - Sculpting of the tips and maximisation of the site's cultural heritage for positive interpretation and activities such as low-level adventure play.
- Around the core area, developing the car park as a focal point, including:
 - A potential visitor centre;
 - Fishing ponds;
 - Small café;
 - Site information;
 - Sale of local firewood;
 - Live-work units.

Development Principles

- Development and extension of existing routes, to facilitate a wider range of activities and provide links to additional facilities;
- Developing the function of the site to widen visitor appeal;
- Diversification of the local economy into appropriate uses, based within the park;
- Maximisation of the area's industrial and cultural heritage.



Source: HLC Ltd

E-5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common

Gelligaer Common is an expanse of open moorland situated between the Taf and Rhymney Valleys straddling the boundary between Caerphilly and Merthyr County Boroughs, and occupies much of the Upper Rhymney Valley west of the A469. It is designated by Cadw as a Historic Landscape.

On the Caerphilly side, the ridgetop occupied by the Common rises up 470m at Mynydd Fochriw, and slopes eastwards towards the Nant Bargod Rhymney. The landscape is diverse in form and in its archaeological and historical content.

Tourism

In terms of tourism, the Common could serve as an integral element of the HOVRA's offer. The characteristics of the landscape raise the potential for:

- Utilising the area's archaeological and historical context;
- Providing a linkage to other facilities within the HOVRA e.g. Parc Cwm Darran; Bute Town as well as those outside – the Common's close proximity to the National Park could enable it to attract visitors southwards;
- Maximising the attractiveness of features such as Rhaslas Pond for tourism and leisure purposes;
- Provision of accommodation and the hospitality sector in settlements such as Rhymney, Fochriw and Deri – this will be dependent on sufficient demand being created in the first instance.

Community Development

The Common provides important economic, social and environmental value to the communities that surround it. However, the landscape is threatened by anti-social behaviour including fly-tipping, littering, off-road vehicles and environmental damage. A pilot project, *Tirwedd y Comin (Common Landscape)* is being launched and will be led by the Commoners' Association, the two local authorities and others in order to work with the local community and restore, maintain and protect the Common. This will ensure custodianship of it can be passed on to future generations.

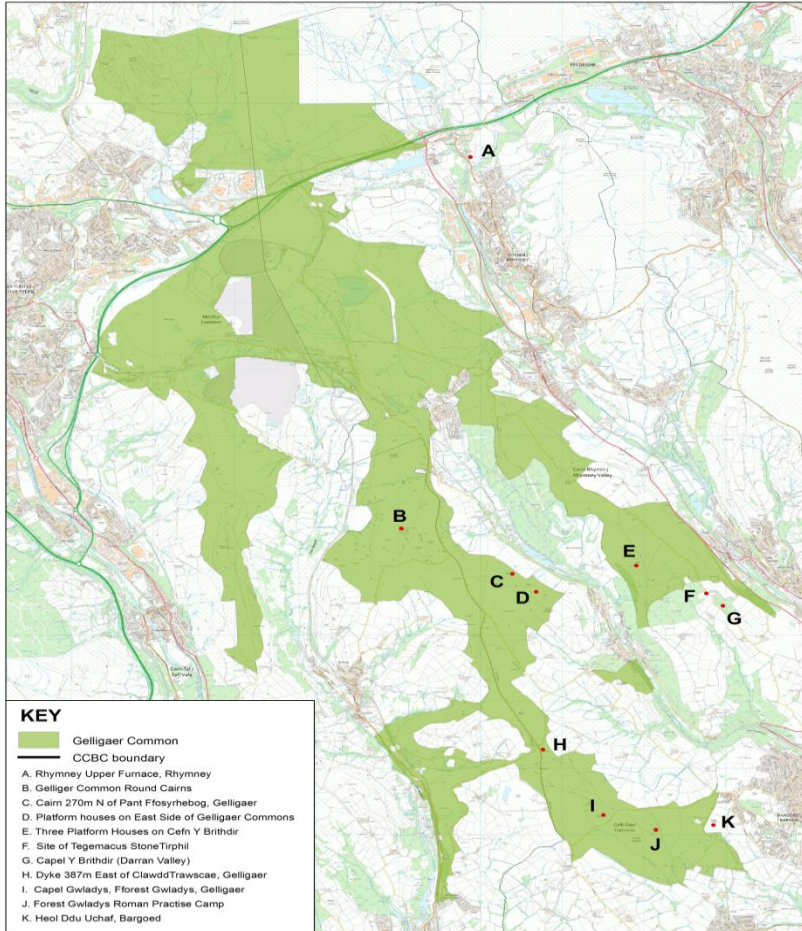
Tirwedd y Digidol (Digital Landscape) seeks to work with local communities to establish a virtual digital centre for the landscapes of Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent, which will provide an information platform for residents and visitors alike.

These schemes, within the context of the Common and other landscapes, will:

- Enable the development of new skills locally in relation to landscape stewardship and digital technology, linking with Community Regeneration programmes;
- Facilitate community cohesion and development;
- Provide an information platform for local residents from which they can engage with local natural resources;

- More effectively utilise technology to highlight the attributes of the Common, and other important local landscapes, to potential visitors.

Gelligaer Common



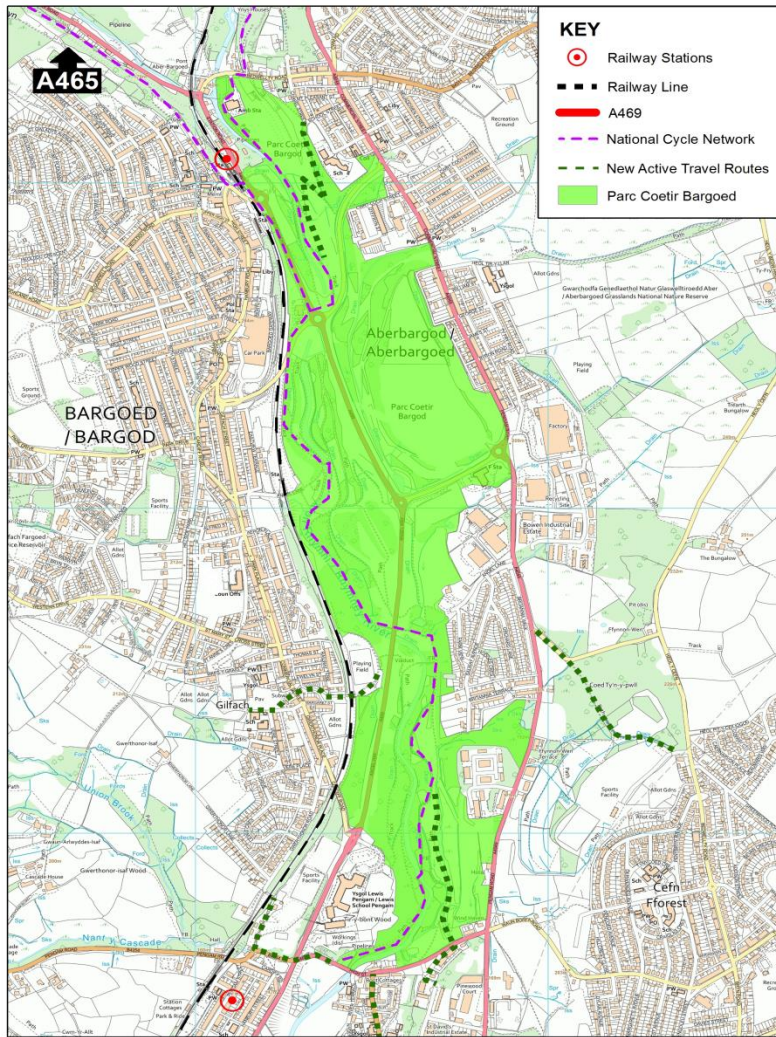
E-6 Parc Coetir Bargod

Parc Coetir Bargod is the County Borough's newest country park, created on land formerly occupied by Gilfach, Bargoed and Britannia Collieries, and provides a route along the Rhymney River in attractive surroundings which can be accessed from 11 different gateways.

New Active Travel routes are planned which will improve connections between the park and the following surrounding communities:

- Pengam;
- Fleur-de-Lis;
- Gilfach;
- Aberbargoed

It is anticipated that this will increase the park's accessibility as a local visitor destination, and have benefits in terms of health and well-being.



E-7 Bargoed Park

Bargoed Park is the largest park in the County Borough at over 19 ha and contains a number of facilities:

- Formal gardens;
- Children's playground;
- Multi-use games area;
- Skateboarding area;
- Football and rugby pitches.

The Council will look for opportunities to optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town, including:

- Ensuring that facilities maximise the number of visitors;
- Reinforcing the vitality of the town centre, and maintaining links.

F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure

The HOVRA is well-placed to deliver structural benefits through energy schemes. Whilst climate change is a challenge, it can also present opportunities. Welsh Government is embracing the transition to a low-carbon economy through *Planning Policy Wales* and the *Well-Being of Future Generations Act*, and has set out a commitment to delivering the following outcomes in *Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition*:

- Reducing the amount of energy we use;
- Reducing our reliance on energy generated from fossil fuels;
- Actively managing the transition to a low-carbon economy;
- Utilising existing services provided by Groundwork Wales around energy efficiency within homes – connecting with communities and schools to capitalise on global warming awareness, recycling and food waste initiatives.

Renewable energy can be a way of meeting some of these objectives, as well as providing a means of building economic resilience, providing clean growth and contributing to improved health. Suitable renewable energy schemes will therefore be supported, in appropriate locations.

F-1 North of the A465

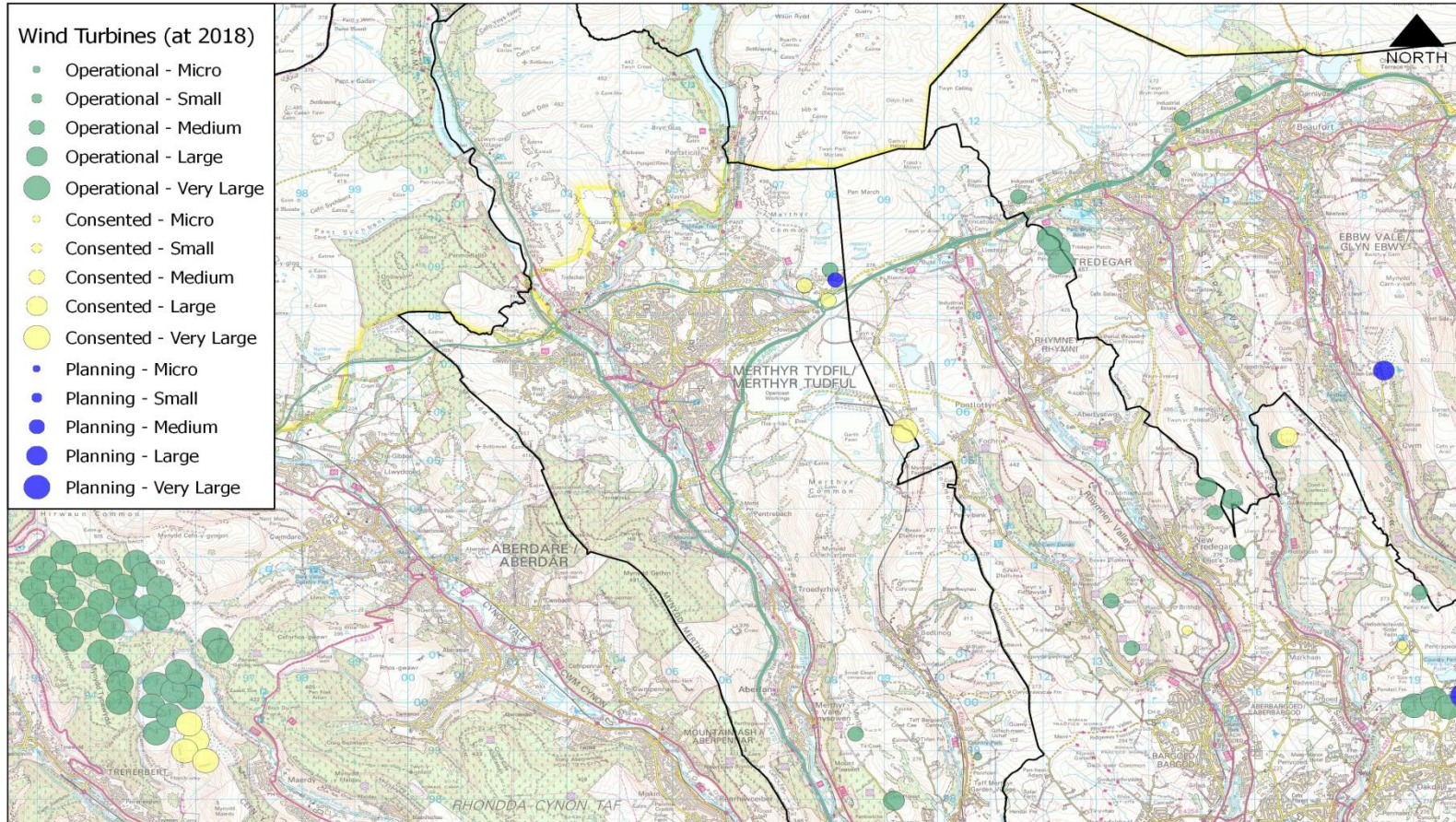
Land immediately north of the A465 consists of upland, greenfield land in close proximity to the boundary with the Brecon Beacons National Park and is located within a Special Landscape Area (SLA) designation identified through the adopted LDP. Part of the site is a SINC designation.

Given the upland nature of the site and its location north of the A465, this area has the potential to accommodate a renewable energy generation scheme, although work will need to be undertaken to determine its feasibility and environmental impact, particularly in respect of the visual impact on the Common and the Brecon Beacons National Park. Any energy generated on this site can be fed back into the grid, giving the proposal an economic, as well as a sustainability, benefit and would also generate potential community benefits.

There is the potential for a scheme to be developed in conjunction with adjoining land in Blaenau Gwent, complementing schemes already operating along this corridor and forming part of a Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt', thereby increasing the sustainability credentials of the wider A465 corridor.

Development Principles

- Creation of a sustainable energy generation scheme;
- Less reliance on non-local, non-sustainable forms of energy;
- Economic advantages of supplying energy to the grid;
- Community benefits derived for local community groups;
- Potential local job creation.



In terms of energy generation and public utilities schemes, the upgrading of infrastructure can deliver community benefit, not only in terms of improved provision to people's homes but through greater community interaction with utility providers, the development of social capital and the extension and creation of community networks, training opportunities and skills.

There is also an economic benefit, as such schemes operate within the context of some degree of community ownership. Examples exist from elsewhere of utility providers and renewable energy companies investing in community development with the help of a community fund established for that very purpose. Where such organisations are involved in the development of proposals within a particular locality, they should be encouraged to:

- Engage with the community to establish its needs and aspirations;
- Make funding available for the benefit of that community as part of a community fund, possibly as match funding in conjunction with other initiatives;
- Allow community representatives to take a lead in terms of how such funds are spent.

F-2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme

The Council, in partnership with Argoed Community Council and Renew Wales, is investigating the potential for a community-focused renewable energy generation scheme on land at Markham Colliery, and is also considering the options for hydro, solar and wind generation. Initial scoping work has been undertaken and has determined that such a scheme could supply enough electricity for 1,500 homes.

Development Principles

- Creation of a sustainable energy generation scheme;
- Increased community resilience;
- Integration with country park development at Markham Colliery;
- Increasing the potential range of rural economic uses to be located within the envisioned country park;
- Job and training opportunities delivered through community benefit;
- Linking with similar initiatives and partners to improve awareness.

F-3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water are presently producing plans for increasing water resilience in the HOVRA. Work regarding physical improvements in terms of infrastructure will commence in early 2020. In addition, however, this will involve local engagement to ensure that the concept of water resilience is embedded within the local community. This will involve:

- Engagement through existing community networks e.g. Parent Network, Flying Start, Community Regeneration;
- Dissemination of information and good practice through local schools, community groups;
- Establishing links with private landlords' networks;
- Obtaining increased resilience through Council's portfolio of housing (monitoring usage and downsizing meters in Council properties, where appropriate and beneficial).

Principles

- Embedding sustainability principles within the community;
- Ensuring a joined-up approach between stakeholder organisations;
- Increased community development and confidence;
- Physical improvements to utility infrastructure.

G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations

Despite the success of the LDP Strategy in delivering new housing elsewhere within the County Borough, this is not the case in the HOVRA where, despite some small-scale development having taken place, many of the sites allocated for housing in the LDP remain undeveloped, irrespective of the sustainability of their locations.

There is therefore a need to provide new sustainably located housing development in order to increase the amount and quality of housing stock, and to support the role and function of settlements, in tandem with the economic improvements that are anticipated as a result of City Deal, Metro and the council's regeneration aspirations.

New models of housing delivery are required to bring development forward and these will include:

Self Build: Welsh Government has introduced a self-build scheme aimed at encouraging first time house buyers to build their own homes. Through the Development Bank of Wales, Welsh Government will offer loans to self-builders to assist in building their own homes and Welsh Government is setting up a database of sites that are being promoted for self –build development.

Stalled Sites: Welsh Government has introduced a system of loans to assist in bringing housing sites, which have stalled for various reasons, forward for development.

Small-scale council house building: Through the WHQS process, the Council may bring forward a number of small-scale sites for housing development. In doing so, the Council will seek to maximise use of the foundational economy of the area, which will ensure goods and services are procured locally and that the schemes will assist in developing appropriate skill sets within the population.

These options will bring forward new housing, which will increase the range and choice of housing available in the Masterplan area. However, these will not be sufficient to address the situation completely. Consequently the Council will continue to lobby Welsh Government to provide mechanisms for incentivising housing development in the Masterplan area, as well as the wider A465 corridor, to ensure that a sufficient level and range of housing is developed to sustain the existing communities.

G-1 Aberbargoed Plateau

The plateau is the result of the reclamation of the old Bargoed Colliery tip, and is situated on the Aberbargoed side of the Rhymney Valley. It is allocated for housing in the adopted LDP, though remains undeveloped, and is in Council ownership. Redevelopment of the plateau would utilise an important brownfield site and provide an opportunity for the diversification of the housing stock in the area. However, the viability of the site for residential development remains an issue.

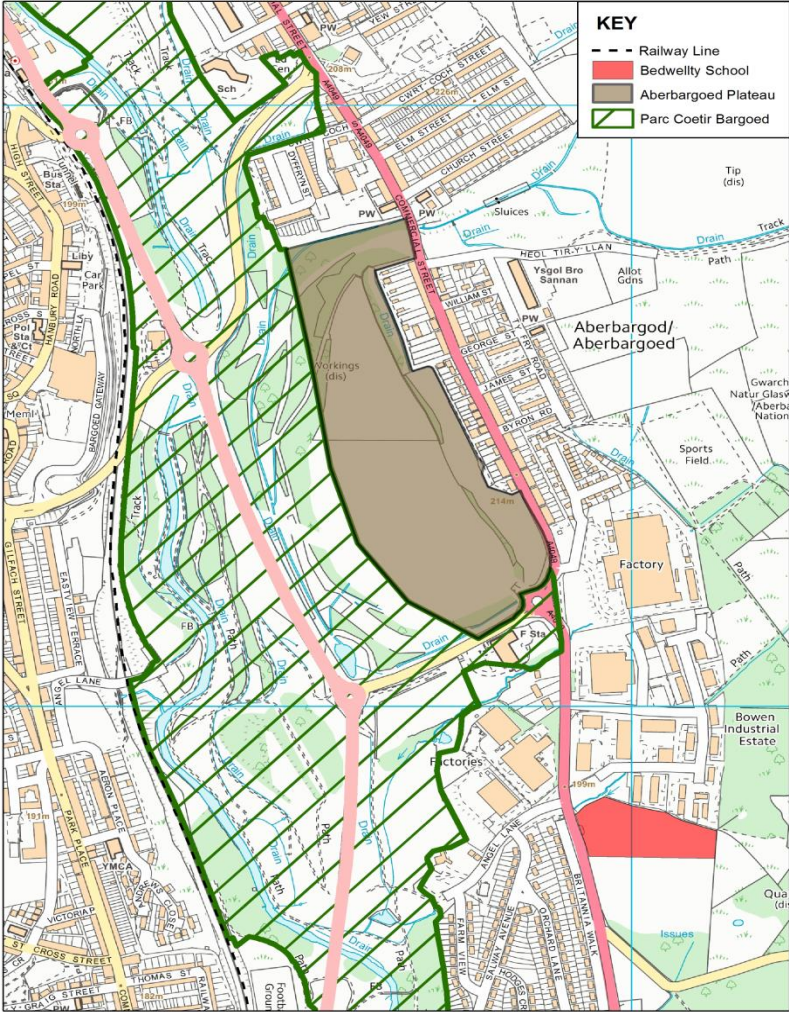
The site is in close proximity to the neighbourhood centre of Aberbargoed and is adjacent to Parc Coetir Bargod, one of the Council's country parks, providing a sustainable location with an attractive environmental setting.

A review is presently being undertaken of sixth form, single sex and surplus provision across the County Borough and there is the possibility that part of the site could be utilised for new education provision to serve this part of the County Borough. This would facilitate the development of a mixed-use scheme for the plateau, enabling housing to come forward on the remainder. The formulation of an appropriate scheme would enable such a scheme to meet its full potential, from a sustainability perspective.

Development Principles

- Sustainable mixed-use scheme taking advantage of the site's location on Angel Way;
- Some provision for housing development, providing new build development in the area and adding variety and choice to existing housing stock, close to existing employment facilities;
- Development of a new FE college to cover the Upper Rhymney Valley;
- Providing access to Parc Coetir Bargod through extension of the cycle route.

Aberbargoed Plateau & Bedwelly School



G-2 Bedwellty School

Planning permission was granted in 2019 for residential (55 units) on the former Bedwellty School site and development is underway. The development of this site will result in the diversification of housing stock in the Aberbargoed area, sustainably located within close proximity of Aberbargoed town centre, the A4049 and employment uses at Bowen Industrial Estate and Angel Lane. Cabinet approval has since been forthcoming to release land immediately to the south for a second phase of development.

Development Principles

- Diversification of housing stock within the local area, adding variety and choice to the local housing market;
- Ease of accessibility in relation to local facilities;
- Utilisation of vacant, brownfield land.

G-3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme

Following the implementation of a successful model in Rhondda Cynon Taf, £10 million has been provided by Welsh Government to fund the Empty Homes Grant Scheme across the VTF area, which offers purchasers funding for the renovation of empty homes, bringing them back into beneficial use. Property owners can only apply in relation to owner occupation and the grant is not open to builders or landlords for the purposes of renting out accommodation. The scheme will be rolled out over two phases:

- Phase one will be rolled out with the following conditions:
 - Homes would need to have been empty for a six-month period (the immediate six months prior to approval of the grant);
 - Property owners can apply once, to avoid landlords and builders from benefiting;
 - Maximum grant of £20,000.
- Phase two will involve working with local authorities on developing frameworks to support local supply chains, with links to:
 - Skills and apprenticeships;
 - Local supply chains;
 - Foundational economy.

Principles

- Potential reduction in the number of empty homes;
- Increase in the diversity of housing stock;
- Development of skills;
- Strengthening of local supply chains through use of local firms.

H -- Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

The provision and location of community facilities are of crucial importance to the sustainability of settlements and to the well-being of their populations. New facilities that have opened since the start of the LDP plan period in 2006 include:

- Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre (Hanbury Chapel);
- Hafod Deg Resource Centre;
- Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre;
- Idris Davies School, Abertysswg.

Whilst constraints on public resources have an impact on the provision of such facilities, this does present an opportunity for new models of delivery. For instance, the rationalisation and sharing of facilities as multi-purpose 'hubs' can provide community benefits, as well as providing opportunities for more cost-effective managing and resourcing of facilities. This can have a positive impact in terms of social capital, engendering networking opportunities, knowledge sharing and the development of transferable skills which are of invaluable importance in a modern social and economic context.

H-1 21st Century Schools

The Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Colleges programme is a major, long-term and strategic capital investment programme supporting large-scale capital projects with the aim of enhancing school buildings to meet modern educational and community needs.

The key aims are to:

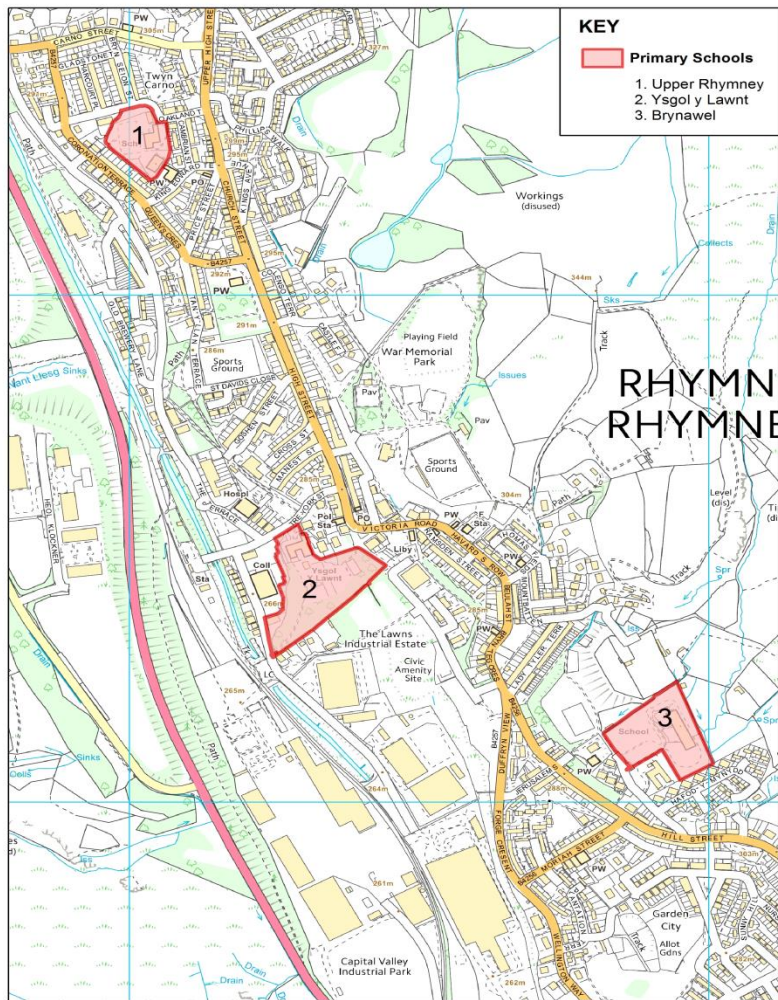
- Reduce the number of schools in poor condition;
- Ensure the right size schools in the right location;
- Ensure the effective and efficient use of the educational estate for both schools and the wider community.

Idris Davies School in Abertysswg was developed under Band A of the programme as a replacement for Abertysswg and Pontlottyn Primary Schools on land within the existing Rhymney Comprehensive School site. As well as an all through 3 to 18 years school, it also accommodates a nursery, Flying Start unit and integrated children's centre offering after-school and wraparound provision.

Band B of the 21st Century Schools programme runs between 2019 and 2026 and proposals have been identified. However, these remain proposals at this stage, subject to a business case approval by Welsh Government; in addition, consultation with stakeholders will be a key part of the process. Proposals concerning primary education will be dependent on the review of secondary education that is ongoing. Band B proposals in Rhymney include:

- New build school to replace the existing Upper Rhymney Primary School;
- Relocation of Brynawel Primary School pupils to Upper Rhymney Primary and Idris Davies Schools;
- Refurbishment of a school site to relocate Ysgol y Lawnt.

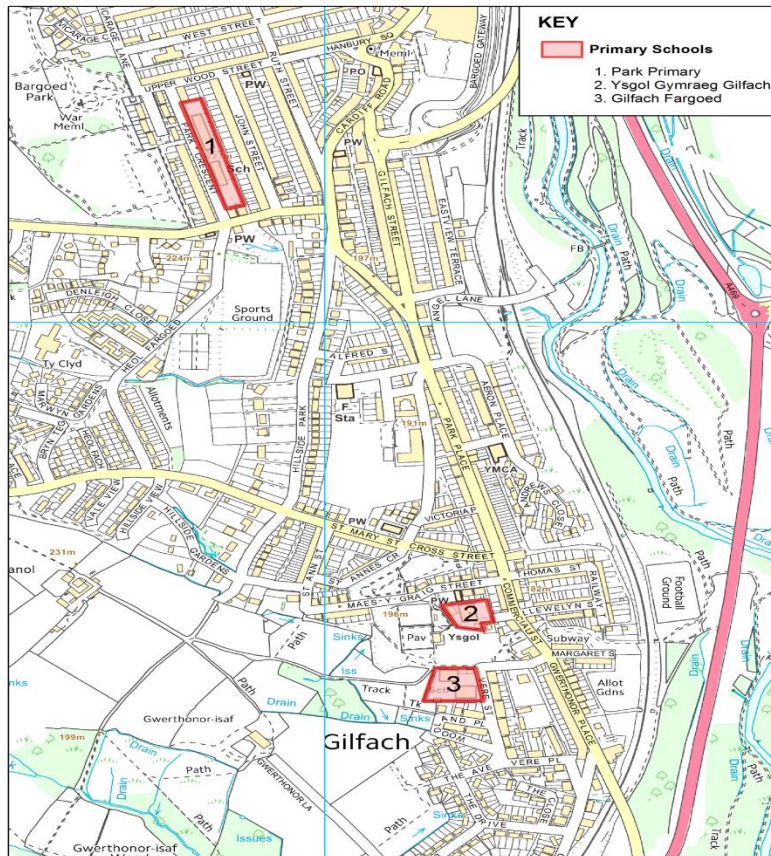
The current locations of Upper Rhymney and Brynawel Primary Schools and Ysgol y Lawnt



Band B proposals in Bargoed include:

- Amalgamation of the Park and Gilfach Fargoed Primary Schools into a new build school;
- Refurbishment of Park Primary School to accommodate the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed.

The current locations of Park and Gilfach Fargoed Primary Schools and Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed



These are expected to realise the following benefits:

- Target areas of high social deprivation;
- Creation of fit-for-purpose, energy efficient schools;
- Significant reduction of surplus places;
- Estimated saving on backlog maintenance costs;
- Increased opportunities for community use and on-site childcare provision;
- Expansion of Welsh medium education.

H-2 Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre and Hafod Deg Resource Centre

The Integrated Health and Social Care Centre for the north of the County Borough brings together several different community health functions in an integrated way, including:

- Two GP practices, complementing a continuing presence at New Tredegar and Deri;
- Dental practice;
- Optometry services;
- Social services day care facilities;
- In-patient facilities;
- A base for health and social services staff delivering a range of services across the north of the County Borough.

Hafod Deg Resource Centre delivers a range of support services for people in the local area, including:

- Citizens Advice;
- Mental health organisations;
- Credit union;
- Nutritional and dietary advice;
- Space for volunteering and community groups.

Through the integration of service delivery from facilities such as these, the capacity of public sector resources to have a positive impact within the community is maximised. However, it is necessary that this approach ensures the delivery of services for the whole community, and therefore the Council will work with key organisations such as the Local Health Board, the 'third sector' and others to ensure that community-based services and well-being can continue to be delivered in a sustainable and coordinated manner.

H-3 Integrated Well-Being Networks

In keeping with the Welsh Government's £100m NHS Transformation Fund aimed at driving integration and its "long term future vision of a 'whole system approach to health and social care' focused on health and wellbeing, and on preventing illness", the Gwent Regional Partnership Board is supporting Aneurin Bevan Health Board, in conjunction with the Council and other partners, to develop and deliver the concept of Integrated Well-Being Networks (IWNs).

Integrated Well-Being Networks are place-based models of more effective collaborative, integrated working to support and sustain community well-being. In essence, this means effectively connecting and coordinating the disparate assets that contribute to well-being in a location.

There are four elements to IWN development:

- Place-based collaboration;
- Connecting community-based 'hubs';
- People who deliver services and support;
- Easily accessible well-being information.

The initial focus for IWN development in the County Borough is the area covered by Caerphilly North Neighbourhood Care Network, much of which lies within the HOVRA. Initial mapping work has been undertaken for part of the area and there is an intention to roll this out, as part of a programme of community engagement, in order to help make existing networks of facilities more identifiable for service users.

HOW INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS WORK

PEOPLE IN GWENT HAVE ALL THE THINGS THEY NEED TO KEEP WELL AND ARE LIVING HEALTHIER LIVES, FOR LONGER.

1. PLACE-BASED COLLABORATION

WE ARE COLLABORATING WITH PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND WORKING TOGETHER BETTER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WHAT WE HAVE.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND WORKING TOGETHER BETTER



INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS HELP PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES



EVERYONE WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO SUPPORT THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY



3. PEOPLE WHO DELIVER SERVICES & SUPPORT

WORKING CO-PRODUCTIVELY WITH PEOPLE, BUILDING ON THEIR STRENGTHS TO FIND THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS AND CONNECTING PRIMARY CARE TEAMS TO WELL-BEING RESOURCES.

2. COMMUNITY-BASED HUBS

HUBS CONNECT PEOPLE WITH HEALTH AND WELL-BEING RESOURCES, ACTIVITIES, AND OTHER PEOPLE.

LINKING OUR HUBS IN THE COMMUNITY TO IMPROVE THEIR WELL-BEING ROLE AND ACCESS TO THE RIGHT SERVICES AND SUPPORT.

4. EASY ACCESS TO WELL-BEING INFORMATION

PROVIDING WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO ACCESS RELIABLE WELL-BEING INFORMATION, THIS CAN BE THROUGH:

- FAMILY, FRIENDS OR A SERVICE
- A LINK WORKER
- A HUB IN THE COMMUNITY
- TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING DEWIS CYMRU



INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS ARE NOT ABOUT CREATING SOMETHING NEW - IT'S ABOUT STARTING WITH WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE. USING THE UNIQUE STRENGTHS AND ASSETS THAT EXIST IN OUR COMMUNITIES: OUR PEOPLE - RELATIONSHIPS, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OUR PLACES - HEALTHY PEOPLE NEED HEALTHY PLACES OUR PROVISION - WELL-BEING SUPPORT AND SERVICES.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.WALES.NHS.UK/IWNGWENT AND SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS GWENT USING #IWNGWENT



The recommended approach to delivering IWNs will contribute to the delivery of the Public Service Board's Well-Being Plan. This approach includes:

- Establishing the core offer of well-being services that exist across:
 - Health and social care hubs e.g. GP surgeries;
 - Local authority hubs – libraries, Customer First Centres, provision of housing advice;
 - Community hubs – shared spaces for people, community groups and recreational activities;
- Agreeing the role of lead organisations, including the Council, Health Board, Public Health Wales, Housing Associations, GAVO and others;
- Review 'linking' roles to ensure the effective use of resources and address identified gaps – 'linking' roles are people and organisations that provide connections between people, professionals and different parts of the well-being network.

I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes

Accessibility is a cross-cutting objective which is relevant to schemes within the HOVRA. All development proposals should adhere to the principles of inclusive design to ensure that schemes meet the accessibility needs of all those living, working and visiting the HOVRA, including those with mobility and sensory impairments and learning difficulties.

J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

As a result of the 2014 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD), it has been agreed that there will be a priority focus to implement a new way of working in a number of the deprived communities within the County Borough.

A fundamental change to how public services are collectively approached and delivered is required to address the multifaceted needs in the County Borough's most deprived communities. There should be more emphasis upon local government working with communities as enablers, rather than delivering for them.

A greater emphasis on identifying community assets is required. When practitioners begin with a focus on what communities have, as opposed to what they don't have, a community's efficacy in addressing its own need increases, as does its capacity to lever in external support. Currently, services are designed to 'fill gaps' and 'fix problems', creating dependency and disempowering individuals who become passive recipients of services.

The Council's new approach to service provision will provide a changing perspective on building bridges with communities, mobilising individual and community assets and enabling a process of co-production, with community members as active agents in their own and their families' lives. Co-production requires users of services to be seen as experts in their own circumstances and capable of making decisions, while service providers move from being fixers to facilitators. This will necessitate new relationships to be developed with front line professionals, and an enabling role being adopted.

This will require an approach to public service provision that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact. The intention is to adopt a place-based focus, with a review of public services to assess how well they meet the outcomes required by residents, and how they could improve their impact and value for money. The role of the Public Service Board, with the support of its partners, is key to implementing this approach and it provides an opportunity to develop this across a number of key areas across the County Borough.

The projects identified in the HOVRA have the potential to provide far-reaching benefits for all residents, including those living in deprived areas within the Masterplan area and the wider County Borough.

Section 7: Delivering and Implementing Change

The table below sets out the projects identified in Section 6 of the report, together with the expected outputs that the project will deliver and how these proposals will address the objectives of *A Foundation for Success*. The table identifies the indicative costs of each scheme and highlights any funding that has been secured to date. It should be noted that many of these projects are at an embryonic stage and, as such, the outputs and costs can only be estimated.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as	A-1 Capital Valley, Rhymney	Redevelopment for modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises	Creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone (expansion of Ebbw Vale EZ) Development of underutilised land/older	SP1 SP3-5 SP9-11 SB1-4 CPP2-5	Funding secured: none to date, expected to come from VTF or CCRCD Total cost: to be determined

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
a gateway to the Valleys			<p>premises for employment use;</p> <p>Accelerate business growth within the Rhymney area;</p> <p>Creation of physical premises required for growth of complementary sectors to the EZ;</p> <p>Potential to capitalise on Metro improvements and greater connectivity with external markets, through existence of a railhead;</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p> <p>Inclusion of social clauses in relevant public sector contracts to encourage local community benefit</p>		Dialogue is ongoing between the Council, Welsh Government and site owner in relation to potential investment
A - Complement, and	A-2 The	Development of	Creation of a Heads of	SP1	Funding secured: ERDF

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
<p>integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys</p>	<p>Lawns Industrial Estate</p>	<p>additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns</p>	<p>the Valleys Enterprise Zone in conjunction with Ebbw Vale;</p> <p>Development of additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns;</p> <p>Better integration of business space within the sites, enhanced legibility of access;</p> <p>Additional space for business start-up provision to cater for demand;</p> <p>Potential to capitalise on Metro improvements through proximity to Rhymney Station;</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p> <p>Inclusion of social clauses in relevant</p>	<p>SP3-5 SP9-11 SB1-5 CPP2-5</p>	<p>match-funded with CCBC core capital funding</p> <p>Future phases: Privately financed or via UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			public sector contracts to encourage local community benefit		
A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys	A-3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	Development of modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises, potentially including redevelopment of existing stock and provision of a business conferencing facility to serve A465 corridor	<p>Creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone in conjunction with Ebbw Vale;</p> <p>Development of underutilised land/older premises for employment use;</p> <p>Utilisation of vacant land for business conferencing facility and/or B2 use;</p> <p>Additional space for business start-up provision to cater for demand;</p> <p>Capitalising on good transport links (adjacent to A469, just south of A465);</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p>	SP1 SP3-5 SP9-11 SB1-6 CPP2-4	<p>Funding secured: likely to be privately financed</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			Creation of physical premises required for growth of key sectors, including existing life sciences presence		
B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably	B-1 Education, training and careers advice	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of strengthening the area's employment function	<p>Coordinated approach to education and training between relevant organisations;</p> <p>Improving links between education and training providers and business;</p> <p>Tailored education/training programmes to meet the requirements of business;</p> <p>Provision of appropriate career support through the curriculum and for adults;</p> <p>Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs and the training</p>	SP1-3 SP4-9 SP11 SB1-3 SB5-6 CPP5	<p>Funding secured: dependent on a range of stakeholders from the public and 'third' sectors</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>provided;</p> <p>Upskilling to ensure that 'skills deficits' are addressed in relation to current employment</p> <p>Attracting employers and improving prospects for indigenous growth</p>		
<p>B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably</p>	<p>B-2 Foundational economy</p>	<p>This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of ensuring widespread economic and social benefit</p>	<p>Working with local businesses to establish networks of collaboration</p> <p>Ensure that Council procurement processes invest in local firms and organisations by utilising local expertise and putting in place social contracts that benefit the community</p> <p>Developing the necessary skills base to maintain networks of collaboration and access funding opportunities (WG Foundational</p>	<p>SP1 SP3-6 SP8-11 SB1-3 SB5-6 CPP5</p>	<p>Funding secured: £1.5m will be available for the VTF area through the Welsh Government Foundational Economy Challenge Fund</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			Economy Challenge Fund)		

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
<p>C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity</p>	<p>C-1 Land around Rhymney Station</p>	<p>Station improvements, additional car parking and creation of a multi-function business hub</p>	<p>Enhanced stabling facilities, platform extension and remodelling, additional parking, toilet block, new waiting rooms, cycle racks and ticketing and wifi upgrades;</p> <p>Creation of multi-functional business hub, offering business units, live-work space and a commercial element including meeting facilities;</p> <p>Enhancing Rhymney's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity;</p> <p>Additional space for local start-up provision;</p> <p>Potential to capitalise on Metro improvements through proximity to Rhymney Station;</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p> <p>Reuse of underutilised</p>	<p>SP3-5 SP9 SP11 SB1-5 SQL3 CPP2-4</p>	<p>Funding secured: dependent on Transport for Wales commitments</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-2 Other stations (Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Tirphil)	Station improvements at Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil Stations	Enhanced facilities plus potential for EV charging infrastructure; Optimising increased journey frequency through facilities improvements, to encourage use of sustainable modes	CPP2 CPP4	Funding secured: dependent on Transport for Wales commitments - EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding Total cost: to be determined
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-3 A465/A469 Transport Hub	Development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469	Provision of park and ride between A465 and Rhymney Station; Creation of sustainable transport links between A465 and new employment provision at Capital Valley et al; Development of links with planned and existing Active Travel routes; Enhancing multi-modal connectivity along A465 corridor between Merthyr and Ebbw Vale; Increased access to	SP1 SP3 SP6-9 SB1-4 CPP2-4	Funding secured: Metro Enhancement Framework to be drawn up Total cost: to be determined

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>employment, leisure, essential services for residents;</p> <p>Increased attractiveness of businesses to external markets and investors</p>		
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-4 A469 Resilience Route	Pursue consideration of an A469 resilience route between New Tredegar and Rhymney	<p>Adding north-south resilience to the highway network in the Masterplan area;</p> <p>Increase in business confidence due to better intra-area links, enabling more firms to reach external markets;</p> <p>Potential for local business growth due to better connectivity;</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p> <p>Increased access to employment, leisure, essential services for residents</p>	SP3-4 SP9 SB1-4 CPP1 CPP4	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney	Development of a commercial or service-related facility, incorporating EV charging points to serve this stretch of the A465 corridor	<p>Addition of an 'attractor' to encourage potential passing trade between Merthyr and Ebbw Vale, taking advantage of the site's location just off the A465;</p> <p>'Plugging a gap' in terms of regional EV charging infrastructure, adding to the area's sustainability credentials;</p> <p>Very close to Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate – development of a regional business conferencing facility at this location could enhance the economic attraction of such a development</p>	SP4-5 SP9 SB1-4 CPP1 CPP3 CPP5	<p>Funding secured: EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-6 Dyffryn Terrace, New Tredegar	Development of EV charging points	<p>Roll-out of the Council's all-electric public transport network to the north of the County Borough;</p> <p>Sustainability benefits</p>	SP4 SP9	<p>Funding secured: EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>of EV charging provision;</p> <p>Utilisation of a public car park will increase accessibility of the scheme</p>		
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C-7 Active Travel Routes	Developing a network of cycle routes and pathways over the next 15 years, as per the Integrated Routes Map	<p>Increasing the network of sustainable connections between, and within, places;</p> <p>More comprehensive utilisation of Active Travel as a means of integrating different modes;</p> <p>More opportunities to utilise Active Travel as a means of accessing employment and essential services;</p> <p>Potential to link to additional routes, such as those associated with leisure and tourism facilities</p>	SP6 SP8 SQL3	<p>Funding secured: £390k Core Active Travel Fund allocation for 2019/20</p> <p>Total cost: LAs required to bid for funding annually</p>
D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre	D-1 Land at Bargoed	Expansion of car parking provision	Maximising usage through enhanced	SB1-4 SQL3	Funding secured: Metro Enhancement Framework

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
for the north of the County Borough	Station	and general station improvements	<p>station facilities and additional parking;</p> <p>Enhancing Bargoed's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity; Increased attractiveness of development opportunities at northern end of town centre</p>	SQL7 CPP2-4	<p>to be drawn up</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough	D-2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street	Redevelopment of vacant units for office use, some retail and complementary commercial uses	<p>Enhancing Bargoed's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity;</p> <p>Maximising the benefits arising from its proximity to bus and rail stations - opportunity to market Bargoed for office use, with better access to external markets;</p> <p>Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs;</p>	SB1-4 SQL3 SQL5 SQL7 CPP2-3 CPP5	<p>Funding secured: VTF funding may become available. Possibility of expanding scope of Welsh Government's Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund (which targets redevelopment of vacant and underused premises)</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>Reuse of underutilised space;</p> <p>Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience</p>		
<p>D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough</p>	<p>D-3 Bargoed Retail Plateau</p>	<p>Development of remaining part of Bargoed Retail Plateau for commercial use</p>	<p>Development of complementary uses to existing retail in the vicinity;</p> <p>Potential for increased town centre footfall, thereby benefiting town centre as a whole;</p> <p>Development of underutilised land;</p> <p>Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience</p>	<p>SQL3 SQL7 CPP3</p>	<p>Funding secured: likely to be from private sector investment</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
<p>D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough</p>	<p>D-4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Square</p>	<p>Redevelopment of the former cinema for commercial/office use</p>	<p>Development of complementary uses to existing retail in the vicinity;</p> <p>Taking advantage of improved connectivity through Metro;</p>	<p>SB1-4 SQL3 SQL7 CPP3</p>	<p>Funding secured: VTF funding may become available. Possibility of expanding scope of Welsh Government's Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund (which targets</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>Reutilisation of existing premises;</p> <p>Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience</p>		<p>redevelopment of vacant and underused premises)</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
<p>E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism</p>	<p>E-1 Parc Cwm Darran</p>	<p>Expansion of the park's role as a visitor attraction and community resource</p>	<p>Improved tourism facility for local residents and visitors;</p> <p>Economic benefits of increased dwell time and spending;</p> <p>Knock-on benefits for additional facilities and services in nearby locations e.g. shops and pubs;</p> <p>Development of social capital through education and training programmes in relation to community woodland;</p> <p>Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through increased</p>	<p>SP5-6 SP8 SB1-2 SB6 SQL1-2 SQL4</p>	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: £567k (£55k design costs) according to Visioning Study</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			provision of outdoor activities		
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E-2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links	Better coordination of existing facilities (Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town) through extension of cycle routes, interpretation work re. Rhymney Upper Furnace	<p>Better linkage of tourism facilities in the area;</p> <p>Increase in visitor numbers to Rhymney attractions as a result of Parc Bryn Bach patronage;</p> <p>Developing a greater role for Bute Town Reservoir;</p> <p>Knock-on benefits for additional facilities and services in nearby locations e.g. shops and pubs;</p> <p>Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through extension of walking and cycling links</p>	SP8 SB1-2 SQL1-2 SQL4	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E-3 Winding House	Utilisation of office space and better integration of educational, visitor and economic development	Increased office provision for local businesses and others, inc. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water;	SP1 SP3-7 SP9 SB1-3 SB5-6 SQL2-4	Funding secured: temporary contract with DCWW for duration of infrastructure works (2 years)

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
		functions	<p>Assistance to local business start-ups;</p> <p>Strengthening of a multi-purpose community hub through integration of different services and uses;</p> <p>Retention of a locally important cultural facility</p>	CPP5	Total cost: to be determined – DCWW use will generate income
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E-4 Markham Colliery	Development of country park including extension of existing routes, widening visitor appeal and creation of appropriate economic uses	<p>Improved tourism facility for local residents and visitors;</p> <p>Economic benefits of increased dwell time and spending, plus links to other facilities such as Penyfan Pond;</p> <p>Diversification of local economy to include appropriate rural economic uses;</p> <p>Community development through activities such as woodland management;</p>	SP4-5 SP8 SB1-2 SB5-6 SQL1-2 SQL4	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: £1 million (£87k design costs) according to Visioning Study</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through increased provision of outdoor activities		
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E-5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common	Enhanced custodianship, community development and increased utilisation of the Common as a visitor attraction	<p>Launch of <i>Tirwedd y Comin</i>, to protect and maintain the Common;</p> <p>Launch of <i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i>, which will establish a virtual data centre for residents and visitors;</p> <p>Linkage to other attractions e.g. Parc Cwm Darran, Bute Town;</p> <p>Potential for accommodation and hospitality provision in adjacent settlements;</p> <p>Community development through landscape stewardship and digital technology</p>	SP4-6 SP8 SB1-2 SB6 SQL1-2 SQL4 CPP6	<p>Funding secured: <i>Tirwedd y Comin</i> £160k (£128k RDP funding via two local action groups, £32k from GMCA);</p> <p><i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i> £33.5k (£26.8k RDP funding via Cwm y Mynydd LAG, £6.7k from CCBC)</p> <p>Total cost: <i>Tirwedd y Comin</i> £160k, <i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i> £33.5k</p>
E - Maximise the impact of	E-6 Parc	Increase park's	Increase park's	SP6	Funding secured: £390k

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	Coetir Bargoed	accessibility in relation to local settlements via new and extended cycle and walking routes	<p>accessibility as a local visitor destination;</p> <p>Increased opportunities to utilise the most sustainable forms of travel;</p> <p>Greater opportunity for linkages to additional nearby facilities through the VRP;</p> <p>Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through use of the park</p>	SP8 SQL1-2 SQL4 CPP2	<p>Core Active Travel Fund allocation for 2019/20</p> <p>Total cost: LAs required to bid for funding annually</p>
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E-7 Bargoed Park	Optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town	<p>Look at opportunities to maximise visitor numbers;</p> <p>Ensure that facilities are fit for purpose</p>	SP8 SQL1-3	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure	F-1 North of the A465	Potential development of a renewable energy scheme as part of the Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt'	<p>Development of a renewable energy scheme would give the area an economic purpose, as part of the wider 'Energy Belt';</p> <p>Potential job creation within the energy</p>	SP4-5 SB1-2 SQL1	<p>Private sector investment predominantly in on-shore wind, could be opportunities for CCBC to co-invest</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			sector; Sustainability benefits of renewable energy; Utilisation of funds for community benefit, and community development as a result of engagement by developers		
F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure	F-2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme	Potential development of a community renewable energy scheme	Contribution to the HOV 'Energy Belt'; Sustainability benefits of renewable energy; Community resilience; Integration with, and contribution to, the range of rural economic uses within the country park	SP4-5 SP9 SB1-2 SQL1	Funding secured: none to date Total cost: to be determined
F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure	F-3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities	Increasing water resilience through improvements to physical infrastructure and community engagement	Embedding sustainability principles within the community; Ensuring a joined-up approach between stakeholder	SP4-6 SP8 SP9 SP11 SB6	Scheme funded by DCWW

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			<p>organisations;</p> <p>Increased community development and confidence;</p> <p>Physical improvements to utility infrastructure</p>		
G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations	G-1 Aberbargoed Plateau	Mixed-use scheme comprising some residential, FE provision and extension of the cycle route to Parc Coetir Bargod	<p>Realisation of some residential development in close proximity to existing employment uses (Angel Lane, Bowen Ind Est);</p> <p>Investment in training and education through FE provision;</p> <p>Establishing further links with Parc Coetir Bargod, promoting walking and cycling;</p> <p>Enhancing Aberbargoed's role as a sustainable settlement</p>	SP1-6 SP8-9 SB2 SB6 SQL2-3 SQL5-6	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations	G-2 Bedwellty School	Development of former Bedwellty School site for residential	<p>Utilisation of vacant, brownfield land;</p> <p>Diversification of</p>	SQL5-6	<p>Funding secured: privately funded</p> <p>Total cost: to be</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
			housing stock		determined
G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations	G-3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme	Grant funding for purchasers of empty homes for renovation	<p>Potential reduction in the number of empty homes;</p> <p>Increase in the diversity of housing stock;</p> <p>Development of skills;</p> <p>Strengthening of local supply chains through utilisation of local firms</p>	<p>SP1</p> <p>SP3-6</p> <p>SP10</p> <p>SB1-3</p> <p>SB5</p> <p>SQL5-6</p>	£10m over two years provided by Welsh Government for the VTF area
H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets	H-1 21 st Century Schools	Replacement and relocation of school buildings in Rhymney and Bargoed via 21 st Century Schools programme	<p>Developing fit-for-purpose school buildings in areas of high deprivation;</p> <p>Expansion of Welsh medium education;</p> <p>Reduction of surplus places and savings in financial terms;</p> <p>Increased opportunities for community use and childcare provision</p>	<p>SP2</p> <p>SP6</p> <p>SP8-9</p> <p>SB6</p> <p>SQL2-3</p>	<p>Funding envelope subject to Business Case Approval: £110 million for Band B proposals across CCBC - £78m capital funding (25%/35% met by CCBC), £32m revenue funding (19% met by CCBC)</p> <p>Total cost: £4.9 million (Rhymney), £5.9 million (Bargoed)</p>
H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, and	H-2 Rhymney Integrated Health and	Continued integration of community-based	Ensuring public availability and awareness of available	<p>SP1-9</p> <p>SB5-6</p> <p>SQL2-3</p>	Funding secured: dependent on a range of stakeholders from the

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets	Social Care Centre and Hafod Deg Resource Centre	services	support; Better coordination of distinct, yet complementary, services; Provision of workspace for community and volunteering groups		public and 'third' sectors Total cost: to be identified
H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets	H-3 Integrated Well-Being Networks	Establish IWNs for the Masterplan area	Undertake a mapping exercise of existing facilities, in order to make networks more identifiable; Connection of community-based 'hubs' and service deliverers; Avoidance of duplication in terms of provision of advice and signposting; Greater clarity for service users and accessibility of information	SP1-9 SB5-6 SQL2-3	Funding secured: funded by ABHB
I - Ensure that accessibility		This is a cross-cutting	Accessibility for those	SQL3	

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy Met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
for all is embedded in all improvement schemes		objective that should be considered an integral part of all projects	living, working or visiting the Masterplan area		
J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage with, and benefit from, the Masterplan		Address multi-faceted needs in the most deprived communities by adopting a place-based focus that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact	Social, economic and environmental outputs for deprived communities	SP1-11 SB1 SB6 SQL3 SQL6	

Appendix 1: A Foundation for Success Objectives

Supporting People	Supporting Business	Supporting Quality of Life	Connecting People and Places
SP1: Increase employability	SB1: Building a more resilient and diversified economy	SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much-needed	CPP1: Promote and identify major highway projects that would significantly improve connectivity and accessibility

Supporting People	Supporting Business	Supporting Quality of Life	Connecting People and Places
		sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote well-being	
SP2: Raise educational attainment	SB2: Supporting economic growth and innovation	SQL2: Improve access to culture, leisure and the arts	CPP2: Promote public transport integration and connectivity
SP3: Reduce worklessness	SB3: Creating an environment that nurtures business	SQL3: Active place marking	CPP3: Promote place-making development around key transport hubs and nodes
SP4: Improve resilience and support development of the foundational economy	SB4: Key sites and infrastructure for employment opportunities	SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic and natural heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents	CPP4: Actively promote rail improvements and the reinstatement of new links
SP5: Develop skills in key growth areas	SB5: Boost business support and enterprise	SQL5: Improve the delivery of new housing and diversify housing across all tenures	CPP5: Seek to reduce travelling distance and reduce out-commuting
SP6: Targeted intervention of key groups	SB6: Improve the links between businesses, schools and education and training providers	SQL6: Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention, particularly in terms of Council-owned housing stock	CPP6: Promote digital connectivity
SP7: Ensure a clear, coordinated 'package of services is available in order to reconnect people to employment		SQL7: Refocus town centres to serve the needs of residents and businesses	
SP8: Support interventions to improve health			
SP9: Reduce inequality by reducing the number of lower super output areas within the top 10% deprived in Wales			
SP10: Ensure that cultivational			

Supporting People	Supporting Business	Supporting Quality of Life	Connecting People and Places
procurement is a key consideration in the procurement of goods and services			
SP11: Tackle in-work poverty			

Appendix 2: Well-Being of Future Generations

The Masterplan has had regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. In order to demonstrate this, an assessment has been made as to which well-being goals each strategic objective would support. The Strategic Objectives of the Masterplan are:

A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys;

B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably;

C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity;

D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough;

E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism;

F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure;

G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations;

H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets;

I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes;

J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

Goal	Description of the Goal	How it will be achieved via the Masterplan
A prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low-carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – A, B, C, D, F</i> Objectives A-D seek to increase employment by producing investment in specific sites and locations within the context of national and

Goal	Description of the Goal	How it will be achieved via the Masterplan
	on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.	regional initiatives such as City Deal, VTF, Tech Valleys and Metro. Ensuring that education and training are undertaken with this context in mind will produce the skills and employment base that lends additional sustainability to this approach. Metro, and the Masterplan's role within the VTF's 'Energy Belt', will contribute to a society that recognises the need to generate sustainable resources, and respects the limits of the environment.
A resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy, functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – C, E, F</i> The Valleys Regional Park and the promotion of tourism relies, in large part, on the natural environment in which it is set, and therefore protection of this is paramount in its success. Improving accessibility and connectivity by way of expanding the capabilities of the public transport network through Metro, and the supporting of renewable energy schemes, are two ways in which the Masterplan seeks to strengthen environmental resilience and sustainability.
A healthier Wales	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – A, E, G, H</i> All objectives will positively impact on this goal to a degree, but strengthening the area's economy, developing measures to ensure a supply of good quality housing stock, opportunities to utilise the natural environment for leisure purposes and ensuring access to facilities and services that directly enhance health and well-being are of utmost importance.
A more equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – A, B, C, E, G, H, I, J</i> Objectives concerning connectivity in relation to

Goal	Description of the Goal	How it will be achieved via the Masterplan
	circumstances (including their socioeconomic background and circumstances).	job opportunities and key services, leisure and the Valleys Regional Park and ensuring the delivery of new housing are important in terms of enabling people in the Masterplan area to access such things. However, the strengthening of the local economy, along with adequate levels of education and training to enable more people to access such opportunities, will help reduce inequality.
A Wales of cohesive communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J</i> Improving the economic fortunes of the area and the redevelopment of key sites in line with this ethos, along with the Metro proposals, will make the area increasingly viable as a series of distinctive, yet connected and interdependent, communities. Programmes such as the Valleys Regional Park will add to its attractiveness, both in terms of residents and visitors alike.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, sports and recreation.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - E</i> Developing the Valleys Regional Park concept and maximising the impact of the area's cultural heritage will encourage understanding of this aspect and participation in related activities. The Masterplan will be available bilingually.
A globally responsive Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – C, E, F</i> There are strong links between this goal and 'A resilient Wales'. The Valleys Regional Park proposals require the protection and enhancement of green spaces in its effort to develop the area for tourism.

Goal	Description of the Goal	How it will be achieved via the Masterplan
		The Masterplan promotes the use of more sustainable modes of transport in the form of Metro and Active Travel, and references the opportunity to promote renewable energy generation.

The development of the Masterplan has also been informed by the five ways of working:

Involvement – The proposals contained within the Masterplan are subject to consultation with the local community, and have been developed through engagement with stakeholders such as landowners, partner organisations including the Local Health Board and Idris Davies School, and local authority ward members and community councillors representing the various communities within the Masterplan area.

Collaboration – The development of the Masterplan has drawn upon the expertise from key representatives across local authority departments, including Planning, Regeneration, Housing, Engineering and Countryside. The delivery of the projects identified within the Masterplan will involve collaboration between the public, private and third sectors, and the Council will work closely with these partners to deliver schemes in a collaborative manner.

Long term – The objectives identified, and the projects that will deliver these objectives, are part of a longer-term vision of enhancing the role of the Heads of the Valleys as a sub-regional economic hub capable of supporting local communities. The Masterplan recognises the need for development in order to support economic growth, but recognises that this development should be of a sustainable nature, both in terms of its purpose and its location.

Integration – The projects identified in the Masterplan will help deliver a number of the objectives of within the Council’s regeneration strategy *A Foundation for Success* (as set out within Section 7 of this document), as well as proposals contained within the adopted Local Development Plan. They will also deliver against the Council’s own well-being objectives by identifying projects that will lead to job creation and training opportunities, promote more healthy and active lifestyles and reduce the carbon footprint through improved Active Travel routes and facilities locally.

Prevention – The Masterplan recognises that there are a number of challenges within the Heads of the Valleys that need to be addressed, in order to realise the vision. The proposals identified will respond to these key concerns and will raise the profile of the area, developing the economy within the context of the A465 corridor, increasing and improving the tourism offer and enhancing town centres – all from the basis of improved connectivity,

infrastructural investment and an advantageous strategic location in regional terms – thereby improving quality of life for those visiting, living and working in the Masterplan area.

Appendix 3: Assessment of Site-Specific Proposals against the National Well-Being Goals and the CCBC Well-Being Objectives

This appendix provides an initial assessment of the projects identified within the Masterplan against the national well-being goals and the Council's well-being objectives, as set out within the Corporate Plan 2018-23. The national well-being objectives are set out in Appendix 2, and the corporate objectives

are set out below. It should be noted that many of the projects identified are at an embryonic stage and therefore a detailed analysis of the relationship between proposals and the well-being goals and objectives cannot be undertaken at this stage.

Caerphilly CBC Well-Being Objectives

Number	Description
Objective 1	Improve education opportunities for all
Objective 2	Enabling employment
Objective 3	Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being
Objective 4	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment
Objective 5	Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
Objective 6	Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
A	A-1 Capital Valley, Rhymney	Redevelopment for modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises	A prosperous Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	A-2 The Lawns Industrial Estate	Development of additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns	A prosperous Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
	A-3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	Development of modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises, potentially including redevelopment of existing stock and provision of a business conferencing facility to serve A465 corridor	A prosperous Wales; A healthier Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
B	B-1 Education, training and careers advice	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of strengthening the area's employment function	A prosperous Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Improve education opportunities for all; Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	B-2 Foundational economy	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of ensuring widespread economic and social benefit	A prosperous Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Improve education opportunities for all; Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
C	C-1 Land around Rhymney Station	Station improvements, additional car parking and creation of a multi-function business hub	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive	Enabling employment; Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
			communities; A globally responsive Wales	minimises the adverse impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	C-2 Other stations (Pontllytyn, Brithdir, Tirphil)	Station improvements at Pontllytyn, Brithdir and Tirphil Stations	A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsive Wales	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	C-3 A465/A469 Transport Hub	Development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsive Wales	Enabling employment; Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	C-4 A469 Resilience Route	Pursue consideration of an A469 resilience route	A prosperous Wales;	Enabling employment;

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
		between New Tredegar and Rhymney	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C-5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney	Development of a commercial or service-related facility, incorporating EV charging points to serve this stretch of the A465 corridor	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C-6 Dyffryn Terrace, New Tredegar	Development of EV charging points	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
				impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	C-7 Active Travel Routes	Developing a network of cycle routes and pathways over the next 15 years, as per the Integrated Routes Map	A resilient Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsive Wales	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
D	D-1 Land at Bargoed Station	Expansion of car parking provision and general station improvements	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	D-2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street	Redevelopment of vacant units for office use, some retail and complementary commercial	A prosperous Wales;	Enabling employment;

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
		uses	A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	D-3 Bargoed Retail Plateau	Development of remaining part of Bargoed Retail Plateau for commercial use	A prosperous Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	D-4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Square	Redevelopment of the former cinema for commercial/office use	A prosperous Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
E	E-1 Parc Cwm Darran	Expansion of the park's role as a visitor attraction and community resource	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; A globally responsive Wales	Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	E-2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links	Better coordination of existing facilities (Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town) through extension of cycle routes, interpretation work re. Rhymney	A resilient Wales; A healthier Wales;	Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
		Upper Furnace	<p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E-3 Winding House Museum	Utilisation of office space and better integration of educational, visitor and economic development functions	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E-4 Markham Colliery	Development of country park including extension of existing routes, widening visitor appeal and creation of appropriate economic uses	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;</p>	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
			A globally responsive Wales	their well-being
	E-5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common	Enhanced custodianship, community development and increased utilisation of the Common as a visitor attraction	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E-6 Parc Coetir Bargod	Increase park's accessibility in relation to local settlements via new and extended cycle and walking routes	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E-7 Bargoed Park	Optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive</p>	Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
			communities; A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; A globally responsive Wales	Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
F	F-1 North of the A465	Potential development of a renewable energy scheme as part of the Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt'	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsive Wales	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	F-2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme	Potential development of a community renewable energy scheme	A prosperous Wales; A resilient Wales; A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities; A globally responsive Wales	Enabling employment; Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	F-3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities	Increasing water resilience through improvements to physical infrastructure and	A prosperous Wales;	Improve education opportunities for all;

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
		community engagement	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A globally responsive Wales</p>	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
G	G-1 Aberbargoed Plateau	Mixed-use scheme comprising some residential, FE provision and extension of the cycle route to Parc Coetir Bargod	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	G-2 Bedwellty School	Development of former Bedwellty School site for residential	A Wales of cohesive communities	Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
				<p>County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	G-3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme	Grant funding for purchasers of empty homes for renovation	<p>A resilient Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
H	H-1 21 st Century Schools	Replacement and relocation of school buildings in Rhymney and Bargoed via 21 st Century Schools programme	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities;</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</p>	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	H-2 Rhymney Integrated	Continued integration of community-based	A prosperous Wales;	Improve education

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
	Health and Social Care Centre and Hafod Deg Resource Centre	services	<p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p>opportunities for all;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	H-3 Integrated Well-Being Networks	Establish IWNs for the Masterplan area	<p>A prosperous Wales;</p> <p>A healthier Wales;</p> <p>A more equal Wales;</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p>	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
I	I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be considered an integral part of all projects	A more equal Wales;	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National Well-Being Goals	CCBC Well-Being Objective 2018-23
	improvement schemes		A healthier Wales	transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;
J	J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan	Address multi-faceted needs in the most deprived communities by adopting a place-based focus that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact	A more equal Wales; A Wales of cohesive communities	Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being

Almost 68 ha. of allocated or protected employment land lies in the HOVRA across six sites, making it the County Borough's smallest area in terms of economic/industrial presence. The table below sets out the economic sectors on sites within the HOVRA, by floorspace and numbers of units:

Economic sectors on HOVRA sites, expressed by floorspace and numbers of units (2018)

Sector	Floorspace (sq m)	% Occupied Floorspace	Units	% Occupied Units
Mining & quarrying	3,285	2.2	1	0.7
Food, drink & tobacco	184	0.1	2	1.4
Textiles	623	0.4	3	2.1
Wood & paper	11,627	7.7	2	1.4
Printing & recording	56	0.0	1	0.7
Non-metallic mineral products	3,973	2.6	10	6.9
Metals & metal products	1,415	0.9	4	2.8
Machinery	714	0.5	2	1.4
Other manufacturing & repair	25,016	16.6	16	11.0
Electricity & gas	239	0.2	2	1.4
Water, sewerage & waste	21,998	14.6	8	5.5
Construction	50,593	33.7	10	6.9
Motor vehicles trade	5,311	3.5	11	7.6
Wholesale trade	343	0.2	1	0.7
Retail trade	910	0.6	5	3.4
Land transport	826	0.5	1	0.7
Warehousing & postal	5,301	3.5	20	13.8
Food & beverage services	545	0.4	6	4.1
Head offices & management consultancies	211	0.1	4	2.8
Architectural & engineering services	1,841	1.2	8	5.5
Other professional services	2,415	1.6	7	4.8

Business support service	6,324	4.2	12	8.3
Public administration & defence	4,351	2.9	1	0.7
Education	387	0.3	1	0.7
Health	43	0.0	1	0.7
Arts	330	0.2	3	2.1
Recreational services	1,029	0.7	1	0.7
Other services	380	0.3	2	1.4
TOTAL	150,270	100	145	100

In terms of sectors, there is a great deal of variety with nearly 30 represented. Only two sectors, 'warehousing and postal' and 'other manufacturing and repair' account for at least 10% of occupied units. In terms of floorspace, this is dominated by 'construction', which accounts for over a third. Other notable sectors regarding floorspace are 'other manufacturing and repair' and 'water, sewerage and waste', both of which account for over 10%.

On a site-by-site basis, this level of variety is also borne out, though some sites do appear to display some degree of specialism (though this must be tempered by the fact that these sectors are somewhat generic compositions of various sub-sectors:

- Heads of the Valleys – 'other manufacturing' (including manufacture of furniture, repair of machinery and miscellaneous manufacture that does not fall into any other sector);
- Maerdy – 'other manufacturing' (as above);
- Capital Valley – 'construction' (construction of buildings, specialised construction and civil engineering).

These sectoral groupings conceal the fact that the HOVRA is home to some key local employers, including Convatec (manufacturer of medical products) and Richards and Appleby (manufacturer of cosmetics) at Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate, and Williams Medical (medical supplier) at Maerdy. Each of these companies employs between 100 and 200 people.

There is a need to highlight how firms are categorised within particular sectors. The three employers mentioned above are all categorised within 'other manufacturing'. However, Williams Medical is arguably a better fit within 'wholesale trade', or all three companies within 'health'. Only one unit is identified as being within the 'health' category – City and Country Healthcare Group, which occupies a small unit on Bowen Industrial Estate. Due to the

size of this operation, this company is unlikely to feature as a key player in the area of health and life sciences in isolation, although it is possible that it may have strong links with others in the local area.

The HOVRA sites presently support some businesses categorised as ‘other professional services’ which could, theoretically, include scientific-based operations with potential links to healthcare-related industries. However, in reality, these include solicitors, driving instructors and other small businesses which offer services to the local community and no ostensible links to the area’s larger employers.

Despite the presence of a diverse economic foundation, it is clear that some of the area’s larger firms have a common basis in healthcare-related occupations, though further definition is not possible due to the slightly different nature of those firms i.e. the fact that manufacturers exist as well as suppliers, each with a focus on different types of products. It is therefore necessary to look further afield across the HOVRA in order to identify whether there is sectoral strength in this area, and whether the potential for linkages between these firms may exist.

Regional Context

As well as the northern part of Caerphilly County Borough, the HOVRA also incorporates the entirety of Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil, and the northern parts of the Torfaen and Rhondda Cynon Taf administrative areas. However, although information was sought from all of these, it was only provided by Blaenau Gwent.

Blaenau Gwent is particularly pertinent to the Caerphilly context due to:

- it being the location of the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) – a Welsh Government-supported network of eight industrial sites designed to accommodate automotive-based uses; and
- its proximity to the Rhymney sites.

Although a comprehensive, sectoral-based inventory of businesses in Blaenau Gwent is not available, manufacturing remains dominant which, like Caerphilly, is diverse in nature. There are two potential areas of focus here:

- The presence of firms operating in healthcare/life sciences, which, in conjunction with the firms operating in Rhymney, may demonstrate the importance of this sector to this part of the HOVRA; and

- The success of the EZ sites in developing an automotive base, which could provide an opportunity for the development of complementary uses in the Caerphilly part of the HOVRA.

In terms of healthcare/life sciences, the following firms are of potential importance, given its role as a targeted sector within the CCR Industrial and Economic Plan:

- Crown Business Park – Eurocaps Ltd (capsule/soft gelatine manufacture);
- Rassau Industrial Estate – Weiss Technik UK Ltd (environmental test chambers);
- Roseheyworth Business Park – Neem Biotech (laboratory);
- Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate – Nordic Care Services (supplier of healthcare products), PCI Pharma Services (pharmaceutical manufacture).

Each of the firms mentioned above occupy units of 1,000 sq m+, suggesting that each has a not insignificant role in the local economy. Together with Convatec, Williams Medical and Richards and Appleby, this indicates the importance of the Ebbw Vale-Rhymney stretch of the A465 corridor as being a geographical nucleus for healthcare/life sciences, with the existence of a cluster that itself displays some diversity within its field, including pharmaceuticals, testing, other health-related manufacture and supply.

Of the EZ sites, the following accommodate firms that may have some direct value in developing the area's role as an automotive hub:

Rassau Industrial Estate – G Tem (manufacture of car components), Sears Manufacturing (seat assembly/manufacturing);
 Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate – Tenneco Walker (exhausts);
 Waun-y-Pound Industrial Estate – Continental Teves UK Ltd (hydraulic brake systems).

Of the additional (non-EZ) sites, Sogefi Filtration Ltd (automotive manufacture) at Crown Business Park also falls into this category. Again, all of these firms occupy units of 1,000 sq m+.

The Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone is particularly relevant to the north of Caerphilly County Borough as it encompasses sites that are a few miles from those at Rhymney, including Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate which lies on the Caerphilly-Blaenau Gwent boundary. Therefore, an attempt to develop the automotive focus of this location could have an impact on those other sites within its immediate environs, in terms of creating opportunities for the development of complementary uses – albeit without the benefit of publicly-funded financial incentives as is the case in the EZ.

For instance, the CCR Employment and Skills Plan identifies advanced materials and manufacturing as being a priority sector for employment and skills support. Whilst this might include life sciences, it would also include businesses in other areas, some of which could help diversify and strengthen the EZ's economic base. However, the 2018 ELAS does not identify any examples of existing firms, other than those already provided, that might be regarded as being currently operational in the north of the County Borough.

Premises

The JLL report makes the case for the development of different types of units, three of which would appear to be relevant to the HOVRA:

- Sites developed in conjunction with Metro stations, such as Rhymney, could benefit from some level of small business unit/office provision as part of a 'business hub pathfinder' scheme;
- Larger B2 units – larger sites are best-placed to cater for units of 25,000+ sq ft due to the lack of remaining, vacant floorspace. Some of the Rhymney sites such as Capital Valley would appear to meet the required criteria, along with sites in the Ebbw Vale EZ;
- Small B1/B2/B8 units – existing premises have very high occupancy rates and strong levels of demand suggest that these would be suitable for smaller estates as well as some larger sites in order to complement the portfolio of stock at these locations. Again, these units could be considered for 'business hub' schemes in relation to Metro stations. Whilst some provision is being made for new start-up units at The Lawn, additional provision at Capital Valley would add further capacity and take advantage of the site's proximity to the station.

Appendix 5: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019)

Data is collated for the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) at super output area (SOA) level. Of the twenty LSOAs that constitute the HOVRA, six are in the most 10% deprived of all Welsh LSOAs. A further five are in the most 10%-20% deprived. Data regarding each of the indices is set out below, for each of the LSOAs:

Twyn Carno 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	8	10% most
Income	21	10% most
Employment	8	10% most
Health	25	10% most
Education	9	10% most
Access to Services	510	20-30% most
Community Safety	148	10% most
Physical Environment	450	20-30% most
Housing	1198	50% least

Twyn Carno 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	473	20-30% most
Income	509	20-30% most
Employment	303	10-20% most
Health	642	30-50% most
Education	817	30-50% most
Access to Services	1075	50% least
Community Safety	71	10% most
Physical Environment	426	20-30% most
Housing	1059	50% least

Moriah 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	391	20-30% most
Income	497	20-30% most

Moriah 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Employment	331	10-20% most
Health	230	10-20% most
Education	221	10-20% most
Access to Services	1657	50% least
Community Safety	863	30-50% most
Physical Environment	976	50% least
Housing	476	20-30% most

Moriah 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	228	10-20% most
Income	368	10-20% most
Employment	122	10% most
Health	189	10% most
Education	477	20-30% most
Access to Services	1464	50% least
Community Safety	70	10% most
Physical Environment	310	10-20% most
Housing	582	30-50% most

Moriah 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	67	10% most
Income	137	10% most
Employment	44	10% most
Health	186	10% most
Education	62	10% most
Access to Services	562	20-30% most
Community Safety	27	10% most
Physical Environment	629	30-50% most
Housing	552	20-30% most

Pontlottyn	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	315	10-20% most
Income	370	10-20% most
Employment	180	10% most
Health	447	20-30% most
Education	258	10-20% most
Access to Services	1079	50% least
Community Safety	219	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1013	50% least
Housing	843	30-50% most

Darren Valley 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	832	30-50% most
Income	958	50% least
Employment	819	30-50% most
Health	682	30-50% most
Education	816	30-50% most
Access to Services	860	30-50% most
Community Safety	712	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1731	50% least
Housing	219	10-20% most

Darren Valley 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	137	10% most
Income	338	10-20% most
Employment	98	10% most
Health	71	10% most
Education	50	10% most
Access to Services	736	30-50% most
Community Safety	621	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1526	50% least
Housing	606	30-50% most

New Tredegar 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	578	30-50% most
Income	768	30-50% most
Employment	594	30-50% most
Health	538	20-30% most
Education	651	30-50% most
Access to Services	1204	50% least
Community Safety	25	10% most
Physical Environment	1299	50% least
Housing	1421	20-30% most

New Tredegar 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	246	10-20% most
Income	348	10-20% most
Employment	308	10-20% most
Health	188	10% most
Education	280	10-20% most
Access to Services	383	20-30% most
Community Safety	241	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1369	50% least
Housing	279	10-20% most

New Tredegar 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	59	10% most
Income	73	10% most
Employment	83	10% most
Health	77	10% most
Education	104	10% most
Access to Services	367	10%-20% most
Community Safety	41	10% most

New Tredegar 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Physical Environment	1075	50% least
Housing	222	10-20% most

Bargoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	538	20-30% most
Income	626	30-50% most
Employment	381	10-20% most
Health	300	10-20% most
Education	778	30-50% most
Access to Services	1049	50% least
Community Safety	297	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1464	50% least
Housing	1038	50% least

Bargoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	704	30-50% most
Income	711	30-50% most
Employment	553	20-30% most
Health	623	30-50% most
Education	871	30-50% most
Access to Services	1861	50% least
Community Safety	129	10% most
Physical Environment	1035	50% least
Housing	551	20-30% most

Bargoed 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	456	20-30% most
Income	635	30-50% most
Employment	422	20-30% most
Health	486	20-30% most
Education	341	10-20% most

Bargoed 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Access to Services	1539	50% least
Community Safety	248	10-20% most
Physical Environment	954	30-50% most
Housing	153	10% most

Bargoed 4	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	29	10% most
Income	23	10% most
Employment	18	10% most
Health	29	10% most
Education	161	10% most
Access to Services	343	10-20% most
Community Safety	146	10% most
Physical Environment	1613	50% least
Housing	765	30-50% most

Gilfach	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	482	20-30% most
Income	576	30-50% most
Employment	248	20-30% most
Health	501	20-30% most
Education	710	30-50% most
Access to Services	1182	50% least
Community Safety	464	20-30% most
Physical Environment	1096	50% least
Housing	514	20-30% most

Aberbargoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	349	10-20% most
Income	426	20-30% most
Employment	286	10-20% most

Aberbargoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Health	349	10-20% most
Education	233	10-20% most
Access to Services	764	30-50% most
Community Safety	318	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1280	50% least
Housing	877	30-50% most

Aberbargoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	177	10% most
Income	162	10% most
Employment	139	10% most
Health	210	10-20% most
Education	282	10-20% most
Access to Services	1335	50% least
Community Safety	180	10% most
Physical Environment	1297	50% least
Housing	149	10% most

Argoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	213	10-20% most
Income	156	10% most
Employment	192	10% most
Health	267	10-20% most
Education	155	10% most
Access to Services	1375	50% least
Community Safety	604	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1584	50% least
Housing	411	20-30% most

Argoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
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Argoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	710	30-50% most
Income	913	30-50% most
Employment	958	50% least
Health	1198	50% least
Education	826	30-50% most
Access to Services	260	10-20% most
Community Safety	678	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1294	50% least
Housing	44	10% most

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

July 2019

THE COUNCIL'S EQUALITIES STATEMENT

This Council recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and we will work actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within and between our communities, residents, elected members, job applicants and workforce.

We will also work to create equal access for everyone to our services, irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, use of Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality, responsibility for any dependents or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

EIAs are a legal requirement under equalities legislation (Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011) where the potential for a significant negative impact has been identified. This legislation has been in place since 2000. We also have a legislative duty to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Act explains that having due regard for advancing equality involves:

- removing or minimising disadvantages experienced by people due to their protected characteristics
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people
- encouraging people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The protected characteristics are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Re-assignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion, Belief or Non-Belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- Welsh Language*

* The Welsh language is not identified as a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, however in Wales we also have to treat Welsh and English on an equal basis as well as promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language.

THE EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

NAME OF NEW OR REVISED PROPOSAL*	Heads of the Valleys Masterplan
DIRECTORATE	Communities
SERVICE AREA	Planning
CONTACT OFFICER	Ian Mullis
DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW OR REVISION	

***Throughout this Equalities Impact Assessment Form, ‘proposal’ is used to refer to what is being assessed, and therefore includes policies, strategies, functions, procedures, practices, initiatives, projects and savings proposals.**

The aim of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is to ensure that Equalities and Welsh Language issues have been proactively considered throughout the decision making processes governing work undertaken by every service area in the Council as well as work done at a corporate level.

The Council’s work across Equalities, Welsh Language and Human Rights is covered in more detail through the **Equalities and Welsh Language Objectives and Action Plan 2016-2020**.

When carrying out an EIA you should consider both the positive and negative consequences of your proposals. If a project is designed for a specific group e.g. disabled people, you also need to think about what potential effects it could have on other areas e.g. young people with a disability, BME people with a disability.

There are a number of supporting guidance documents available on the **Corporate Policy Unit Portal** and the Council’s Equalities and Welsh Language team can provide advice as the EIA is being developed. Please note that the team does not write EIAs on behalf of service areas, the support offered is in the form of advice, suggestions and in effect, quality control.

Contact equalities@caerphilly.gov.uk for assistance.

PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSAL

1	<p>What is the proposal intended to achieve? <i>(Please give a brief description and outline the purpose of the new or updated proposal by way of introduction.)</i></p> <p>The Masterplan sets out the future development and regeneration opportunities proposed for the Heads of the Valleys, encompassing the wards of Twyn Carno, Moriah, Pontllytyn, Darren Valley, New Tredegar, Bargoed, Gilfach, Aberbargoed and Argoed.</p> <p>The Masterplan has been prepared within the context of the adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP), which sets out the Council's land use objectives for the county borough in the period up to 2021.</p> <p>The Masterplan identifies 10 objectives that would support the delivery of a Vision for the Masterplan area. Over 30 projects are identified within the Masterplan that would contribute to achieving these objectives and deliver the Vision:</p> <p>"The Heads of the Valleys will capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465 and its strategic location along this corridor, complementing and strengthening employment opportunities and creating an exciting, vibrant place where businesses will want to locate and where people will choose to live and work.</p> <p>It will strengthen and diversify communities by improving connectivity, supporting the role of the foundational economy and developing its role as a visitor and tourism destination by utilising its distinctive industrial heritage and natural attractions and spaces.</p> <p>It will enable the provision of, and promote accessibility to, those commercial, leisure and community services that will equip people to lead more healthy and prosperous lives."</p>
2	<p>Who are the service users affected by the proposal? <i>(Who will be affected by the delivery of this proposal? e.g. staff members, the public generally, or specific sections of the public i.e. youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits etc. Are there any data gaps?)</i></p> <p>The proposals could potentially affect residents within the Masterplan area, and residents of the wider County Borough or other areas who work, visit or travel through the Masterplan area.</p> <p>Some of the proposals within the Masterplan intend to improve the visitor experience for tourists the area.</p> <p>The proposals for new employment and housing development could affect those currently living and working in an area and those who would like to move to an area – existing and potential businesses, employees and residents.</p> <p>Furthermore, the proposed improvements to the sustainable transport network will affect those using the transport network – residents, commuters travelling to and from the Masterplan area, and visitors.</p>

The document reflects the 21st Century Schools programme, which identifies the replacement, refurbishment and new classroom provision in the County Borough. This could potentially affect school children, staff and parents.

IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

3	<p>Does the proposal ensure that everyone has an equal access to all the services available or proposed, or benefits equally from the proposed changes, or does not lose out in greater or more severe ways due to the proposals? <i>(What has been done to examine whether or not these groups have equal access to the service, or whether they need to receive the service in a different way from other people?)</i></p> <p>The Masterplan identifies a cross-cutting objective to “ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes.” The inclusion of this cross-cutting objective will ensure that equality is a key consideration when developing proposals. This will include accessibility for all of the protected characteristics identified within the Equalities and Welsh Language Objectives and Action Plan 2016-2020, including the Welsh language.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Masterplan also includes an objective to ensure that all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage with, and benefit from, the Masterplan.</p> <p>The Masterplan identifies a number of initial proposals that could potentially deliver economic, environmental and social benefits to residents within the Masterplan area. These projects will be prioritised and detailed project proposals will be prepared with a view to informing funding bids from City Deal and other funding programmes. At this early stage, the Masterplan sets out the initial framework for change, but the exact impacts of any proposal will not be known until detailed plans are prepared.</p> <p>Many of the regeneration and development proposals will require a planning application to be submitted. Inclusivity is a fundamental part of the national planning policy framework. Ensuring equal opportunities for all proposed and existing facilities is a key aim of the Local Development Plan (LDP) and planning applications will need to demonstrate that they adhere to policies on equality, including accessibility and good design.</p> <p>A public consultation has been carried out to determine views on the Masterplan. The responses have been reviewed and amendments to the Masterplan proposed as a result of the consultation. There are no specific changes proposed as a result of equalities issues.</p> <p>Actions required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that the cross-cutting objective on accessibility for all is an integral part when initial proposals are prioritised and detail project proposals are prepared as part of the delivery of the Masterplan. This will also be a consideration in the determination of planning applications.
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|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take steps to mitigate any negative impacts identified in particular access to services, tourist locations, businesses etc. |
|--|---|

4	Is your proposal going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? <i>(Has the service delivery been examined to assess if there is any indirect effect on any groups? Could the consequences of the policy or savings proposal differ dependent upon people's protected characteristics?)</i>	
Protected Characteristic	Positive, Negative, Neutral	What will the impact be? If the impact is negative how can it be mitigated?
Age	Neutral	
Disability	Positive	Improved public transport facilities for people with disabilities
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	
Marriage & Civil Partnership	Neutral	
Pregnancy and Maternity	Neutral	
Race	Neutral	
Religion & Belief	Neutral	
Sex	Neutral	
Sexual Orientation	Neutral	

5	<p>In line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. (No.1) Regulations 2015, please note below what effects, if any (whether positive or adverse), the proposal would have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.</p> <p><i>(The specific Policy Making Standards requirements are Standard numbers 88, 89, 90, 91, 92 and 93. The full detail of each Standard is available on the Corporate Policy Unit Portal. Although it is important that what is outlined in the proposal is available in Welsh and English, please consider wider impacts on Welsh speakers.)</i></p> <p>The Welsh Language Standards were followed in the preparation and publication of the Masterplan for consultation. The document and all consultation material was provided bilingually, respondents were given the opportunity to complete surveys in Welsh and people were asked to inform us if they wished to use Welsh at the public consultation events as per Standard 33.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that the proposals in the Masterplan would have an impact on the Welsh language.</p>
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INFORMATION COLLECTION

6	<p>Please outline any evidence and / or research you have collected which supports the proposal? This can include an analysis of service users. <i>(Is this service effectively engaging with all its potential users or is there higher or lower participation of uptake by one or more protected characteristic groups? If so, what has been done to address any difference in take up of the service? Does any savings proposal include an analysis of those affected?)</i></p> <p>The Masterplan will exist for the benefit of everyone living and working within the nine wards of the Heads of the Valleys, as well as visitors. To this end, data has been gathered for each of the 20 LSOAs that constitute the nine wards in relation to various indices of deprivation, as collated by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019.</p> <p>The Masterplan has been informed by data collected on the current usage of the area. The Council undertakes an annual survey of the occupiers of retail units to determine vacancy rates. A survey is also carried out of businesses on industrial estates in the County Borough, including the Masterplan Area, but there is no specific analysis of the demographic make-up of employees.</p> <p>With regards to users of Bargoed town centre, basic equalities information on socio-economic group, age and gender is collected as part of the triennial Shopper Attitude Survey, where household telephone surveys were carried out with the town centre catchment area, together with on-street surveys. The collection of this information will allow a comparison to be made of the demographic profile across years to determine any changes to town centre usage by certain groups, which may have equalities implications. For example, an increase in vacancy rates in the town centre will mean less shops and services could be available, and this may disproportionately affect those who cannot travel to other locations due to certain protected characteristics and/or financial constraints. The Masterplan aims to build and enhance the role of the town centre which will benefit the existing users of the town centre and attract more people into the town.</p>
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CONSULTATION

7	<p>Please outline the consultation / engagement process and outline any key findings. <i>(Include method of consultation, objectives and target audience. What steps have been taken to ensure that people from various groups have been consulted during the development of this proposal? Have you referred to the Equalities Consultation and Monitoring Guidance?)</i></p> <p>The Masterplan has been prepared in accordance with the Council's Consultation and Monitoring Guidance.</p> <p>A number of meetings and stakeholder events have taken place to inform the development of the Masterplan. These included:</p> <p>Meetings with officers from a variety of service areas; Workshops with members from the Heads of the Valleys wards on 1 January and 30</p>
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	<p>October 2019; Input re. the Masterplan at a meeting held by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to discuss the Rhymney to Bargoed upgrade involving external stakeholders Input re. the Masterplan at a meeting held by ABHB to discuss Integrated Well-Being Networks; Meeting with sixth-formers from Idris Davies School.</p> <p>A six week public consultation was held in early 2020. This consultation was conducted in accordance with equalities guidance, and a report on the consultation on the Masterplan has been prepared, considering issues raised.</p>
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MONITORING AND REVIEW

8	<p>How will the proposal be monitored? <i>(What monitoring process has been set up to assess the extent that the service is being used by all sections of the community, or that the savings proposals are achieving the intended outcomes with no adverse impact? Are comments or complaints systems set up to record issues by Equalities category to be able analyse responses from particular groups?)</i></p> <p>The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) prepared for the LDP records data for a number of indicators on issues that the Masterplan is seeking to address – footfall in town centres, vacancy rates, satisfaction with town centres, retail spend. A comparison of data against monitoring targets will provide an understanding of the vitality and viability of Bargoed town centre. However, this monitoring process will not focus specifically on the impact of all sectors of the community.</p> <p>As discussed in Section 7, the triennial Shopper Attitude Study records certain information about the users of Bargoed town centre. Future studies will allow comparisons on how the demographic profile of town centre users is changing, which may be influenced by schemes in the Masterplan being implemented in the longer term. Surveys of industrial estates will continue to be undertaken, in order to monitor occupancy rates and types of uses/occupants present.</p> <p>The comments made as part of the public consultation exercise have been reviewed. As detailed proposals are progressed, a more detailed review process would be needed.</p>
9	<p>How will the monitoring be evaluated? <i>(What methods will be used to ensure that the needs of all sections of the community are being met?)</i></p> <p>Section 7 of the Masterplan ‘Delivering and Implementing Change’ sets out the expected/indicative outputs, as well as funding secured and potential costs.</p> <p>The Regeneration Project Board will consider and prioritise projects that will be the focus of the Council’s initial regeneration priorities in the short to medium term. The pipeline of projects will be reported to Cabinet on a six monthly basis and be updated accordingly as schemes progress.</p> <p>A section on equalities implications and monitoring as schemes progress to a more detailed stage could be included within the Regeneration Project Board’s assessments.</p>

<p>10</p>	<p>Have any support / guidance / training requirements been identified? <i>(Has the EIA or consultation process shown a need for awareness raising amongst staff, or identified the need for Equalities or Welsh Language training of some sort?)</i></p> <p>The process to date has not identified a lack of awareness, or a need for further training.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>If any adverse impact has been identified, please outline any mitigation action.</p> <p>No adverse impact has been identified.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>What wider use will you make of this Equality Impact Assessment? <i>(What use will you make of this document i.e. as a consultation response, appendix to approval reports, publicity etc. in addition to the mandatory action shown below?)</i></p> <p>The document will be available on request and informs the report of public consultation that has been prepared upon completion of the public consultation. It will be appended to the Council Report when the Masterplan is considered for approval by members.</p> <p>The Equalities Impact Assessment will be monitored and updated regularly to ensure that any negative impacts are mitigated.</p>

13	<p>An equality impact assessment may have four possible outcomes, through more than one may apply to a single proposal. Please indicate the relevant outcome(s) of the impact assessment below.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Please tick as appropriate:</p> <p>No major change – the impact assessment demonstrated that the proposal was robust; there was no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Adjust the proposal – the impact assessment identified potential problems or missed opportunities. The proposal was adjusted to remove barriers or better promote equality. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Continue the proposal – the impact assessment identified the potential problems or missed opportunities to promote equality. The justification(s) for continuing with it have been clearly set out. (The justification must be included in the impact assessment and must be in line with the duty to have due regard. Compelling reasons will be needed for the most important relevant proposals.) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Stop and remove the proposal – the impact assessment identified actual or potential unlawful discrimination. The proposal was stopped and removed, or changed. <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Form completed by:	
Name:	Ian Mullis
Job Title:	Planning Officer
Date:	16 April 2020

Head of Service Approval	
Name:	Rhian Kyte
Job Title:	Head of Regeneration and Planning
Signature:	
Date:	20 April 2020

Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area *Masterplan*

Draft June 2020

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Section 1: Introduction

This Masterplan sets out the future development and regeneration opportunities proposed for the Heads of the Valleys. It seeks to facilitate significant change in order to enhance the role of communities, enabling them to diversify, allowing industries to rise and demographics to alter for the better.

There is an exciting opportunity to facilitate significant change through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD), which will provide resources to unlock significant economic growth in the region, delivering jobs and private sector investment. Whilst CCRCD seeks to relieve pressure on Cardiff as its regional city it also seeks to promote growth in smaller towns and industrial communities in order to rebalance social justice and prosperity. This Masterplan seeks to provide a direction of travel to ensure a transition towards economic and social success.

The City Deal Investment Fund will also facilitate the delivery of the South East Wales Metro, which will make substantial improvements to connectivity by public transport across the region. This investment will improve frequency of services to Rhymney Station from Cardiff, improving north–south connectivity and the Masterplan sets out how this opportunity can be maximised.

The Valleys Taskforce also sets out an ambitious programme for change, identifying actions and programmes designed to make a positive change to the South Wales Valleys through the ‘Our Valleys Our Future’ Delivery Plan. Whilst the Delivery Plan sets out a number of actions, most pertinent to this Masterplan is the focus on making more land available in order to maximise economic development opportunities, harnessing the potential of the local foundational economy,

taking advantage of improved connectivity and the role of the Valleys Regional Park.

The role of this Masterplan is therefore to provide a comprehensive framework for the future of the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area. This Masterplan is flexible and has the ability to adapt to changing economic and market conditions and meet the requirements and aspirations of both the private and public sector over this period through regular review. It is recognised that there are some projects that can be delivered within the short to medium term. However, in order to deliver long term regeneration goals, there is an aspiration to redevelop a number of key sites within the Masterplan area.

The Masterplan has been prepared within the context of the adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP), which sets out the Council’s land use



objectives for the County Borough, but it also sets out longer term goals to ensure that the momentum of change also extends well into the next decade.

Many of the projects identified in the Masterplan are aligned to proposals contained within the adopted LDP. This plan will need to be reviewed to provide the policy framework to control development in future years. Furthermore, relevant proposals may also be included within a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region. The Masterplan will therefore need to be reviewed to take into account the relevant policies and proposals contained within the different tiers of development plans as they emerge.

The Masterplan has been prepared in the context of the overarching regeneration strategy for the County Borough, "A Foundation for Success" as well as the economic development strategy "Delivering Prosperity." "A Foundation for Success" sets out four key themes that need to be addressed:

- **Supporting Business**
- **Connecting People and Places**
- **Supporting People; and**
- **Supporting Quality of Life.**

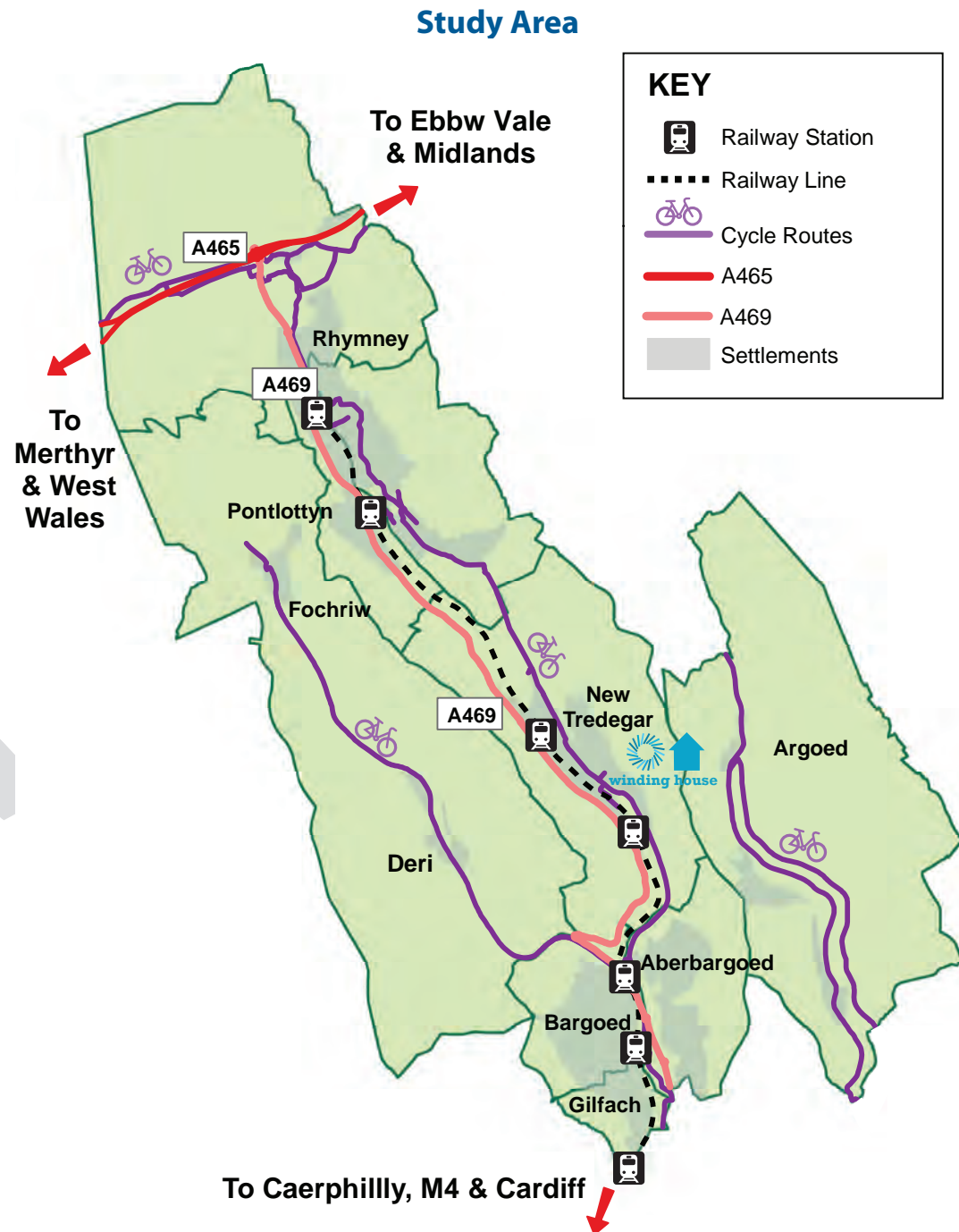
The Heads of the Valleys Masterplan is the third area-specific strategy, in a series of five, which will identify projects that will help address key issues and objectives set out within the wider Regeneration Strategy. It forms part of the implementation plan for 'A Foundation for Success' and the Economic Development Strategy 'Delivering Prosperity' which will be reviewed every 5 years. The Masterplan identifies investment and development opportunities within the Heads of the Valleys Area.

In order to capture regeneration opportunities throughout the County Borough, two further Masterplans will be produced for Greater Blackwood and the Newbridge to Risca Corridor.

Section 2: The Study Area

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area is located in the northern part of Caerphilly County Borough, and comprises the Darren, Upper Rhymney and Upper Sirhowy Valleys, including the Principal Town of Bargoed and the Local Centre of Rhymney. It incorporates the wards of Twyn Carno, Moriah, Pontlottyn, Darren Valley, New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Bargoed, Gilfach and Argoed.

This area suffers from significant challenges, as underlined by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019. Of the 20 lower super output areas (LSOAs) that constitute the nine wards, six of them are within the 10% most deprived in Wales in overall terms, with a further five in the 10 - 20% most deprived category. In addition, all nine wards are above average in terms of economic inactivity and unemployment, and the proportion of lower-skilled, lower-paying jobs is higher in the





Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area than for the England and Wales average. Relevant data is presented as an appendix to this document.

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area lies on the A465 at its northernmost point. This is a key transport artery for the South Wales economy, connecting the M4 at Neath to Abergavenny and Hereford, and providing links between West Wales and the Midlands. It is the only strategic east-west link that connects the Valleys communities providing access to employment, retail, leisure and other facilities. Significant levels of public funding has been already been spent on improving the A465 and further investment is being provided to complete the dualling of the route.

This Masterplan seeks to put into context the role that the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area plays within the wider A465 corridor and looks to complement, exploit and strengthen the opportunities that exist. To the west is Merthyr, a sub-regional centre, major retail destination and service

centre and home to Welsh Government offices and major tourism attractions such as Bike Park Wales. Immediately to the east is Blaenau Gwent, home to the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) which is utilising publicly available finance to develop its automotive sector through the Tech Valleys initiative.

Whilst the study area of the Masterplan only relates to that part of the Heads of the Valleys within Caerphilly County Borough's administrative boundary, it has regard to the wider A465 corridor and identifies development and investment opportunities that will strengthen the Borough's position within this context.

Section 3: The Context

In providing the context to the Masterplan it is important to understand the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that currently exist within the Heads of the Valleys.

Strengths

- Excellent connectivity by road via the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road to the West Midlands, West Wales and Ireland;
- Located within a dramatic natural and semi natural environment;
- Improved public transport infrastructure in recent years including the provision of the new park & ride facilities and a new bus/rail interchange at Bargoed, Rhymney park and ride and frequency enhancements;
- Significant life-science companies are located in the HOVRA including Richards and Appleby, Williams Medical and Convatec;
- Provision of a new 3-18 teaching facility in Rhymney (Idris Davies School);

- A number of Welsh medium schools are located in the area, helping to promote and grow the Welsh language;
- The Integrated Health and Social Care Resource Centre for the north is located in Rhymney together with Hafod Deg Resource Centre, both of which provide vital cross cutting services to residents in the area;
- The existence of key community hubs e.g. local libraries, community centres, GP surgeries;
- The area contains two country parks within its boundary: Parc Coetir Bargod and Parc Cwm Darran; with Parc Bryn Bach straddling the boundary with Blaenau Gwent, providing excellent recreation, leisure and lifelong learning opportunities;
- A leisure centre at New Tredegar providing significant leisure opportunities;

- New house building is ongoing helping to diversify the housing stock in this area, e.g. the former Bedwellty School Site;
- Significant investment has been targeted at the council house stock throughout the area, improving the condition and quality of the stock and its energy efficiency;
- The Cadw-designated Historic Landscape of Gelligaer and Merthyr Common is located within the area, providing a significant cultural and historical resource for the County Borough;
- A number of heritage sites are based in the area e.g. Butetown and the Elliott Colliery Winding House;
- The Greater Bargoed Regeneration Scheme has improved the southern end of Bargoed town centre;
- A positive attitude towards community cohesion.



Challenges

- The Masterplan area and the Upper Rhymney Valley in particular has the highest concentration of deprivation within the County Borough;
- The Twyn Carno 1 LSOA is currently ranked as the 8th most deprived LSOA in Wales (WIMD, 2019);
- The area has high levels of economic inactivity, unemployment and long-term illness;
- The area has low levels of attainment with regard to education & formal qualifications;
- The general topography of the area, consisting of valleys and steep hillsides, hinders accessibility and has contributed to the problem of poor transport links and general physical isolation;
- Bus transport in the area is infrequent and unreliable as a means of accessing employment opportunities;
- Bargoed town centre has the highest vacancy rate of all of the principal town centres;

- There is low diversity in the range of housing in the area;
- Many of the communities in the area are isolated and there is limited provision of facilities and services.

Opportunities

- The City Deal for the region will provide an unprecedented level of funding for projects with the aim of promoting economic growth and job creation throughout the region, including addressing skills gaps and shortages;
- The decision by the First Minister not to progress with the M4 Relief Road has a potentially positive impact on the perception of the A465 as a strategically important and unencumbered transport route;
- Potential for the integration of the Rhymney employment land with the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone, in order to create a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone focussed on complementary and

beneficial economic development along the A465;

- The natural and semi-natural environment in the area provides excellent recreational opportunities;
- The potential to enhance the benefits of its location adjacent to the Brecon Beacons National Park;
- The Upper Rhymney Valley offers significant potential in terms of renewable energy production;
- The area is the subject of major infrastructure improvements, including the dualling of the A465, Metro improvements and the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Rhymney to Bargoed works, all of which have the ability to provide training and apprenticeship schemes for the area as well as facilitating employment growth – the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water scheme also offers investment in community projects as part of scheduled works;
- The delivery of new industrial units

at The Lawns will provide modern, affordable units for business start-ups and expansions;

- A significant level of employment land is available; although investment is needed to bring some of it back into beneficial use;
- The development of Angel Way and Lowry Plaza provides an excellent opportunity to act as a catalyst to regenerate and diversify Bargoed town centre;
- Capitalising on the improvements to the rail line and the increases in the frequency of services post 2023;
- Provision of a bus interchange on the A465 to improve east-west links by public transport, and to connect to the A469;
- Target training opportunities at Rhymney, New Tredegar and Bargoed and throughout the area, looking at the potential of delivering community transport through the RDP and Transport for Wales;

- Pilot improved use of digital technology for promoting green infrastructure and facilities and integrated digital technology training with employers and young people;
- Expansion of the area's leisure and tourism offer through the Valleys Regional Park would be beneficial to both the local economy and people's quality of life;
- Maximise the potential for heritage to be used as a tool for increasing tourism in the area;
- Potential to establish the Masterplan area as a visitor destination through increased tourist accommodation provision given its proximity to the National Park and other leisure and tourism facilities;
- The natural and semi-natural environment, including the country parks and the Historic Landscape of Gelligaer Common, provides excellent opportunities for local communities and visitors alike, including recreation, improved health and well being and lifelong learning;

- Sections of cycle routes have already been implemented and there are further opportunities to create a network of routes and paths integrated into a wider regional network;
- RDP funding is available which could be used to facilitate a number of developments in the area.

Threats

- Merthyr and Ebbw Vale are identified as strategic hubs in the VTF Delivery Plan. The northern part of the Masterplan area therefore needs to ensure that it is able to develop its complementary employment role;
- No VTF 'hubs' are identified within the Masterplan area;
- The current vogue for experiential shopping and the growth in online retail are challenging for the existing town centres;
- Population decline is a significant threat to the Heads of the Valleys, potentially

leading to the loss of local services and community sustainability;

- Socio-economic factors need to be addressed or they are likely to continue to have a significant impact on the Masterplan area;
- Levels of car ownership are low and IT infrastructure within the area is poor;
- Low land values and historic land conditions associated with the area's industrial past make many sites unviable and therefore unattractive to the private sector;
- Available financial resources may be insufficient to effectively address the challenges, especially as a result of the loss of EU funding;
- Low aspirations, low educational achievement and health issues may hinder the ability of residents to access employment opportunities;
- Negative perceptions of the area can undermine attempts at regenerating the area.

Section 4: The Vision for the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area

The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area comprises the towns of Bargoed, Rhymney and the Upper Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys, and lies alongside the A465 at its northernmost point. Development in this area needs to capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465, in order to help address deprivation within this area. A Vision and a series of Strategic Objectives have been identified, based on the findings set out in Section 3 – these seek to address the HOVRA's threats and weaknesses, by maximising the positive impact of its strengths and taking advantage of its opportunities.

The Vision is as follows:

“The Heads of the Valleys will capitalise upon the major public investment in the A465 and its strategic location along this corridor, complementing and strengthening

employment opportunities and creating an exciting, vibrant place where businesses will want to locate and where people will choose to live and work.

It will strengthen and diversify communities by improving connectivity, supporting the role of the foundational economy and developing its role as a visitor and tourism destination by utilising its distinctive industrial heritage and natural attractions and spaces.

It will enable the provision of, and promote accessibility to, those commercial, leisure and community services that will equip people to lead more healthy and prosperous lives.”

The Vision has been prepared having regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The Vision for the Masterplan will be supported by a series of Strategic Objectives

outlined below that will drive its delivery and translate directly into a series of projects and actions that:

- A. Complementing, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys -** *Identifying redevelopment proposals for Rhymney's employment sites that link into Metro improvements, the role of Rhymney Station and the close proximity of the A465. Establishing strong infrastructural and sectoral links with the EZ is central to this;*
- B. Improving social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues**

more equitably - Tackling deprivation and improving access to economic opportunities through development of skills and integration of training initiatives with business. In terms of the foundational economy, ensuring that resources are more usefully spent shoring up indigenous businesses where profit and spend is more likely to remain or recirculate within the local economy. Central to this is building capacity within communities and establishing networks of collaboration;

C. Expanding the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity

- Using the A465 and public transport infrastructure improvements to enable the population within the north of the County Borough to benefit from opportunities within the wider A465 corridor, including those that are presented in adjacent authorities;

D. Reinforcing the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough - Promoting

its diversification for alternative uses and taking full advantage of its bus/ rail connectivity, whilst retaining and consolidating a strong retail core,

E. Maximising the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protecting and enhancing important green spaces and built heritage and promoting tourism

- Establishing a vibrant network of tourism, visitor and leisure attractions and promoting the natural heritage of the area in order to encourage the use of green spaces and create a vibrant and accessible visitor destination;

F. Supporting proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure

- Encouraging the development of renewable energy proposals in sustainable locations, including through the operation of community co-operatives, and ensure that community benefit can be derived from upgrades to public utilities;

G. Supporting the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations to complement economic growth and resilience

- Unlock stalled housing sites in locations less favourable to volume builders and trial initiatives for innovative housing and self builds;

H. Providing a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establishing Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

- Acknowledge that such facilities are important to the population and ensure that these facilities meet future needs. Collaboration delivered through networks of community hubs and people who deliver services and support can build community relationships and have a positive impact on well-being and social capital, especially

in conjunction with other community schemes;

I. Ensuring that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes - *A cross-cutting objective that recognises that people are disabled more by poor design, inaccessible services and other people's attitudes than by their own impairment;*

J. Ensuring all communities within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan - *Ensure that the proposals identified in the Masterplan have positive outputs for those that are living in those communities.*



Section 5: The Development Strategy

In order to deliver the Vision and Strategic Objectives, it is important to set out the development strategy in relation to the key land uses within the Masterplan area, having regard for the strategy of the adopted LDP, regional aspirations and the opportunities and challenges that form the context. The site specific delivery of the Masterplan is set out in Section 6.

Employment and Skills

City Deal presents a significant opportunity to revitalise the economy of the A465 corridor, providing funds to develop growth in key sectors, establish a network of redeveloped and reconfigured employment sites and improve linkages with the rest of the region and beyond. Work has been undertaken to determine a sectoral breakdown of the HOVRA's economy, identify those areas of sectoral strength that may exist and to establish where opportunities for economic

growth may arise on the basis of this. This work is presented as an appendix to this document and its findings set out in Section 6.

The adopted LDP protects the following six sites within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area for employment use and these should continue to be protected (additional land at Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate is allocated for new development):

- Heads of the Valleys, Rhymney;
- Capital Valley, Rhymney;
- Maerdy, Rhymney;
- New Tredegar Business Park;
- Bowen, Aberbargoed;
- Angel Lane, Aberbargoed.

The Masterplan seeks to take advantage of the three Rhymney sites listed above plus The Lawns Industrial Estate by identifying them as potential redevelopment opportunities, in order to provide new business space, to

complement the role of the nearby Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) and maximise the potential offered by increased connectivity through the Metro initiative.

It is envisaged that this will involve the provision of new starter units suitable for small business start-ups, and some larger units that cater for businesses who wish to take advantage of existing and growth sectors. The area, along with Blaenau Gwent, does have a life sciences presence, and the automotive focus of the nearby EZ may present opportunities for complementary development in associated supply chains and service sectors.

Alongside physical improvements to land and premises, there is a need for this process to link to the development of direct recruitment schemes being implemented by the Council's Business Liaison Officer.

Foundational Economy

The foundational economy provides essential goods and services for everyday life and includes infrastructure; utilities; food processing, retailing and distribution; and health, education and welfare. In Wales, it supports four out of every 10 jobs, and £1 in every £3 spent.

Common interventions utilised in relation to the foundational economy include those related to public sector procurement processes, ensuring that more of the revenue moving through it can be harnessed and retained in the local area. Other schemes include a pilot project in Blaenau Gwent, involving the collaboration of locally-active housing associations to support the development of SMEs.

Welsh Government has launched a £3m Foundational Economy Challenge Fund, offering support to organisations and businesses to introduce innovative ways of working. This is open to any organisation working within the foundational economy, and projects must be for its benefit.

Education and Training

Educational attainment and skills acquisition, along with other social and economic factors in respect of deprivation are key issues in respect of addressing inequalities in the Masterplan area. Data from the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2019 indicates that of the twenty LSOAs that constitute the HOVRA, six are in the most 10% deprived of all Welsh LSOAs in terms of education (details are set out in Appendix 5).

Working in partnership with Careers Wales, Business Support Wales and business and industry, the Council will seek to increase the availability of quality jobs and identify opportunities to enhance access for residents to those jobs. The availability of a workforce with the appropriate range of skills is essential, and the focus should be concentrated on the following areas:

- Providing appropriate career support to aid people's understanding of the type of employment available to them and help

them make the right choices to lead them into work;

- Ensuring that the appropriate soft skills and technical skills are provided, and engendering a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship;
- Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs (digital, technical and soft) and the training provided through the educational curriculum and by training providers;
- Ensuring that there are opportunities for upskilling in the current workforce, including the closing of skills 'gaps' in relation to potential growth sectors;
- Improving links between schools, further education and local businesses;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

Connectivity

The A465 is the key strategic east-west route between West Wales and the Midlands and the ongoing dualling programme will increase its capability in this regard, as well as providing a vital link with nearby centres such as Merthyr and Ebbw Vale. The increased accessibility offered by Metro will have similar benefits in respect of accessibility to the south, aiding access to external markets for businesses, jobs and other facilities for residents. Increases in journey frequency and the provision of earlier and later services will allow more people to travel in a manner which is conducive to labour market requirements, taking account of shift patterns.

It will also have the potential to bring employees and visitors in, and therefore 'gateway' sites such as the Bargoed and Rhymney Stations and their environs are important, both in their own right and as a means of signposting to nearby facilities. There is therefore the potential for land around local rail stations to be configured to

have a positive impact on the local economy i.e. through the provision of business space and associated development, and to convey a positive image of the area by providing links to town centres and other facilities that exist elsewhere within the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area.

Leisure and Tourism

The Heads of the Valleys is synonymous with both a strong industrial legacy and a series of distinctive landscapes, and the combination of these is a rich natural and cultural heritage. The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative seeks to establish a model for the management of a network of a highly-visible, high quality country parks, other natural assets, heritage sites and attractions across the Valleys, linked with towns and villages and the Metro and maximising the opportunities for walking, cycling and riding.

There are three existing country parks and one proposed country park in the HOVRA that will contribute to the VRP, namely:

**Parc Bryn Bach (Blaenau Gwent Caerphilly);
Parc Cwm Darran;
Parc Coetir Bargoed;
Markham Colliery.**

Other important heritage assets which will contribute to the VRP include:

**The Winding House Museum, New Tredegar;
Bute Town Conservation Area;
Hanbury Chapel and Library, Bargoed.**

Town Centres

Retailing remains fundamental to the role and function of town centres. The Masterplan area comprises the Principal Town of Bargoed, the Local Centre of Rhymney and the smaller settlements of New Tredegar, Aberbargoed, Markham, Argoed, Hollybush, Deri, Fochriw, Pontlottyn and Abertysswg.

- **Bargoed** – the town centre includes one national supermarket (Morrisons), a number of smaller national stores and over 100 largely independent commercial units and key services;

- **Rhymney** – comprises a range of local shops and services;
- **Neighbourhood retailing** – in accordance with national and local planning policy, the Masterplan does not promote the provision of major retail development outside of designated retail areas, but the development of some retail to support local needs is a key part of promoting sustainable development.

there is a need to diversify stock and in order to retain the existing population.

The Heads of the Valleys has experienced less development pressure over the lifetime of the LDP due to the perceptions of volume housebuilders regarding profitability. Whilst some small-scale development has taken place, many of the sites allocated for housing in the LDP remain undeveloped, despite their sustainable locations. However, there is significant potential for the development of sites by SME builders and self-build plots, as well as new housing association sites, to provide new sustainably located housing development in order to increase the amount and quality of housing stock in this area.

Community Facilities

The provision and location of community facilities are of crucial importance to the sustainability of settlements and to the well-being of their populations. In addition to existing facilities in the HOVRA, a number of new facilities have opened, or existing ones improved, since the adoption of the LDP:

- Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre (Hanbury Chapel);
- Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre;
- Hafod Deg Resource Centre, Rhymney;
- Idris Davies School, Abertysswg – the first English medium school in the authority that offers a through school education for pupils between the ages of 3 and 18; this provision also incorporates Flying Start and wraparound childcare.
- Rhymney Library.

The rationalisation and sharing of facilities to fulfil several community purposes can provide benefits in the form of community 'hubs', allowing people and groups to use them for a variety of uses. This can have a positive impact in terms of social capital, engendering networking opportunities, knowledge sharing and the development of transferable skills which are of invaluable importance in a modern social and economic context.

Both Bargoed and Rhymney town centres have vacant units, and there is potential to diversify the range of uses within both towns, whilst ensuring that they expand on their roles as service centres with a viable and vibrant retail and commercial basis.

Housing

The strategy for the adopted LDP seeks to exploit appropriate development opportunities where they exist, with a view to creating a viable future for all communities in the Heads of the Valleys. It also seeks to accommodate new housing in villages where

Section 6: The Masterplan Framework

This section sets out the site specific projects and proposals that will collectively deliver the Vision and Objectives. Many of the projects are interrelated, and therefore implementation of some projects may be reliant on other proposals progressing sequentially or concurrently.

A – Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys

City Deal presents an opportunity for the A465 corridor to develop its economy in an integrated way, exploiting improvements in connectivity to bring about sectoral growth on the basis of existing strengths, and in a manner which is complementary to other parts of the region, through the development of modern business premises.

Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone comprises eight sites which are intended to deliver the objective of the Tech Valleys initiative – supporting the improvement of infrastructure links and development of 450,000 sq ft of new industrial/commercial floorspace, generating up to £20 million of private investment and potentially 1,000 permanent jobs.

The five ‘key’ sites within the Enterprise Zone (EZ) are as follows:

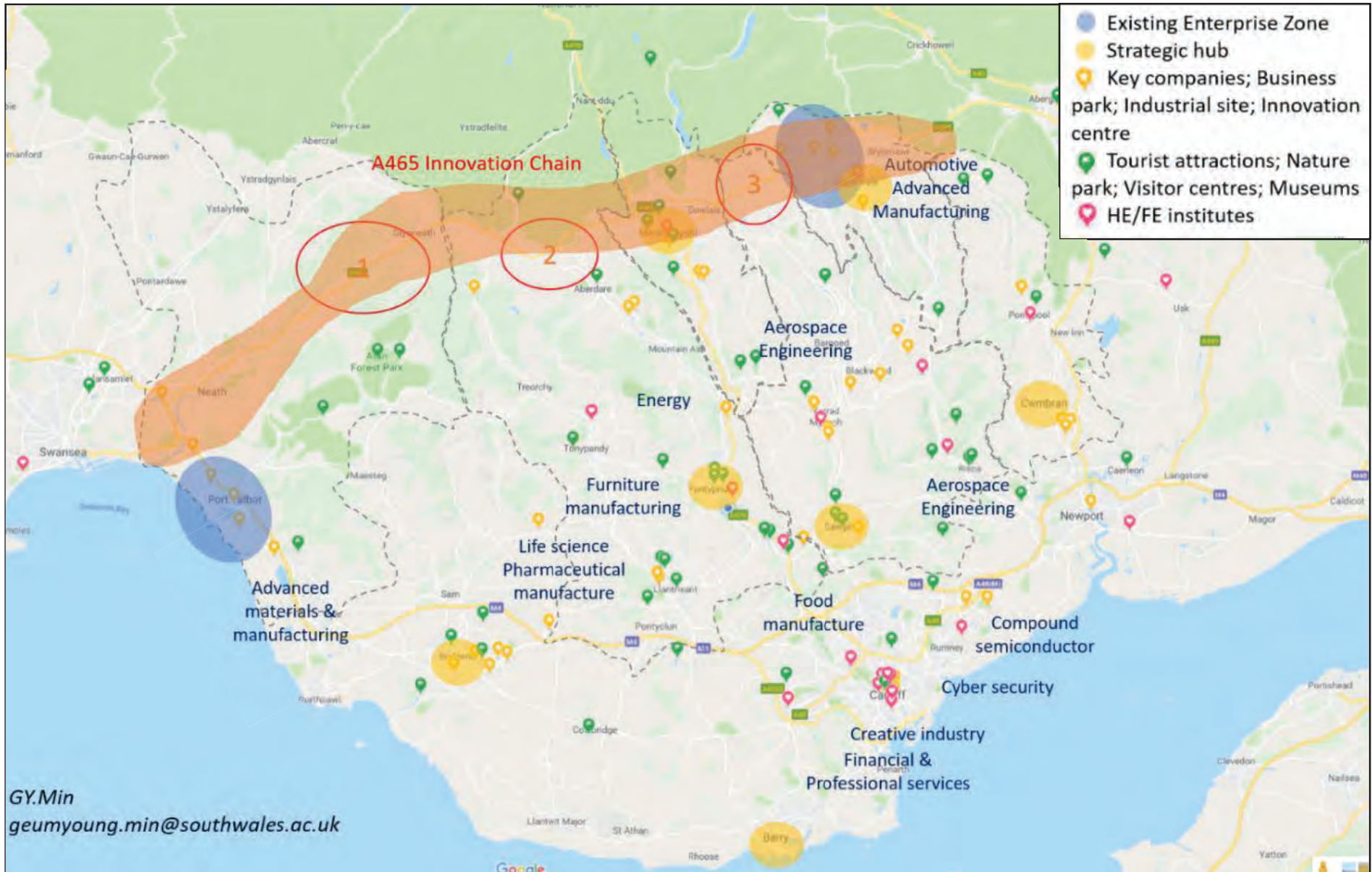
- Bryn Serth (20.2 ha);
- Rassau Industrial Estate (7.1 ha);
- Rhyd-y-Blew (29.2 ha) – development of a technology park at this location in lieu of the Circuit of Wales scheme, including a 50,000 sq ft advanced manufacturing unit;
- The Works (6.2 ha) – development of 22,000 sq ft of B1/B2 starter units;
- Tredegar Business Park (2.1 ha)

All of these sites benefit from close proximity to the A465, allocation within the Blaenau Gwent LDP for class B uses, a simplified planning regime via a local development order (LDO) and financial support from Finance Wales and the Welsh Business Rates Scheme. An opportunity exists to extend the EZ to incorporate employment sites in Rhymney to provide ancillary, complementary and service employment opportunities.

Establishment of an A465 Innovation Chain

Work undertaken by the University of South Wales for the Valleys Taskforce recommends the establishment of an ‘innovation chain’ to maximise the impact of the A465 dualling. The aim of this is to provide a series of strong innovation clusters in order to boost the regional economy and attract external investment. Three zones are identified, based on existing characteristics:

A465 Innovation Chain



- Zone 1 (Glynneath area, Neath Port Talbot): energy/environment cluster;
- Zone 2 (Hirwaun-Aberdare area, Rhondda Cynon Taf): IT/digital cluster;
- Zone 3 (Dowlais, Merthyr - Bute Town, Caerphilly): extension of Tech Valleys and Merthyr industrial sites.

The main focus of Zone 3 is to provide greater connectivity between the automotive presence in Ebbw Vale and those additional facilities that exist in Merthyr – some industrial as well as retail and leisure. The USW work envisages the addition of R&D facilities, support for business start-ups and conferencing and hospitality facilities for business and investors along this corridor. The Masterplan seeks to build on this approach by developing the role of Rhymney's existing employment sites, in order to complement the focus on automotive and advanced manufacturing within the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone.

Rhymney is situated between Ebbw Vale and Merthyr on the A465 and, although it has no designated role as set out within the VTF delivery plan, it possesses a 'critical mass' of existing employment land and premises which is a comparative strength in the HOVRA, which illustrated that Rhymney can compete with neighbouring areas to attract and retain business. The Rhymney employment cluster comprises the following sites:

- Heads of the Valleys (19.5 ha) – 5.2 ha of undeveloped land remains available for development;
- Capital Valley (14.8 ha) – 3.3 ha at the southern end is undeveloped;
- Maerdy Industrial Estate (12.5 ha);
- The Lawns Industrial Estate (7.3 ha) – there is planning consent to develop 15 new units on the residual land available.

This cluster of industrial estates is situated either side of the A469 north-south link road, in very close proximity to the A465, offering

excellent vehicular and freight access to Merthyr Tydfil to the west and the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone to the east. Rhymney Station provides excellent rail access through the County Borough to Cardiff, whilst there is the capability to transport freight from the Capital Valley railhead, which is unique in the Heads of the Valleys area.

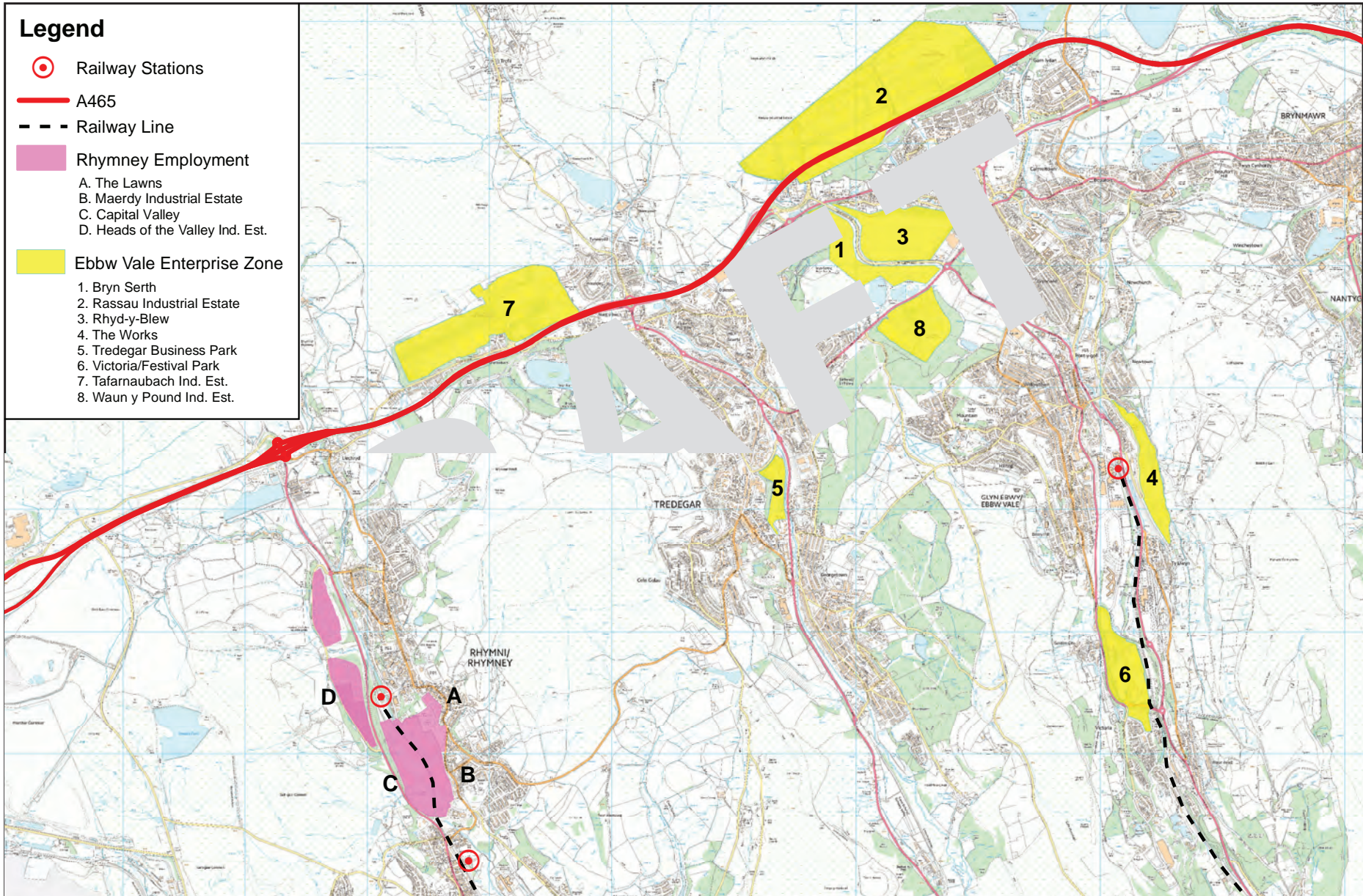
The following map identifies the EZ sites as well as the Rhymney cluster, and the key transport routes that exist in the local vicinity:

Given Rhymney's proximity to the EZ and the need for mutually complementary employment growth in order to deliver economic benefits to this part of the A465 corridor, it is proposed that the scope of the existing Ebbw Vale EZ be expanded to create a **Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone**, complementing the planned growth in the automotive sector at Ebbw Vale and the retail/leisure offer at Merthyr (including the forthcoming Rhydydar West scheme).

Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone and Rhymney Employment Sites

Legend

-  Railway Stations
-  A465
-  Railway Line
-  Rhymney Employment
 - A. The Lawns
 - B. Maerdy Industrial Estate
 - C. Capital Valley
 - D. Heads of the Valley Ind. Est.
-  Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone
 - 1. Bryn Serth
 - 2. Rassau Industrial Estate
 - 3. Rhyd-y-Blew
 - 4. The Works
 - 5. Tredegar Business Park
 - 6. Victoria/Festival Park
 - 7. Tafarnaubach Ind. Est.
 - 8. Waun y Pound Ind. Est.



Collectively, these proposals will build on the benefits of the A465 dualling and the newly developed Metro hub at Rhymney Station.

In terms of the sectoral analysis undertaken in respect of existing sectors operating within the area, the Rhymney area does accommodate companies which are active in the area of healthcare more generally, be it manufacturing or supply. This part of the HOVRA, encompassing Rhymney and the broad cluster of related firms in Blaenau Gwent (including PCI Pharma at Tafarnaubach), therefore has the potential to build on this specialism, provided that a) a suitable workforce can be retained and expanded upon; and b) the customer base is sufficiently accessible.

An enlarged Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone may also present opportunities for the HOVRA more generally. Whilst the growth of the automotive sector has reportedly been slow, there are examples of firms operating within the sector and, should a critical mass be reached whereby the sector

exhibits clustering characteristics in the area (technical expertise and social capital locally inherent to that particular field), opportunities for expansion will arise, either in the form of additional automotive or other, complementary sectors. Whilst this process is heavily reliant on the development of technical expertise and skills, the Rhymney area does have sites that could accommodate such development in the form of Capital Valley (which requires redevelopment) and Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate (which has undeveloped land).

Work undertaken by JLL/Sutton Consulting on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region has presented findings in terms of take-up and demand for the different categories of employment premises and recommendations as to how these should be addressed spatially across the region. Those pertinent to the Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area are:

Traditional Small B1/B2/ B8 Industrial Units

Studies across the CCR have identified

very high occupancy rates for such units. It is recommended that the average site offered should be 1,500 – 2,000 sq ft. Focus on provision of these units should be on those parts of the CCR outside Cardiff and Newport where new private sector development of such floorspace is viable. Potential locations in Caerphilly County Borough include Caerphilly/Bedwas, mid Valleys locations (Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood) and Rhymney. Further development of such premises will benefit local enterprise, including – potentially – some elements of the foundational economy.

Large B2 Industrial and Manufacturing Units

There has been a steady take-up of floorspace across the CCR since the 2007-10 economic downturn and there is now a near historic low in terms of supply, particularly regarding modern floorspace. There is little speculative development but the flow of foreign direct investment remains slow but steady. Recommended locations for intervention

include the provision of large manufacturing units at Oakdale and Rhymney (1 x 50,000 sq ft and 1 x 25,000).

Metro Stations as Business Hubs

A pilot programme is suggested to explore the feasibility of converting stations into well-connected business hubs as part of a sustainable regeneration masterplan, with the local station at the centre. It is anticipated that Metro will generate sufficient commuter traffic to justify commercial development at key locations and, in time, facilitate investment beyond the immediate station environs. Public sector intervention will be required in the first instance to bring forward sites of sufficient quality and scale. Three pathfinder schemes are recommended as an exemplar (10,000 sq ft employment floorspace) with potential locations including Rhymney.

Other

With the growth in prominence of electric vehicles, the lack of charging infrastructure across the CCR is highlighted. With the

ongoing A465 dualling programme, there is potential to create an EV-friendly service station on the A465 which could also provide tourism and visitor services.

Rhymney is identified as being a location that would benefit from the development of small business start-up units, demand for which is strong a) across the region due to prevailing high occupancy rates; and b) locally due to a low proportion of suitable stock. Its location just outside the Ebbw Vale EZ, as well as good transport links provided by the A465 and A469 southbound would enhance its attractiveness as an area for developing complementary activities to those in the EZ with the provision of suitable premises. Other factors could also work in its favour, if public funding is utilised to develop the potential of these attributes:

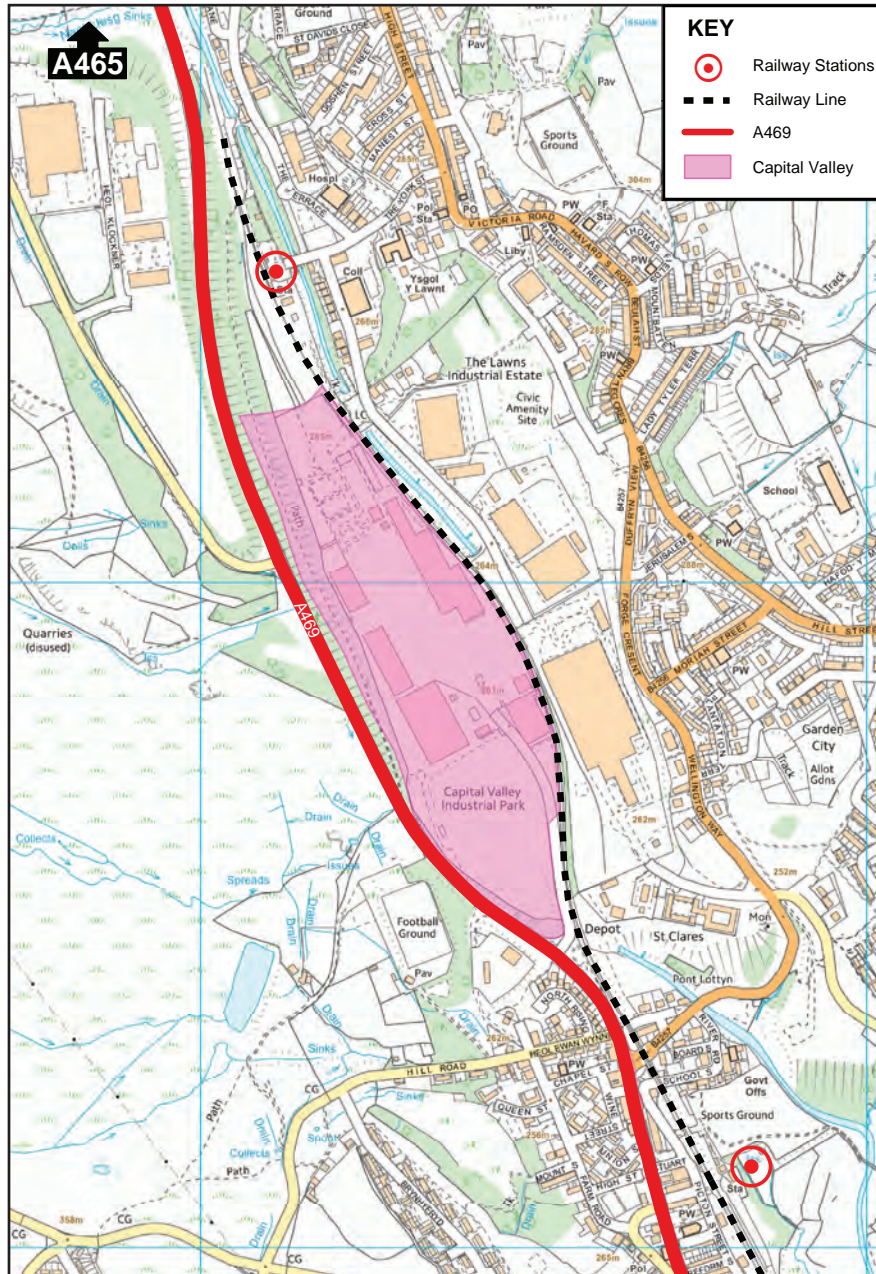
- Potential for increased economic integration with the rest of the region due to the increase in journey frequency at Rhymney Station and the potential role of the Station as an economic hub for the HOVRA;

- The existence of a railhead at Capital Valley gives the area freight transfer capability, which is unique in the wider EZ area;
- The collaborative aspect of the proximity of existing commercial/industrial uses elsewhere in Rhymney, particularly the adjacent Lawn and Maerdy Industrial Estates;
- Opportunities to encourage all industrial estate owners to re-brand their premises as a single business location, pooling resources and encouraging a partnership approach to development in this sector (possibly with those in the EZ);
- Rhymney does have an existing life sciences presence, and the provision of modern business stock could develop this further.

A - 1 Capital Valley

Capital Valley is an existing industrial estate, comprising older, low quality industrial and warehouse accommodation. Land in the south is in use for open storage while there

Capital Valley



are multiple derelict/demolished buildings in the north. Much of it is within TAN 15 flood zone C2.

There is concern that the existing stock is not fit for purpose in places, specifically that there is a shortage of smaller, modern units suitable for new business start-ups. Vacancy rates on Capital Valley as of 2018 were 52.6% in terms of numbers of units; 37.2% in terms of floorspace. Notwithstanding this, the existing businesses on the site employ circa 200 people.

Redevelopment of the site to tailor it (at least in part) to the needs of specific sectors, complemented by investment in the development of a range of particular skill sets, would allow such businesses to take advantage of an appropriately trained and upskilled workforce. Key areas that could be targeted are manufacturing (potentially advanced manufacturing in relation to automotive), processing, energy and institutional potentially involving mixed-use schemes including housing or commercial uses.

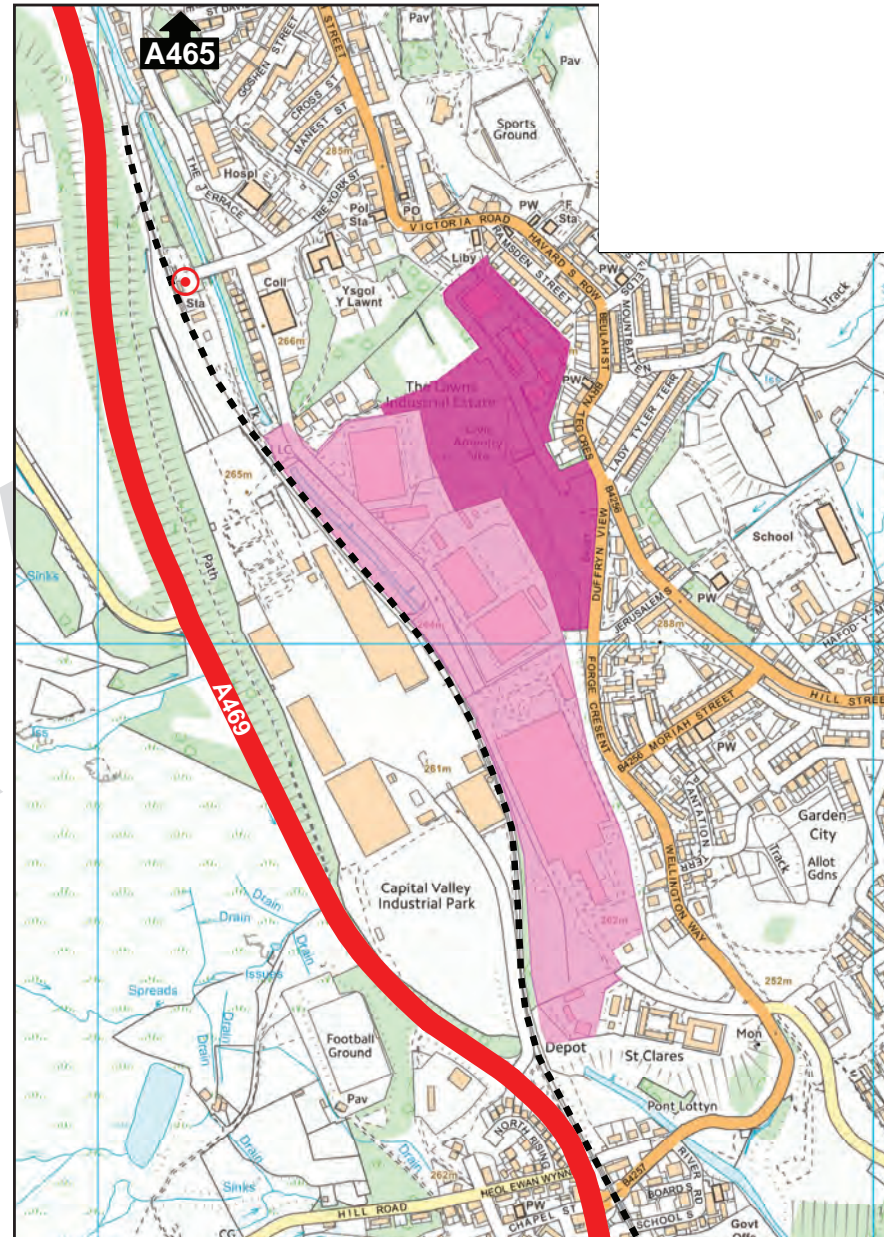
Development Principles

- Redevelopment of the site for small, start-up units, and larger B2 development;
- Potential mixed-use development including housing or commercial uses;
- Maximising the existence of a railhead;
- Integration with Rhymney Station and the town centre, especially due to increased journey frequency;
- Optimising the site's strategically advantageous position through a range of economic uses, including potentially targeting complementary uses to those forming the basis of the existing EZ/Tech Valleys.
- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

A - 2 The Lawns Industrial Estate

The Lawns Industrial Estate (lying immediately adjacent to The Maerdy

The Lawns and Maerdy Industrial Estates



The Lawns Industrial Estate



1:100



1:100



1:100

Industrial Estate) is centrally located in Rhymney on the north eastern side of the cluster of estates and is the smallest of the four. Existing units are of moderate quality, and the majority of them are used for storage, office space or other less industrial facilities/ use, also on site is a civic amenity centre. Access to the Lawns estate is only possible from the southern end via a link road off the B4257. There is a strong and ever increasing demand for expansion and enhancement of the estate for light industrial, high quality 'starter units'. As well as potential, additional opportunities for expansion of the estate in the future, the Council aims to bring into beneficial economic use a parcel of prime underutilised land (approx. 0.65Ha in size) adjacent to the existing estate to significantly expand the site's employment offer. This will result in the design and construction of new high quality light industrial factory units and associated infrastructure, to be delivered in 2020. The scheme will consist of the following key elements:

- New access highway infrastructure & parking areas;
- New single storey employment buildings (x3) – with internal units ranging in size between 50, 70 & 100 sq.m;
- Associated soft and hard landscaping features.

Development Principles

- Development of new start units to satisfy demand;
- Better integration of business space within the sites, enhanced legibility of access;
- Reduced commuting out of the area through increased provision of local jobs;
- Maximise opportunities brought about by Metro, due to proximity to Rhymney Station.

A - 3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate

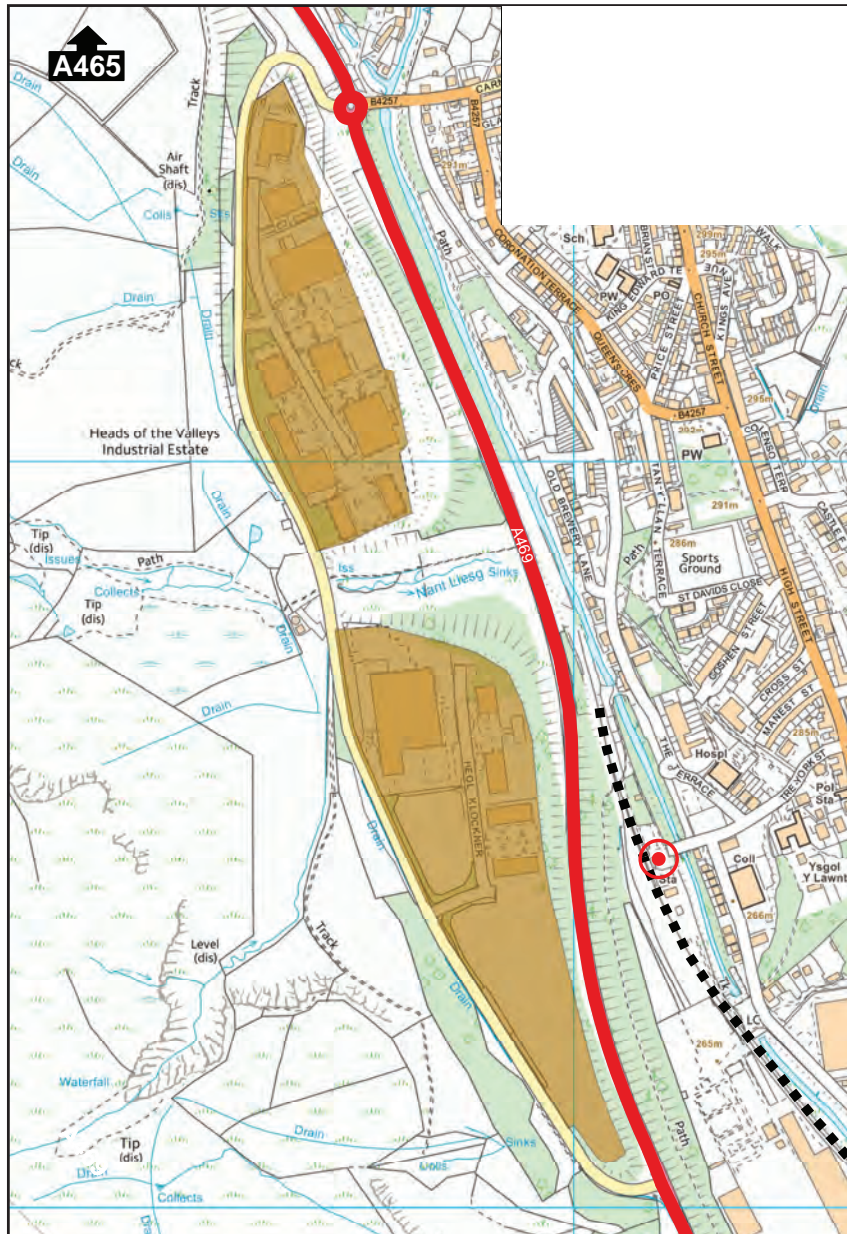
Located off the A469 and divided into two parts, the northern part of the estate together with a portion of the southern

part is protected for employment use in the LDP. The remainder is allocated for new employment development. The northern section comprises mid-sized industrial premises, the southern section comprises a row of smaller units, one large property and vacant land.

Sharp Clinical Services, part of UDG Healthcare plc, has recently invested £9m to fund a new multiple – phase pharmaceutical manufacturing, packaging and distribution facility at this location adding to the range of life science manufacturing facilities on the estate (Convatec Ltd is also located here) demonstrating the attractiveness of the area to multi-national life science companies.

The site's extremely good transport links in relation to the A465, as well as the availability of undeveloped land, enhance its status as a candidate for the location of life science facilities and for business conferencing provision to serve the wider A465 corridor.

Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate



Development Principles

- Good strategic location on the A469 and very close to the A465;
- Availability of undeveloped land;
- Build on collaborative aspect of the proximity of existing commercial/ industrial uses elsewhere in Rhymney, particularly Capital Valley and the Lawns and Maerdy Industrial Estates;
- Opportunity to develop role of existing sectors e.g. life sciences;
- Potential location for sub-regional business conferencing facility, to be developed as part of an overall improvement to the site's environment;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably

B - 1 Education, Training and Skills

In order to combat the economic deprivation that is present in much of the HOVRA and in conjunction with the physical proposals set out under Objective A, there is a need to ensure the provision of suitable education and training initiatives, programmes to reduce worklessness and the development of transferable skills.

This will provide several opportunities in relation to economic prosperity:

- To provide local people with the necessary skills required for employment, generally bringing about an increase in skill levels and improving people's access to good quality jobs;

- To foster a renewed spirit of confidence and entrepreneurship and increase the likelihood of higher levels of indigenous business formation and economic growth;
- To attract key employers, particularly those operating in higher value-added sectors, as part of an overall 'package' including modern, fit-for-purpose employment premises and good sub and inter-regional connectivity.

Having regard to the role of the HOVRA within the context of the wider Heads of the Valleys region, such an approach needs to be appropriately tailored to the economic aspirations set out by the Valleys Taskforce and the Tech Valleys initiative. In practice, this means the propagation of skills tailored to the area's key growth areas.

As outlined in *A Foundation for Success* and its supporting document *Delivering Prosperity*, there is a need for co-ordinated delivery between relevant organisations in order to ensure a comprehensive approach regarding the following:

- The provision of appropriate career support for children and adults;
- Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs and the training provided through the curriculum and by training providers;
- Ensuring that there are opportunities for upskilling among the current workforce;
- Improve links between educational institutions, including schools, and local businesses;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

As part of this, Valleys Taskforce is piloting a project across its area which seeks to connect social and economic challenges with crowdsourced entrepreneurial solutions, utilising a cloud-based, open innovation platform to establish links with local educational institutions. Essentially, the

project will connect local SMEs with a wealth of intelligence contained in Universities and Colleges to offer solutions to everyday business problems.

Specific actions in relation to education, training and skills are set out within *A Foundation for Success*. In addition, the Council is preparing a Skills, Training and Employment Strategy which will further develop ways of improving skills attainment.

B - 2 Foundational Economy

The foundational economy has been defined as the “social consumption of essential goods and services”. It includes things such as healthcare, education, food processing and retail, utilities and infrastructure. By its very nature, it exists where demand is localised and permanent and, therefore, the foundational economy exists across the whole of the HOVRA.

For this reason, this is a cross-cutting objective that covers the whole area,

rather than particular sites. Resilience can be improved through investing in firms and organisations within the foundational economy, and the Welsh Government Foundational Economy Challenge Fund will offer support to organisations and businesses to introduce innovative ways of working. The Council’s Business Support service can assist organisations who may wish to access this funding.

Business Support also has a role in terms of working with businesses to establish networks of collaboration, ensuring that local supply chains can be established where they don’t already exist, serving to keep money within the local economy. Related to this is the provision of suitable business stock – the delivery of modern start-up units on estates such as Capital Valley and The Lawns will assist in adding to existing premises in places such as New Tredegar and providing fit-for-purpose business space for local firms. The Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model will provide key relevant

training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants (specifically relating in work support and upskilling existing workforces).

Council procurement processes can also assist by investing in Heads of the Valleys organisations on locally specific contracts where possible. This will ensure that contracts are socially beneficial, ensuring that infrastructure projects deliver community benefit. This needs to be done in such a way that builds capacity in local businesses, offering long-term employment and training.

Education and training providers will be important in building the relevant skills required to enable organisations to maintain networks of collaboration, and in accessing Welsh Government funding opportunities. Integrated Well-Being Networks, which seek to connect the strengths and assets of communities, will also be relevant, and these will be discussed more fully under Objective H.

C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity

The HOVRA lies within the wider A465 corridor, which stretches from Neath in the west to Abergavenny in the east (in a Welsh context) before crossing into the Midlands, with settlements in the northern part of the area in particular operating within the sphere of influence of nearby centres such as Merthyr and Ebbw Vale. Notably it now takes the same time by road from Rhymney to travel to the Midlands or London as it does from Cardiff. However the A465 route has the added benefit of avoiding the congestion of the Brynglas Tunnels and the Severn Bridge making the HOVRA an attractive proposition for businesses to locate.

A465 Dualling

Dualling of the A465 Heads of the Valleys trunk road continues with Section 3 (Brynmaur to Tredegar) finished in 2015. Section 2, from Gilwern to Brynmaur, is now well underway although is more

technically challenging. Sections 5 and 6, from Dowlais Top to Hirwaun, will then follow and complete the project. Whilst the A465 provides opportunities in terms of increasing accessibility between settlements within the corridor, it risks concentrating development and its associated benefits in those that are regarded as being of strategic importance in a regional context i.e. Merthyr. The creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone will provide the basis for realising comprehensive economic benefits along the entirety of the A465 corridor, by matching investment in transport infrastructure with investment in the physical fabric of local economies and also in terms of the educational and skills requirements that are vital to support economic growth sectors.

The A469 resilience route remains a key aspiration in terms of improving connectivity between the northern and southern ends of the HOVRA, and improving resilience in terms of the area's highways infrastructure.

South Wales Metro

The South Wales Metro initiative will provide an opportunity to build on existing provision within the HOVRA:

- The creation of a multi-modal and integrated transport network, involving traditional rail, light rail and bus rapid transit (BRT);
- £77 million investment in a package of Phase 1 infrastructure improvements across the region;
- Phase 2, which will involve the major transformation of the existing rail network across the region, delivering faster and more frequent services (four trains per hour), new stations, enhanced integration and the introduction of a new and improved rolling stock. This will deliver increased accessibility, improving access to employment and other services and facilities across the wider region and especially to communities on the core valley lines north of Cardiff and, specifically, the Rhymney Valley Line.

In terms of timescales, the implementation of Phase 2 is anticipated up to 2023, with further phases (beyond the core valley lines) to follow.

Metro is intended to act as a catalyst for transforming the economic and social prospects of the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR). Increased connectivity will bring about the following:

- Direct economic benefits through easier access to employment across the region;
- Agglomerative benefits;
- Development and regeneration benefits on key corridors and around key stations;
- Environmental and sustainability benefits;
- Ensuring the community is fully engaged and has valued input into proposed works. The use of existing Community Regeneration hubs can be developed upon to ensure all elements of work are integrated alongside existing community benefit related contracts.

Locally, the Rhymney Valley Line operational enhancements to enable more frequent and faster services will be delivered through Phase 2. Potential bus rapid transit routes between Rhymney and Ebbw Vale, and Rhymney and Merthyr, are also options for the future.

A pilot programme is suggested to explore the feasibility of converting stations into well-connected business hubs as part of a sustainable regeneration masterplan, with the local station at the centre. It is anticipated that Metro will generate sufficient commuter traffic to justify commercial development at key locations and, in time, facilitate investment beyond the immediate station environs. Public sector intervention will be required in the first instance to bring forward sites of sufficient quality and scale. The Council will work with Welsh Government and Transport for Wales to pursue a pilot at Rhymney Station.

Electric Vehicles

The Council is currently exploring the

feasibility of providing electric vehicle charging points, following a commitment to increasing the use of electric vehicles and creating an all-electric public transport network. Funding has been obtained through the OLEV scheme for charging points in car parks near residential areas without off-street parking and a scheme is envisaged at Dyffryn Terrace, Eliot's Town, with the potential for additional locations to benefit including Pontlottyn Station and Parc Cwm Darran.

Digital Connectivity

Digital Connectivity is critical if the economy of the HOVRA is to improve. Welsh Government established the Superfast Cymru initiative in order to extend the coverage of superfast broadband to those areas across Wales not covered by commercial rollout. This programme concluded in 2016 and has had substantial success in rolling out superfast broadband provision across the country.

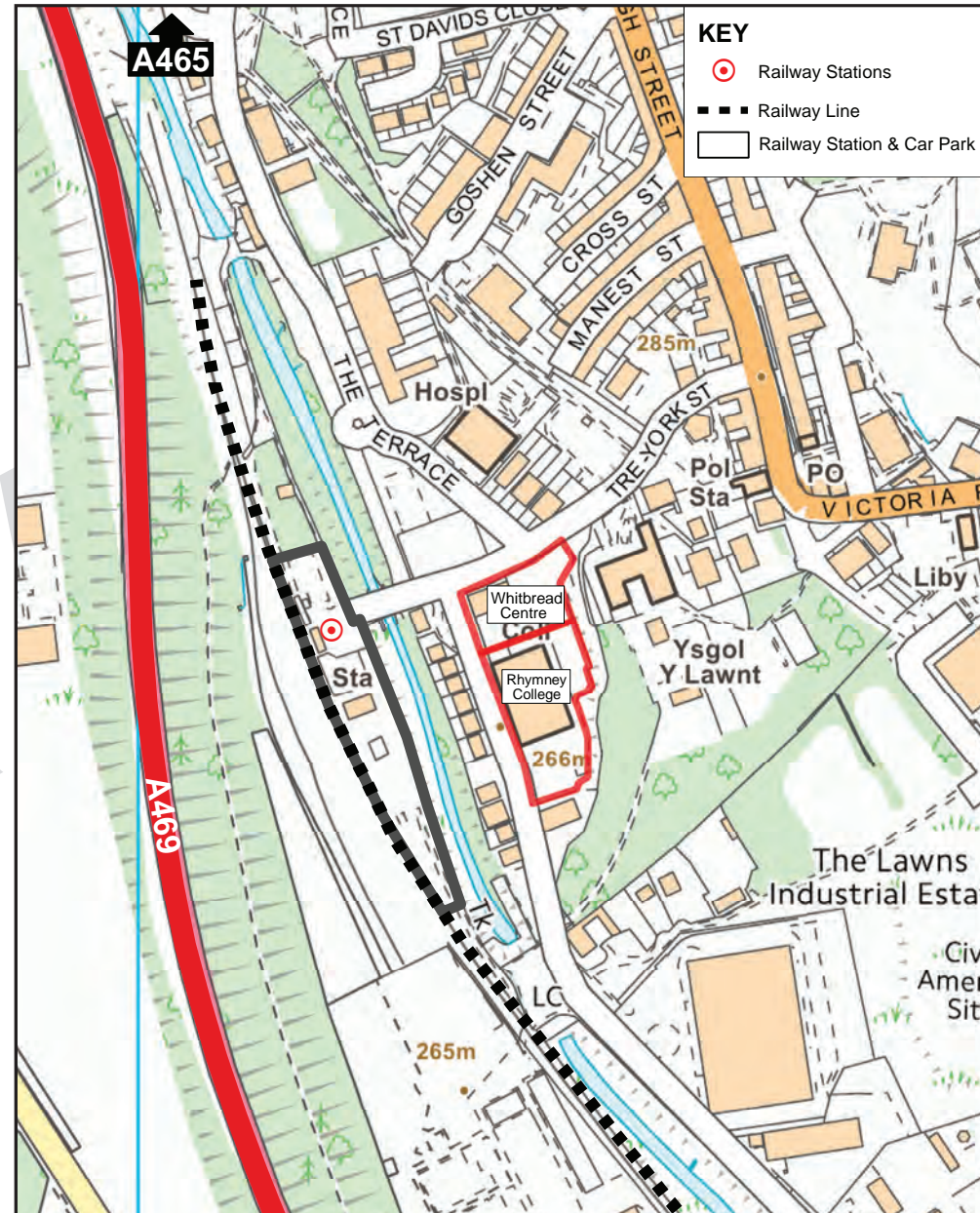
The quality and speed of such digital connectivity is of great importance for the

business community, in terms of being able to address new market opportunities, the scaling up of operations and impacting positively on profitability. However, the success that can be delivered through the provision of such infrastructure is dependent on take-up rates, and therefore businesses throughout the HOVRA will be encouraged to unlock their full potential through the use of digital technology.

Page 237 In some parts of the HOVRA, areas of poorer connectivity may persist, and therefore opportunities to address this should be pursued, both through:

- Extended provision of enhanced digital infrastructure, where necessary; and
- The linking of enhanced infrastructure to businesses and homes, through redevelopment and adaptation;
- Use of existing services such as Digital Fridays, local libraries and local outreach venues to improve digital literacy and

Land around Rhymney Station



provide access to broadband in deprived areas where people would not be able to access ICT provision;

- Link to the Gateway to Employment model to improve basic skills in the most deprived and isolated communities.

C - 1 Land around Rhymney Station

Within 100m of Rhymney Station lies the Whitbread Enterprise Centre and the former Rhymney College. There is potential for part of this land to be redeveloped as a multi-functional business hub, offering business units, live-work space and a commercial element including meeting facilities. In conjunction with the increased journey frequency brought about by Metro, this would allow the station and its immediate environs to maximise the economic advantage offered by increased connectivity to external markets, as well as to create a multi-purpose focal point in close proximity to Rhymney town centre and to additional, new business premises at The Lawns.

As part of the investments being made in Metro, the Council is working with Transport for Wales to secure station improvements at Rhymney Station. The improvements will include enhanced stabling facilities, platform extension and remodelling, additional parking, a new toilet block and waiting rooms, cycle racks and ticketing and wifi upgrades.

Development Principles

- Economically advantageous due to proximity to rail station, as well as existing firms located on nearby industrial estates;
- Optimisation of vacant/underused land;
- Provision of start-up/incubator units suitable for firms requiring access to transport infrastructure;
- Development of multi-functional element;
- Further enhancements to Rhymney Station as part of Metro;
- Increase in journey frequency.

C - 2 Other Stations (Bargoed, Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Tirphil)

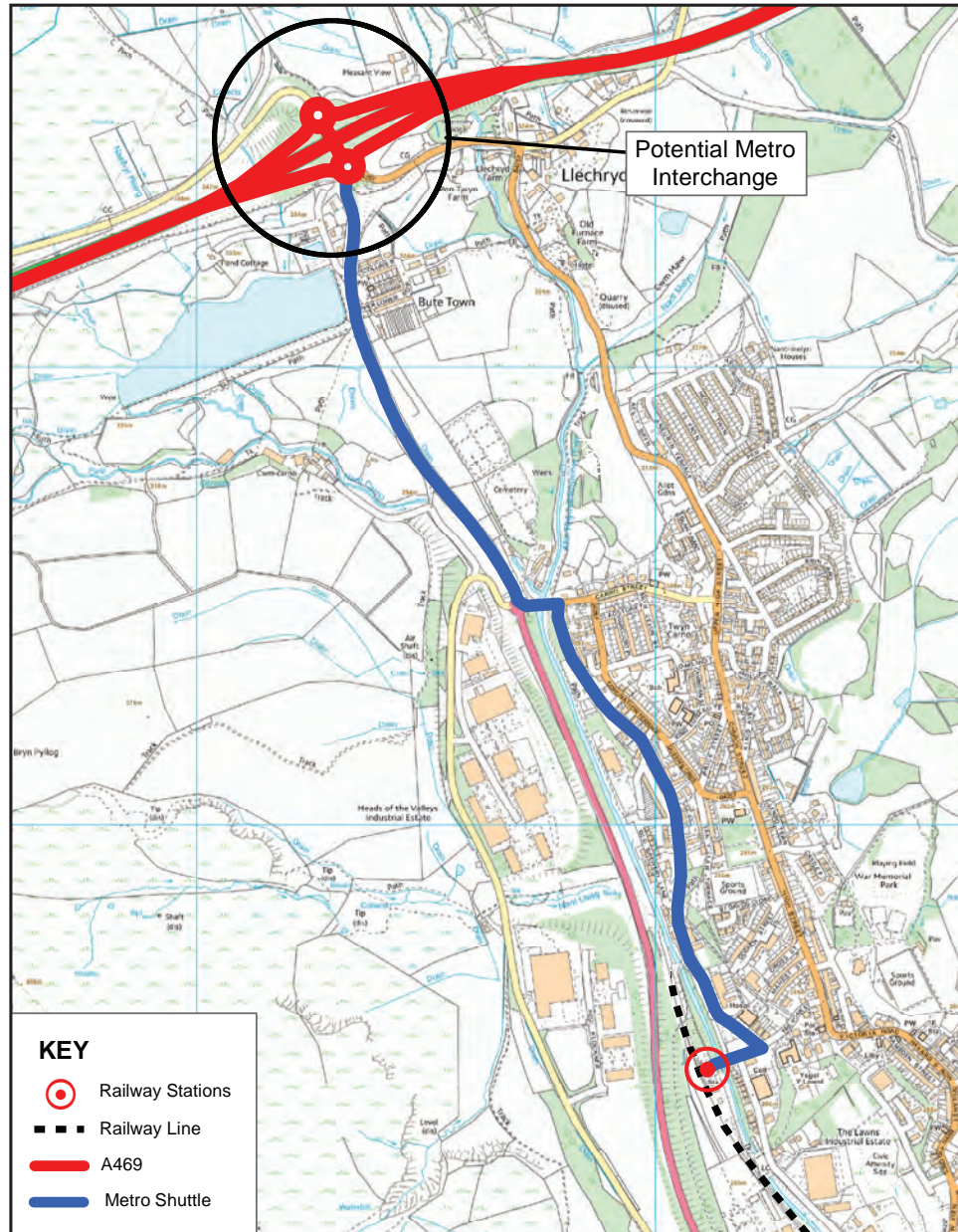
General improvements are planned by Transport for Wales under the Metro proposals for Bargoed Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil Stations, including level boarding, lighting and cycle racks, ticketing and wifi. There is also an aspiration for additional parking at Bargoed Station, which will be covered further on.

The possibility of installing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure at Pontlottyn Station is also being considered under the OLEV grant scheme.

C - 3 A465/A469 Transport Hub

There is the potential to explore the development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469, linking the major east-west and north-south routes in this part of the Heads of the Valleys corridor. This scheme would be likely to come forward under a later phase of investment (post Phase 2 of Metro) under Metro Plus, and financed through City Deal.

A465/A469 Transport Hub



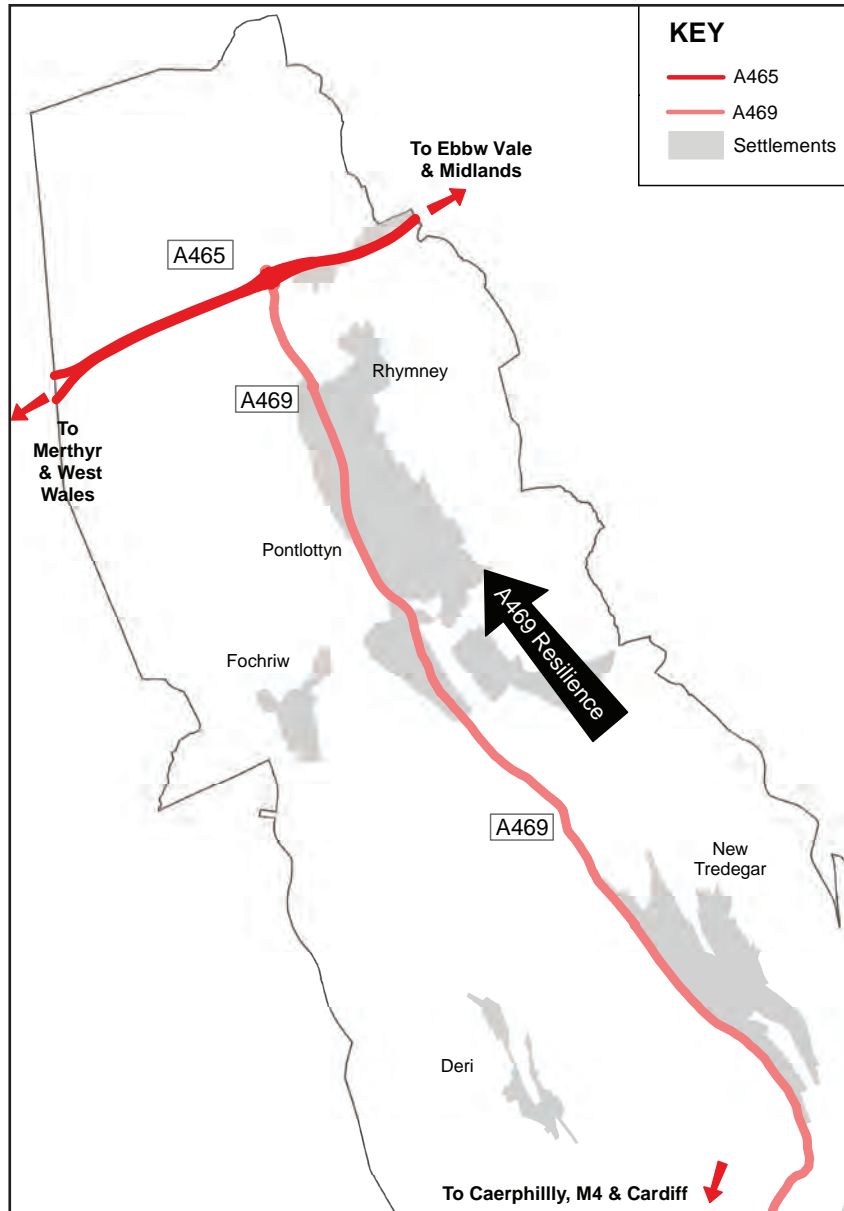
Development Principles

- Provision of park and ride between the A465 and Rhymney Station;
- Development of links with planned and existing active travel routes (C - 7);
- Close to tourism and leisure amenities – Bute Town heritage offer, Bute Town Reservoir, Parc Bryn Bach;
- Creation of sustainable transport links between the A465 and new employment provision at the proposed Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone.

C - 4 A469 Resilience Route

Whilst Metro and the increasing role of public transport is of key importance to the sustainable development of the HOVRA, the integration of different modes is of key importance in terms of ensuring that communities are well-connected. The closure of the A469 between New Tredegar and Rhymney, due to a landslip in February 2014, has demonstrated the importance of this

A469 Resilience Route



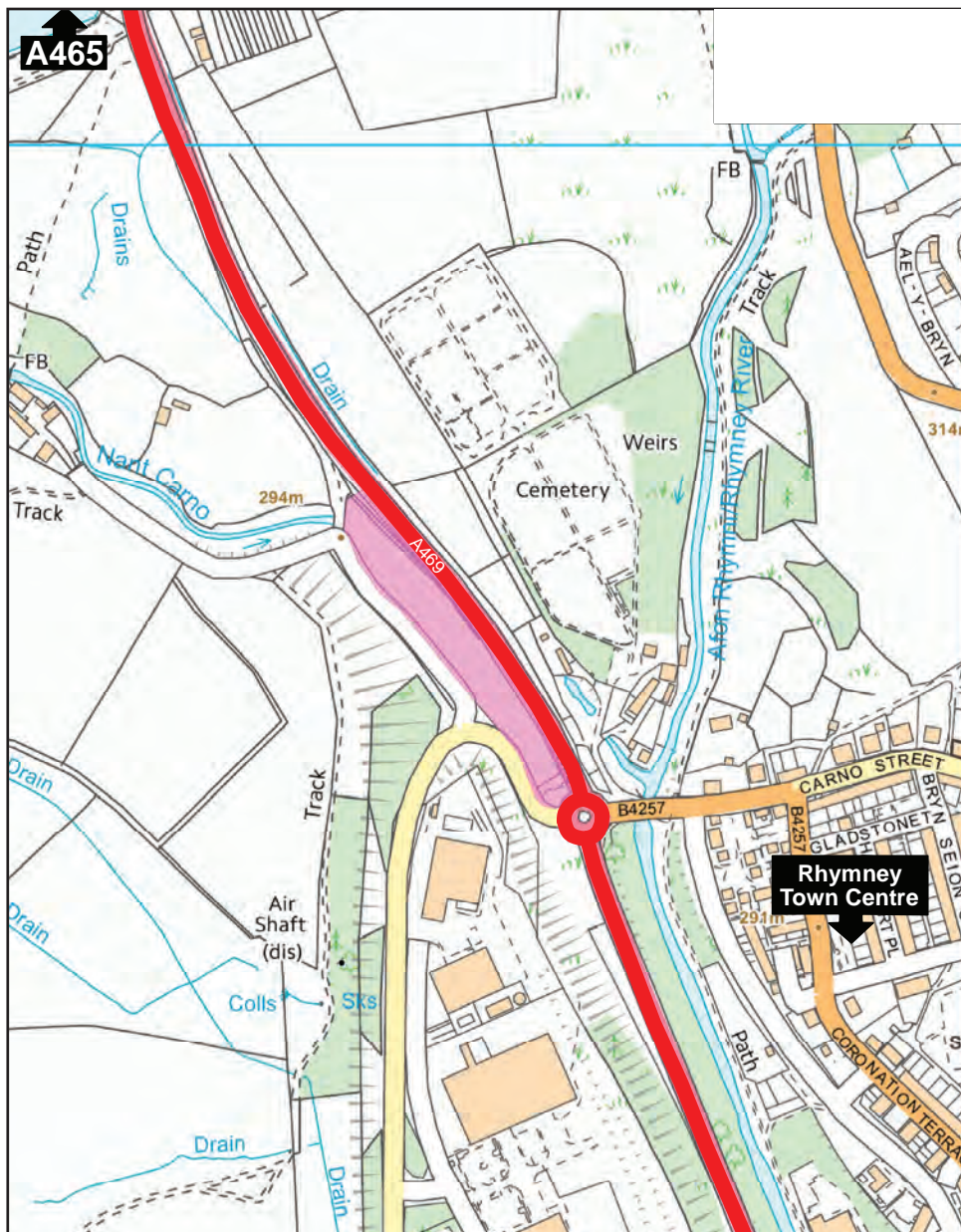
route to the accessibility of the Masterplan area. Investment is required to ensure greater resilience for the route to maintain accessibility to this part of the county borough. Greater levels of connectivity is essential to the development of sustainable communities and increasing the area's attractiveness as a business and visitor destination.

Feasibility work has previously been undertaken regarding the development of a new highway route between New Tredegar and Abertyswg, and currently ground investigations are underway at the existing route. An assessment can then inform the best option to secure the route for the future. Once all avenues and cost benefits have been examined funding options will be explored.

C - 5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney

The site forms a vacant strip of land to the north of Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate, which formerly accommodated the Ron Skinner car dealership. The site

Former Skinner's Site



is approximately 0.8ha and is situated immediately adjacent to the A469 and in very close proximity (within 1 km) to the A465, although lies wholly within a C2 flood risk area.

The site's location, ideally situated along major transport arteries, provides an opportunity to tackle two issues:

- The need for a service location on this stretch of the A465, in order to act as an 'attractor' to traffic passing between Merthyr and Blaenau Gwent;
- The shortage of electric vehicle charging points in this part of the County Borough and along this stretch of the A465 – there are none between Merthyr and Brynmawr.

Development Principles

- The site has flood risk and, due to previous uses, potential contamination issues which need to be addressed;
- Highly accessible, cleared, developable brownfield site;
- Opportunity to realise some form of

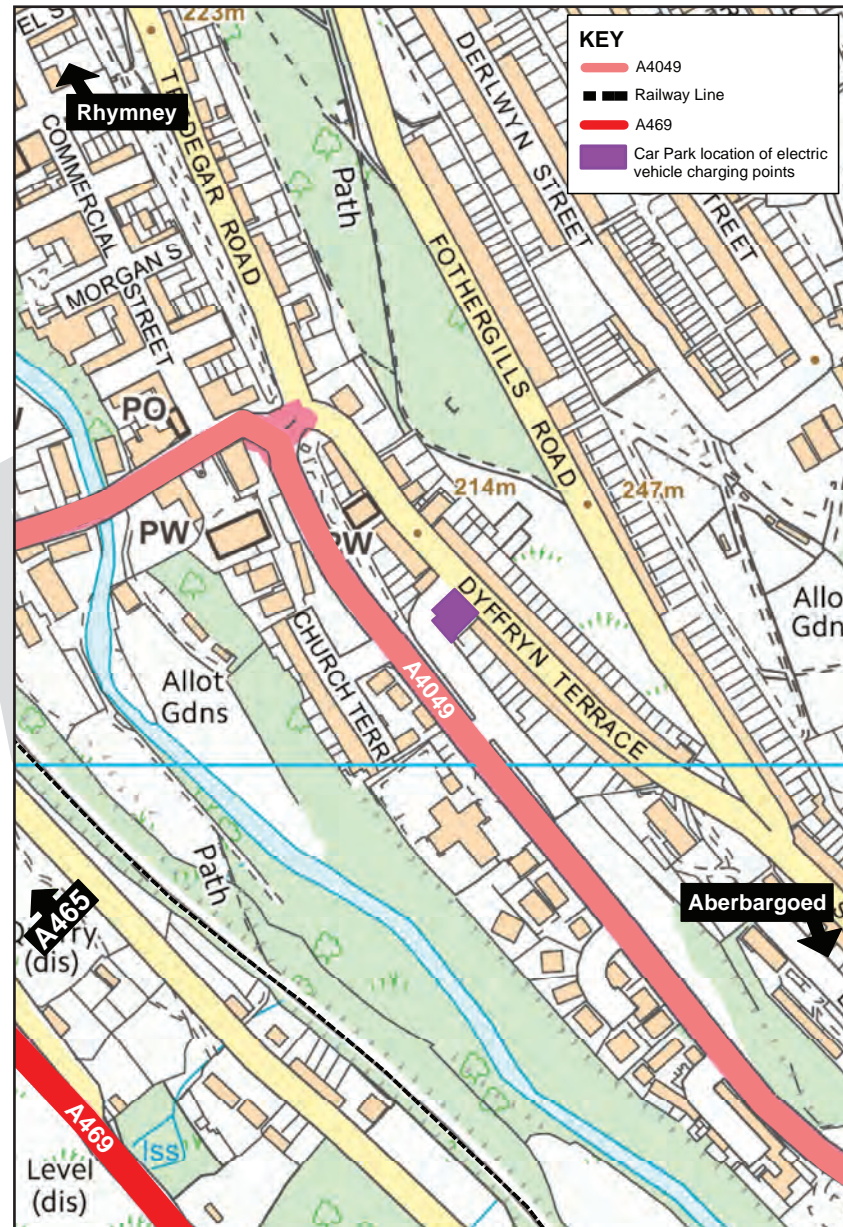
commercial/service-related development just off the A465;

- Development at this location would act as an 'attractor' to the area, increasing levels of consumer spending;
- Very close to Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate – development of a regional business conferencing facility at this location could enhance the economic attraction of such a development;
- Integration with the Community Regeneration-led Gateway to Employment model, providing key relevant training opportunities for existing workforces and unemployed participants.

C - 6 Dyffryn Terrace, Elliotts Town

Funding has been obtained under the OLEV grant scheme for the installation of electric vehicle charging points at Dyffryn Terrace, Elliotts Town. This will enable the provision of two charging posts serving four parking bays for residents without off-street parking.

Dyffryn Terrace, Elliotts Town



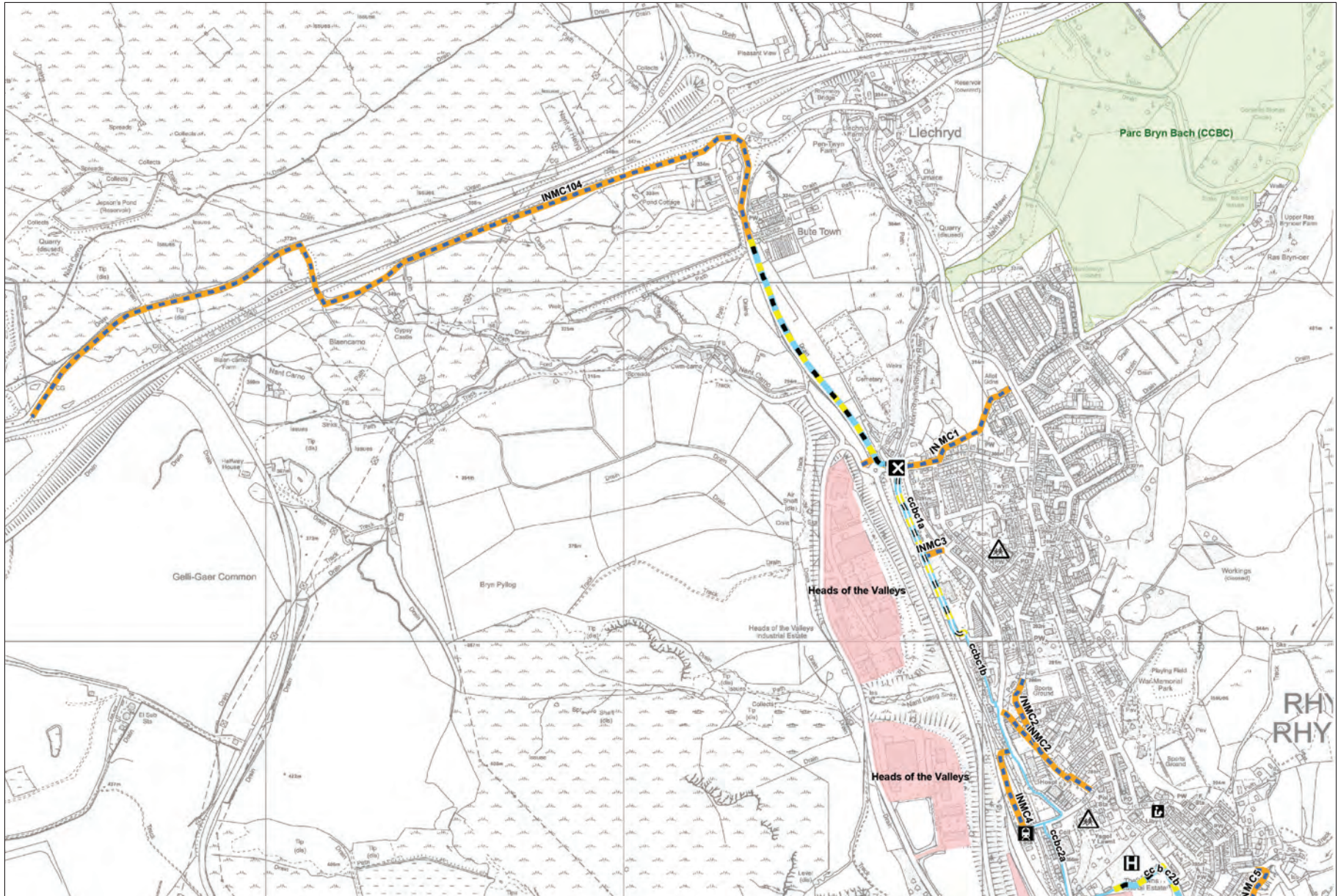
C - 7 Active Travel Routes

Active travel covers walking and cycling routes for everyday journeys, including to school, to work, to shops and to access services, such as health or leisure centres. Active travel routes are important for promoting healthier lifestyles and for increasing connectivity and accessibility.

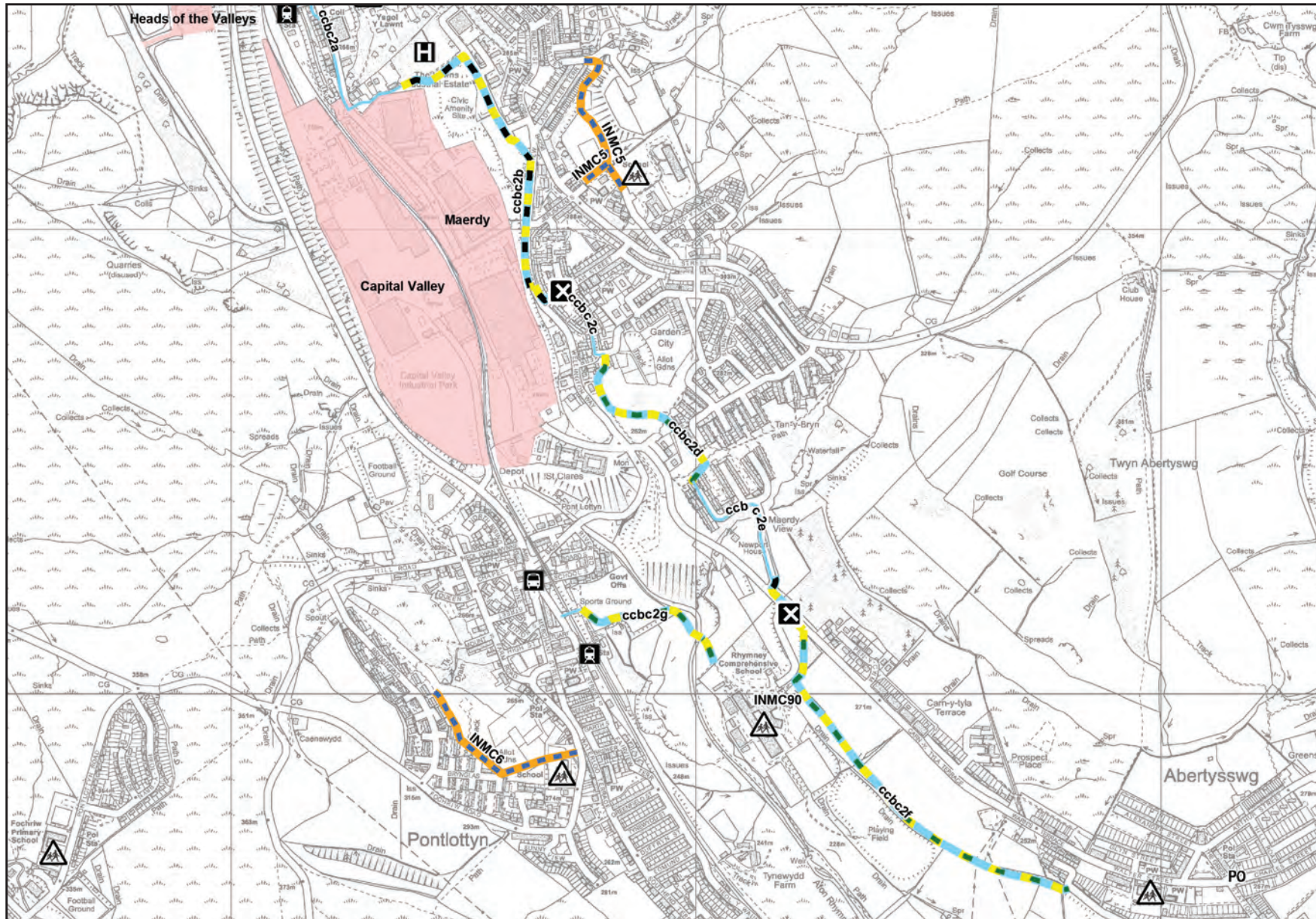
The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 specifies designated locations for provision of active travel routes. Whilst not all locations within the Masterplan Area fall within such designation, a number of schemes have been identified in the Masterplan area based on the Existing Routes Map (approved by Welsh Government in 2018) and the Integrated Network Map, which sets out the Council's proposals for the next 15 years. These are schemes incorporate a combination of cycle routes and footpaths as well as shared routes and are set out below:

Community	Description	Status	Type of Use
Rhymney	New link from Ty Coch to existing route and the Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	New	Shared use
Rhymney	New link from existing route to the primary school, town centre and leisure facilities	New	Shared use
Rhymney	New link from existing route to Twyn Carno residential area	New	Shared use
Rhymney	Alternative traffic free link from existing route direct to Rhymney Station	New	Shared use
Rhymney	Improvements to an existing link from Brynawel Primary School via recreational area to Mount Batten	Upgrade	Shared use
Pontlottyn	New traffic free link from Brynhyfyrd housing estate to Pontlottyn village centre via school site	New/upgrade	Shared use
New Tredegar	Improved shared use link from White Rose Primary School to Phillipstown via School Street	New	Shared use
Aberbargoed	New shared use traffic free link from Aberbargoed to Bargoed Station. Links to existing Active Travel route	New	Shared use
Gilfach	New link from Gilfach Fargod/Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargod to leisure facilities	New	Shared use

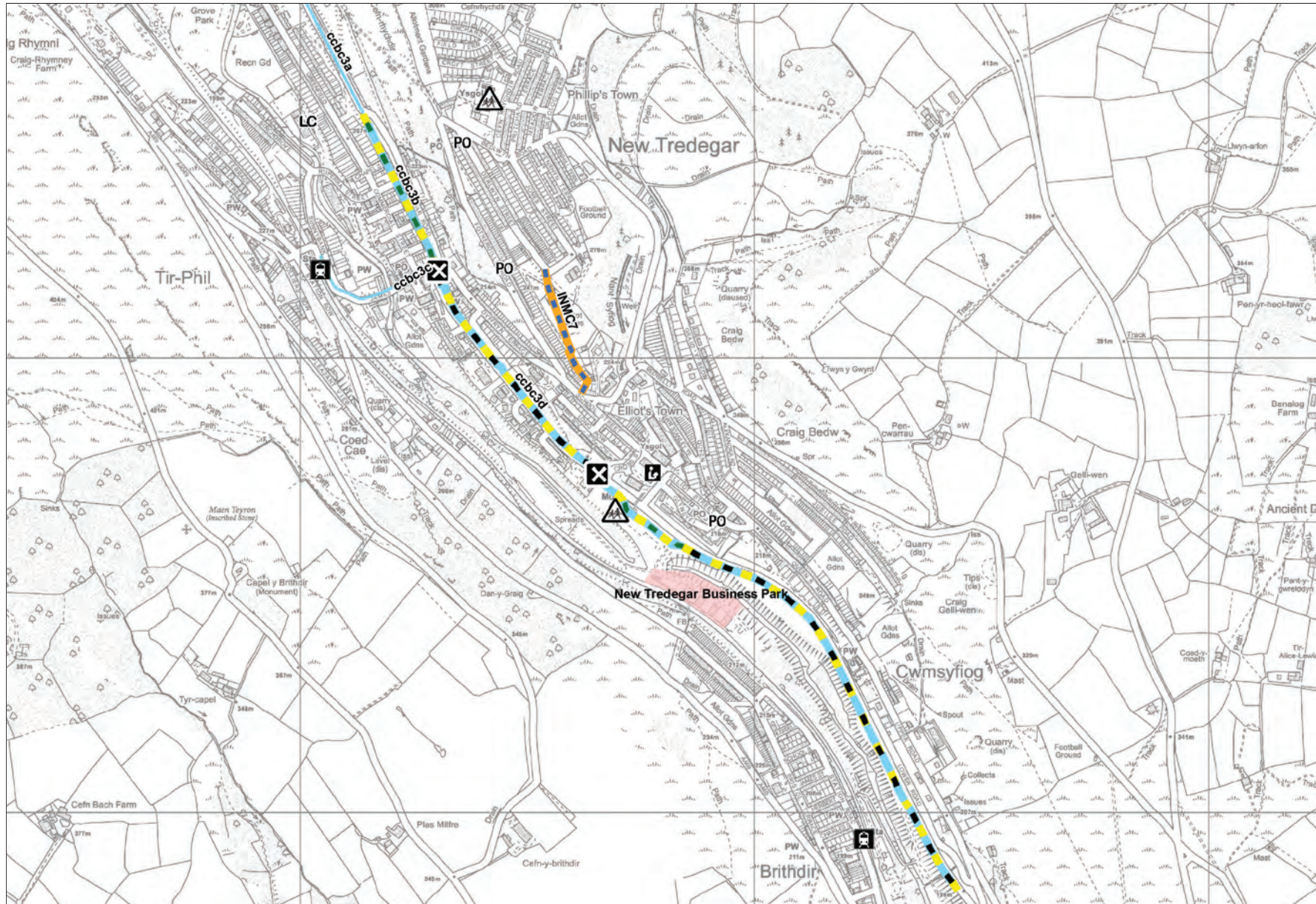
Rhymney Active Travel Routes



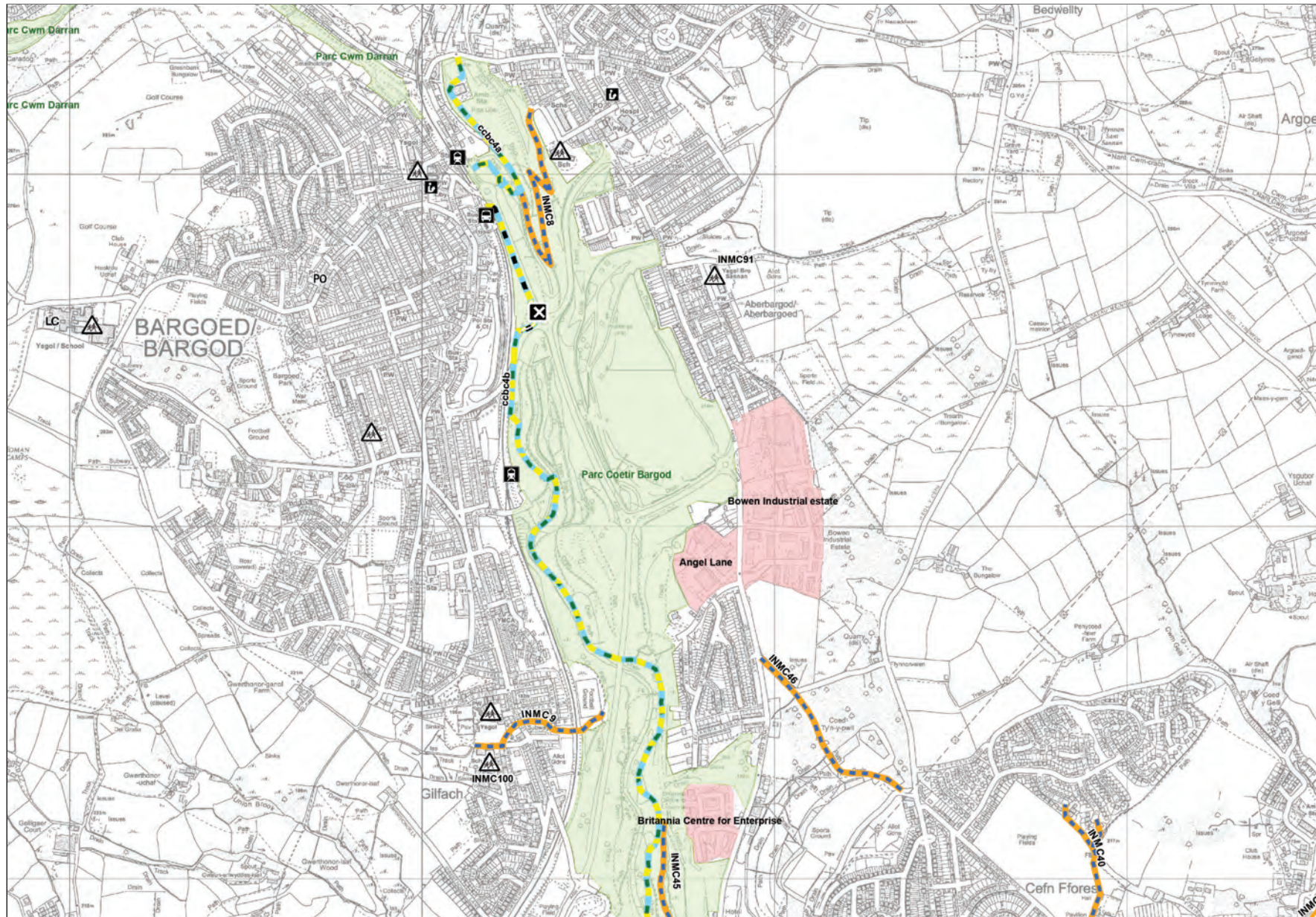
Rhymney & Abertysswg



New Tredegar



Bargoed



D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough

Bargoed serves as the principal town for the north of the County Borough and therefore has a role as its main retail, commercial and service location. In recent years, there have been positive developments in Bargoed town centre with the completion of Angel Way which has improved accessibility, the development of Morrison's and Lowry Plaza and the relocation of Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre into the former Hanbury Chapel. However, challenges remain in the form of high vacancy rates (22.9% in 2018), particularly at the northern end of the town centre close to the bus and rail stations.

The close proximity of the stations, coupled with the planned network improvements as part of the Metro proposals, provides an opportunity for Bargoed to diversify its role and increase other uses (service provision, offices, residential) in addition to consolidating its retail offer. There remains a

need for further commercial development on the remainder of the retail plateau, and the creation of a 'business quarter' at the northern end of the town centre involving redevelopment of the vacant retail units maximising the proximity to the bus/rail/road network."

D - 1 Land at Bargoed Station

An aspiration exists through the Metro initiative to expand car parking provision at Bargoed, in line with the planned increases in journey frequency, although land has not yet been specifically identified. As part of this, there is the potential for provision of EV charging infrastructure, in line with the Council's commitment to creating an all-electric public transport network. General station improvements, including a new toilet block, are also planned by Transport for Wales.

Development Principles

- Increasing the capability of Bargoed to serve as a park and ride location, enhancing the facility's sustainability;

- Site's location adjacent to the bus station strengthens its potential as a multi-modal interchange;
- Greater utilisation of the station could increase footfall in the town centre;
- Optimisation of the role of the northern end of the town centre through the 'business quarter' concept (D-2).

D - 2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street

The area of the town centre in question consists of a number of largely vacant retail units, the Emporium building, the Council's Ty Bargoed office and the associated car park.

Metro has the potential to expand Bargoed's sphere of influence within a regional context. The rail and bus stations are situated at the northern end of the town centre and can therefore act as a linkage with this area. The integration of these elements provides an opportunity for redevelopment of this part of the town centre and the attraction of additional, non-retail uses such as service

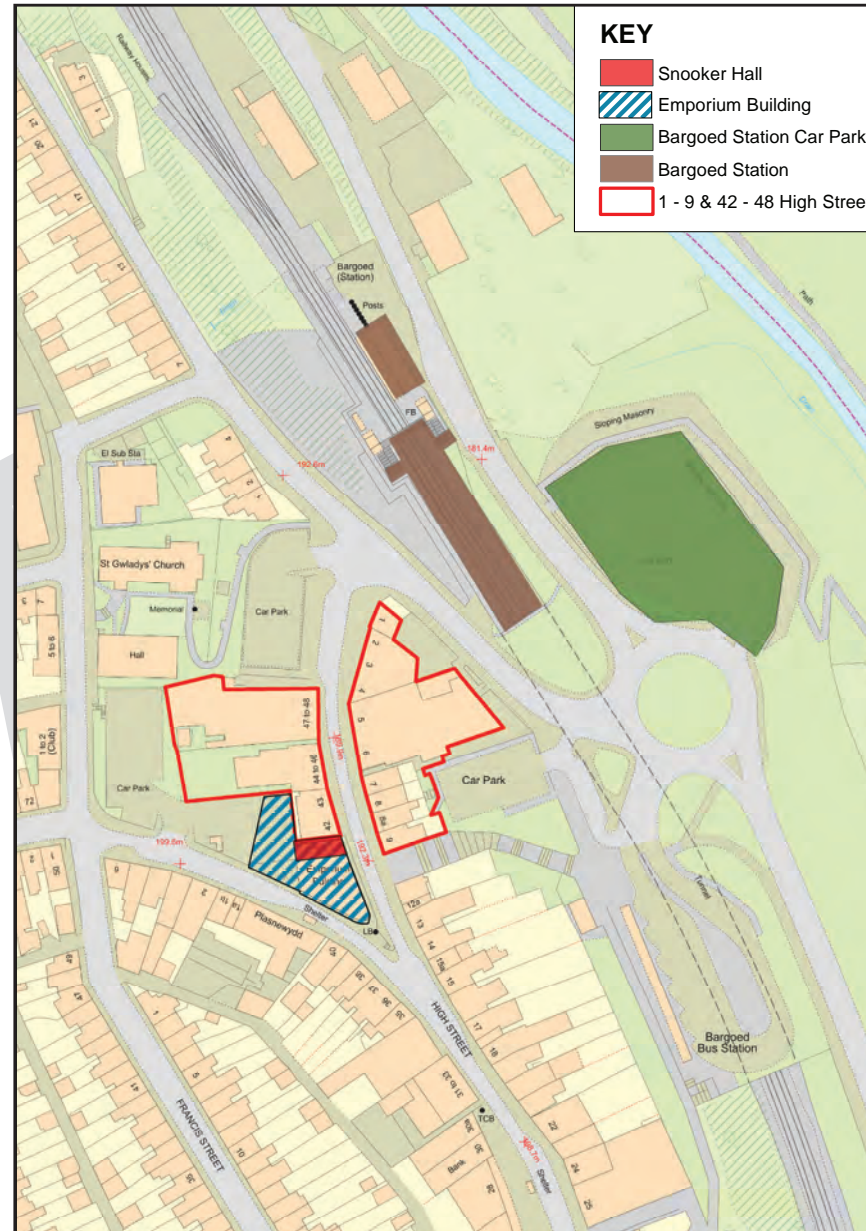
provision of offices, possibly incorporating housing as mixed-use development, diversifying the town centre's role and increasing the viability of existing retail and service uses. However, in order to achieve this, facilities such as the station need to be presented in a positive light in terms of their appearance, functionality and the links that exist with the area in its immediate vicinity, including the northern end of the town centre.

The distinctive quality of the Emporium building should be maximised as a focal point within the town, possibly as a location for independent retail, building on an increase in footfall brought about by the redevelopment of the northern part of the town centre.

Development Principles

- Redevelopment of vacant premises for services/offices/residential;
- Opportunity for redevelopment in close proximity to station, to take advantage of Metro links;

Business Quarter and Bargoed Station



- Emporium building as a potential location for independent/artisan retail;
- Addition of uses that complement existing ones e.g. offices, thereby consolidating the viability of existing retail and service uses and increasing footfall.

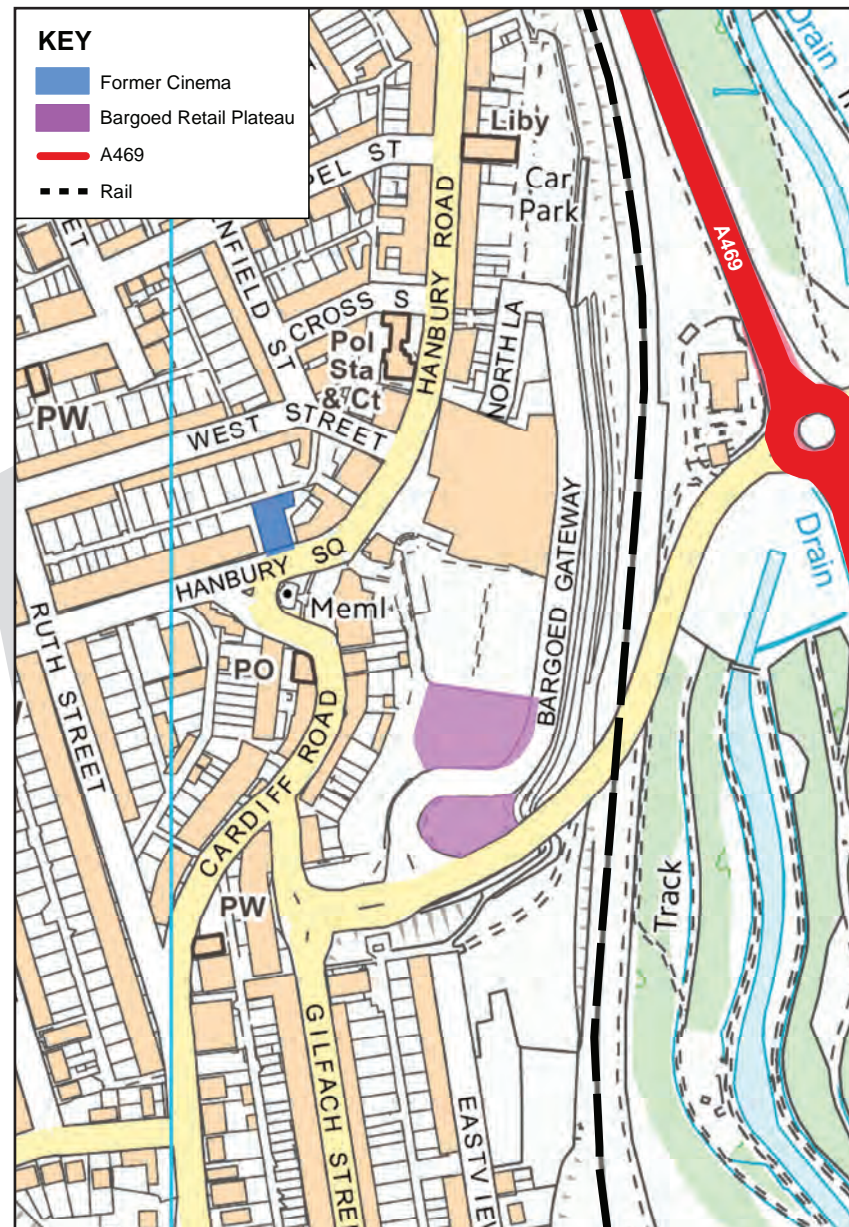
D - 3 Bargoed Retail Plateau

The development of Bargoed Retail Plateau has helped to transform the southern end of the town centre, with the development of a new Morrison's supermarket, Lowry Plaza and public realm improvements. However, land remains at the southern end of the plateau which is ideally situated for additional commercial development, given its proximity to Angel Way. Permission was granted in 2019 for a family/pub restaurant, indicating market interest.

Development Principles

- Development for commercial use, complementing existing retail uses at Lowry Plaza and Hanbury Road/High St;

Bargoed Retail Plateau and Former Cinema, Hanbury Square



- Good access to town centre and Angel Way;
- Diversification of the town centre offer through additional commercial use e.g. pub/restaurant;
- Potential for increased footfall, benefiting existing uses.

D - 4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Sq.

The site comprises the former cinema on Hanbury Square, which is presently vacant and allocated for commercial development in the adopted LDP. Planning permission had been granted for office development in 2007. The site lies in close proximity to the new development at Lowry Plaza and Bargoed Retail Plateau. It is anticipated that development of the remainder of the retail plateau for commercial use will increase footfall at this end of the town centre and heighten developer interest. Consequently, there is an opportunity to redevelop the cinema for an alternative use, including mixed-use or residential.

Development Principles

- Reutilisation of existing stock;
- Opportunity to bring cinema back into a beneficial, town centre use;
- Potential for increased developer interest and diversification of town centre uses.

E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism

The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative seeks to establish a model for the management of a network of country parks, other natural assets, heritage sites and attractions across the Valleys, linking with towns and villages. It seeks to do this through three interlinked delivery themes:

- Conserve and enhance the area's distinctive landscape qualities;
- Promote well-being through the enjoyment and understanding of its landscapes;

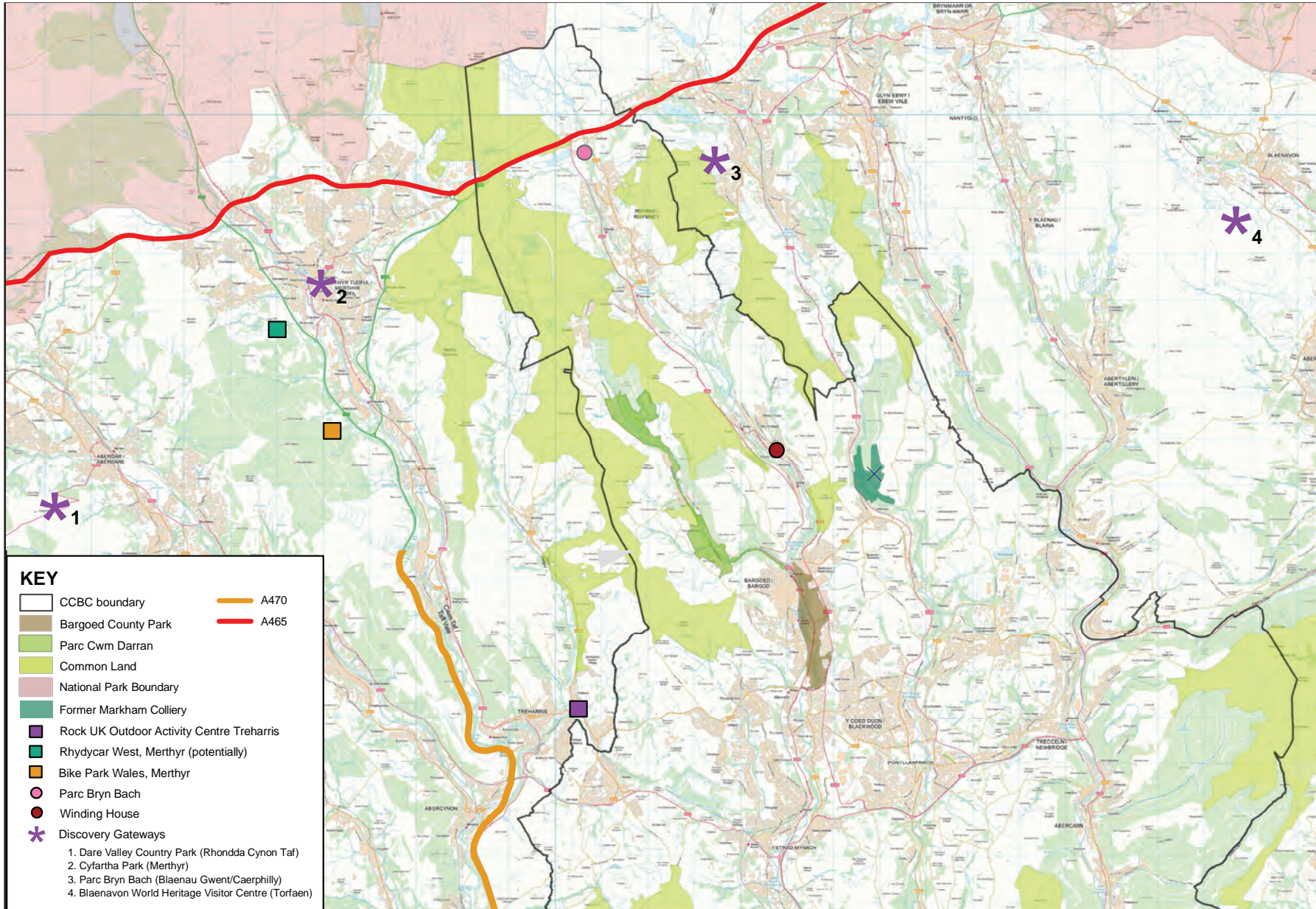
- Promote sustainable natural resource management and economic and community development that support its cultural heritage.

Welsh Government has identified four sites within the wider A465 corridor as VRP 'Discovery Gateways':

- Blaenavon World Heritage Visitor Centre (Torfaen);
- Dare Valley Country Park (Rhondda Cynon Taf);
- Cyfartha Park (Merthyr);
- Parc Bryn Bach (Blaenau Gwent Caerphilly).

Work is ongoing to assess the attributes of these sites with a view to putting in place development plans, which aim to provide consistently high quality facilities to act as a framework for the development of a network across the Valleys. In the HOVRA this will include opportunities for facilities that can complement the existing offer within the County Borough and further afield at:

Discovery Gateways, Country Parks and Existing Attractions



- Parc Cwm Darran;
- Parc Bryn Bach;
- Bute Town Conservation Area, Bute Town Reservoir;
- Winding House, New Tredegar;
- Markham Colliery;
- Parc Coetir Bargod;
- Common land.

Activity needs to focus on maximising visitor demand, as well as establishing networks between facilities, having regard for the Discovery Gateways in the area and the additional attractions that are interlinked. In the context of the wider A465 corridor, these include:

- Brecon Beacons National Park;
- Bike Park Wales, Merthyr;
- Rhydycar West, Merthyr (potentially);
- Zip World facility, Hirwaun (potentially);
- Rock UK outdoor activity centre, Treharris.

Accommodation

Accommodation is one aspect that, along with the wider themes of economic development and the growth of the tourism and visitor sectors, can contribute to economic growth in more general terms. The Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area is presently lacking in terms of good quality accommodation and this correlates with a need to increase the value of its local economy and to maximise its offer as a location for visitors with the attractions and facilities to match.

The increased connectivity brought about by Metro and the A465 dualling will be beneficial in terms of providing stronger links between visitor attractions, but also between the Heads of the Valleys, the remainder of the Cardiff Capital Region, and elsewhere. This can therefore aid the area in terms of marketing itself as a destination based on three aspects:

- Its natural environment, including the opportunities that this provides as an activity destination;
- Its social and cultural heritage;
- Its developing and strengthening economic base, which offers new business opportunities.

Experience from elsewhere demonstrates that the accommodation sector develops on the back of increased demand as a destination e.g. accommodation has been developed in Merthyr on the back of Bike Park Wales. In the HOVRA, the focus of this needs to be twofold, concentrating on accommodation provision for employment/business purposes as well as for leisure visitors.

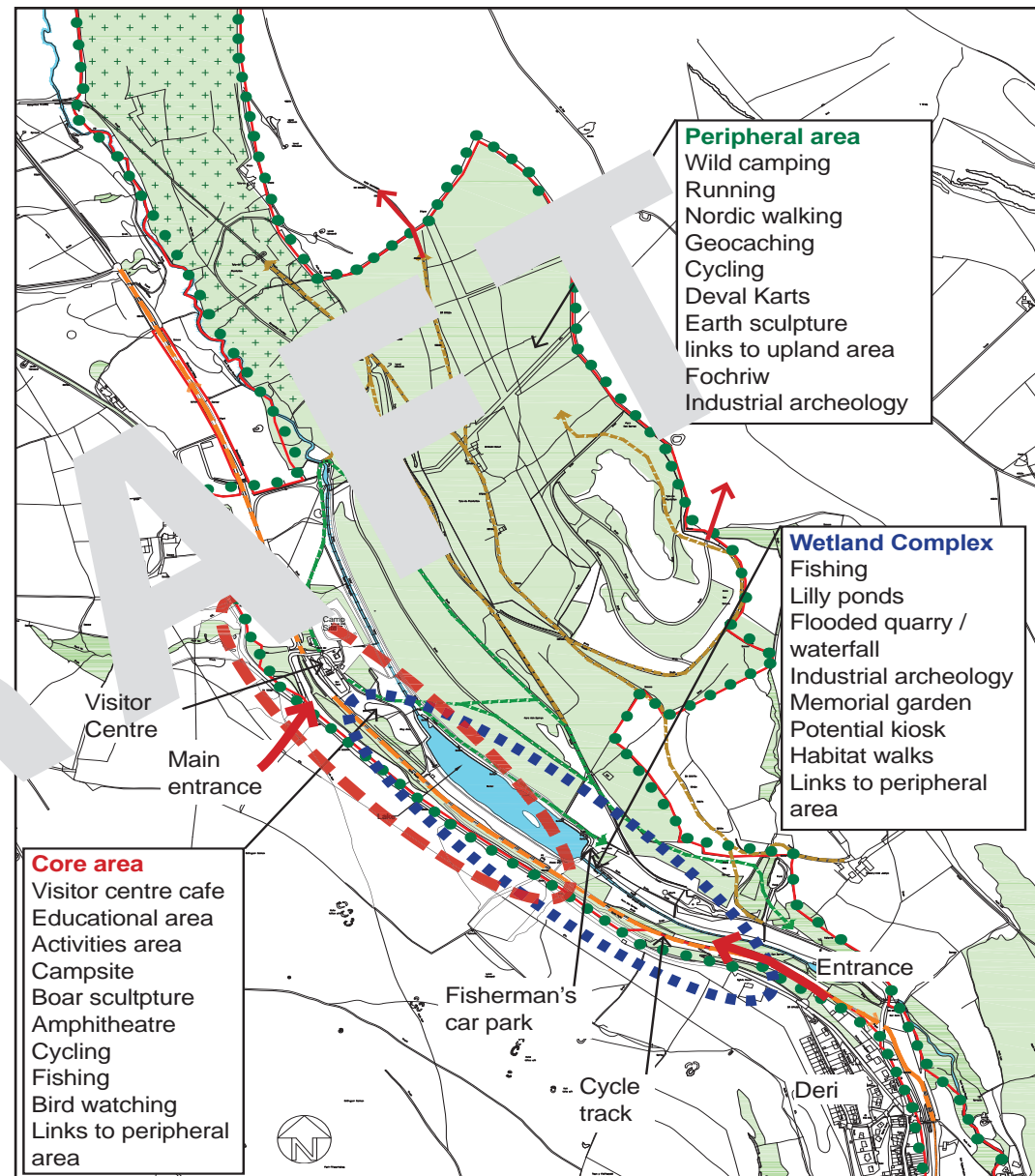
E - 1 Parc Cwm Darran

Parc Cwm Darran is one of the County Borough's five country parks and is situated two miles north of Bargoed. It offers the following facilities:

- Walking routes;
- Waymarked trails;
- Cycle route;
- Lake, including angling facilities;
- Picnic areas;
- Campsite;
- Visitor centre and café.

There are opportunities for Parc Cwm Darran to expand its role as a visitor attraction and community resource, within the remit of the Valleys Regional Park (VRP) initiative. It is already regarded as being a 'centre of excellence' for the provision of environmental training with the Probation Service, and this aspect of the park's role could be utilised to increase social capital within the community through the provision of training and education, and the development of community woodland projects in conjunction with the work being done by Community Regeneration.

Parc Cwm Darran Visioning



From a visitor perspective, there is an intention to optimise the use and offer of the park's facilities. A visioning exercise has been undertaken which seeks to create 'two parks in one' in order to make it a regionally attractive destination:

- Core area – shop, appropriately located micro businesses, more welcome information, extension of campsite with a wider range of accommodation, installation of electric vehicle charging points;
- Wetland area – centred around the southern car park, retention of fishing area and creation of additional ponds and wilder areas to add interest;
- Potential for use of NRW land within the park as a 'peripheral area', with development of wild camping and activities such as Nordic walking. The foundational economy could be assisted by supporting local contractors to access felling contracts, and ensure that wood is used by local firms

and organisations – social contracts could be utilised to secure possible placement opportunities, in this regard.

Work is also ongoing in relation to the reclamation of Fochriw Tips to the north of the park, which could help facilitate the extension of the cycle route and provide a link to the Brecon Beacons National Park, thereby opening the site up to a wider network.

Development Principles

- Extension of cycle route to provide better linkages;
- Maximising visitor facilities to a wider market;
- Development of an improved range of facilities, marketing the park to a wider audience;
- Development of social capital through education, training and working in partnership with the community;
- Increased visitor accommodation through expansion of the campsite.

E - 2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links

Parc Bryn Bach

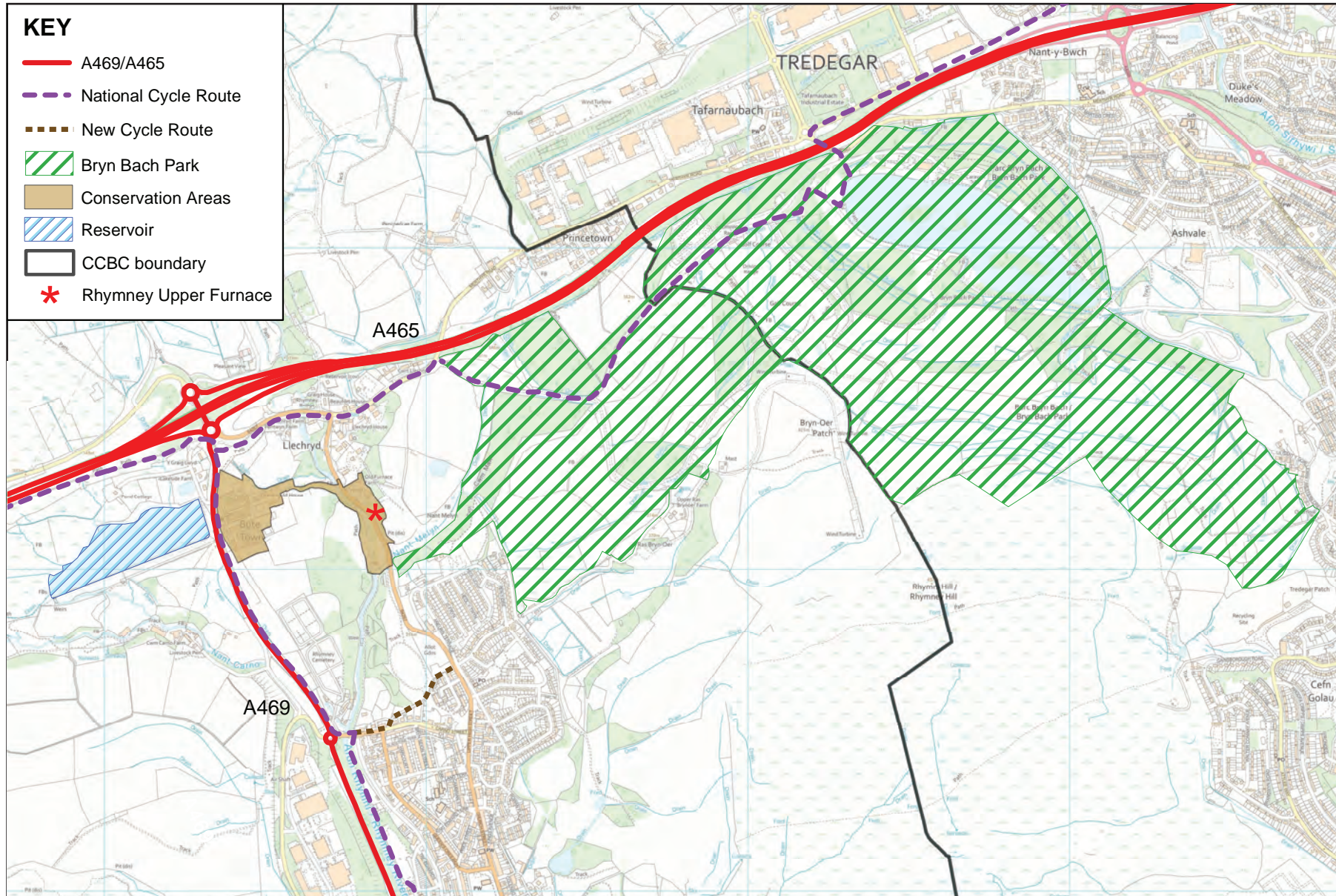
Parc Bryn Bach is a 340 acre country park straddling the boundary between Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly, and forms one of the two VRP 'Discovery Gateways' situated in the A465 corridor. It offers a range of outdoor activities and opportunities for skills development and contains within it a:

- 36 acre lake;
- Visitor centre;
- Caravan and campsite.

Bute Town

Bute Town is a good example of a 19th century model village built to house workers at the nearby ironworks. The three rows of houses are listed and, along with the pub and church which remain in operation, they lie within the Bute Town Conservation Area. The village lies in close proximity to the Rhymney Valley Riverside Walk and Rhymney Upper

Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town, Reservoir, Cycle Routes



Furnace, the site of the first ironworks to be built in the Rhymney Valley which survives as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM).

Interpretation work in respect of the SAM remains an aspiration and would better highlight this historically and culturally important site. The proximity of Bute Town and Rhymney Upper Furnace to Parc Bryn Bach and the upper stretch of the Rhymney Valley Riverside Walk presents an opportunity for co-ordination of these elements as visitor attractions under the VRP initiative.

Bute Town Reservoir

Bute Town Reservoir, located across the road from the village, is a popular local destination for activities such as walking and angling and is served by the existing Rhymney Valley Cycle Route. There is potential to develop the role of this facility through the extension of the cycle route network to link it to Parc Bryn Bach. The route of this potential extension is set out in the adopted LDP.

Development Principles

- Co-ordination of Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and the Bute Town Reservoir as a network of attractions with an extension of the cycle route and utilisation of existing public rights of way to improve connectivity between them;
- Interpretation work in relation to Rhymney Upper Furnace, providing a link to the area's heritage;
- Extension of links to attractions elsewhere in the area – Bryn Oer Tramroad in Brecon Beacons National Park, Parc Cwm Darran.

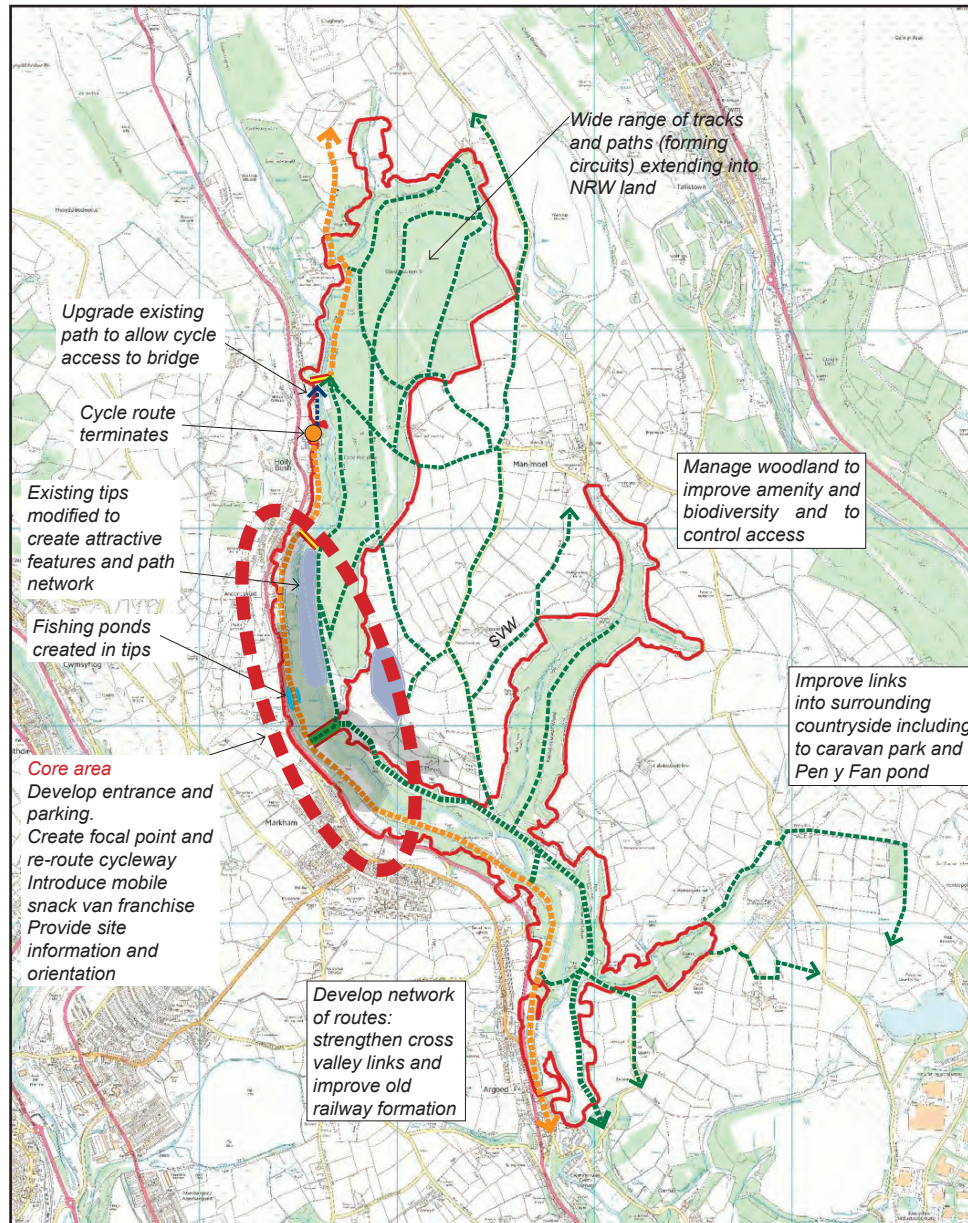
E- 3 Winding House, New Tredegar

The Winding House in New Tredegar was developed on land formerly occupied by Elliot Colliery and offers extensive exhibition space, a gallery, and catering and office/meeting facilities. The museum seeks to act as a mechanism for economic regeneration where the impact of visitor revenue is likely to be greatest. There is an aspiration to widen

the appeal of the exhibitions, in order to bring in an audience from further afield.

The 5 to 9 Club has been successful in terms of offering assistance to new start-ups, whilst future activity seeks to build on this by using part of the facility for developing local business activity. In addition, office space will be utilised on a temporary basis by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water when they roll out infrastructure improvement to the HOVRA. This presents an opportunity to integrate tourism, educational and economic activity as well as to increase interaction between these areas and the role of public institutions such as utility providers, leading to the potential sharing and broadening of skills and widening the scope of future business models. Building on the success of the 5 to 9 Club and Welsh ICE in Caerphilly, the Council aspires to utilise some of this space to allow new businesses to innovate and grow, based on a culture of knowledge sharing and collaboration.

Markham Colliery Visioning



Whilst utilisation of office space within the facility will increase the supply of business space available locally, it will also help to broaden its base as a valuable community asset, serving as a hub from which the local community can build social and business-related networks.

Development Principles

- Maximise potential as a visitor attraction e.g. exhibition space;
- Providing assistance to local business start-ups;
- Broadening the area's supply of business space;
- Role as a community hub, and development of social capital through integration of visitor, educational and economic activity;
- Links with Community Regeneration employment programmes.

E - 4 Markham Colliery

This site has been vacant since the closure of the colliery in the mid 1980s and is allocated

in the adopted LDP as a new country park to establish a key, local component of the Valleys Regional Park. An extension of the Sirhowy Valley Cycle Route between Hollybush and Argoed passes through the site. Options include utilising the attractive, parkland landscape for leisure activities that will increase dwell time through expanding the site's visitor offer, and exploring the potential for development that can link into the rural economy.

A visioning exercise has been undertaken which seeks to maximise the potential of the site as a visitor destination, based on its woodland and riparian characteristics, and for contributing to the local economy. Other than forestry operations in the east of the area, the only interventions to date have been the development of the site entrance and the cycle route. Proposals include:

- Developing the site as a 'gateway' to the north and east over an extended period, once the function has been established, including:

- Links to Penyfan Pond and the caravan park and equestrian centre;
- Extension of the cycle route;
- Creation of a circuit of tracks and paths, extending into NRW land for uses such as horse riding, building on the accessibility offered by the existing network of routes;
- Woodland management, allowing for camping, and providing a visual connection between the tips and the cycle route;
- Sculpting of the tips and maximisation of the site's cultural heritage for positive interpretation and activities such as low-level adventure play.
- Around the core area, developing the car park as a focal point, including:
 - A potential visitor centre;
 - Fishing ponds;
 - Small café;
 - Site information;

- Sale of local firewood;
- Live-work units.

Development Principles

- Development and extension of existing routes, to facilitate a wider range of activities and provide links to additional facilities;
- Developing the function of the site to widen visitor appeal;
- Diversification of the local economy into appropriate uses, based within the park;
- Maximisation of the area's industrial and cultural heritage.

E - 5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common

Gelligaer Common is an expanse of open moorland situated between the Taf and Rhymney Valleys straddling the boundary between Caerphilly and Merthyr County Boroughs, and occupies much of the Upper Rhymney Valley west of the A469. It is designated by Cadw as a Historic Landscape.

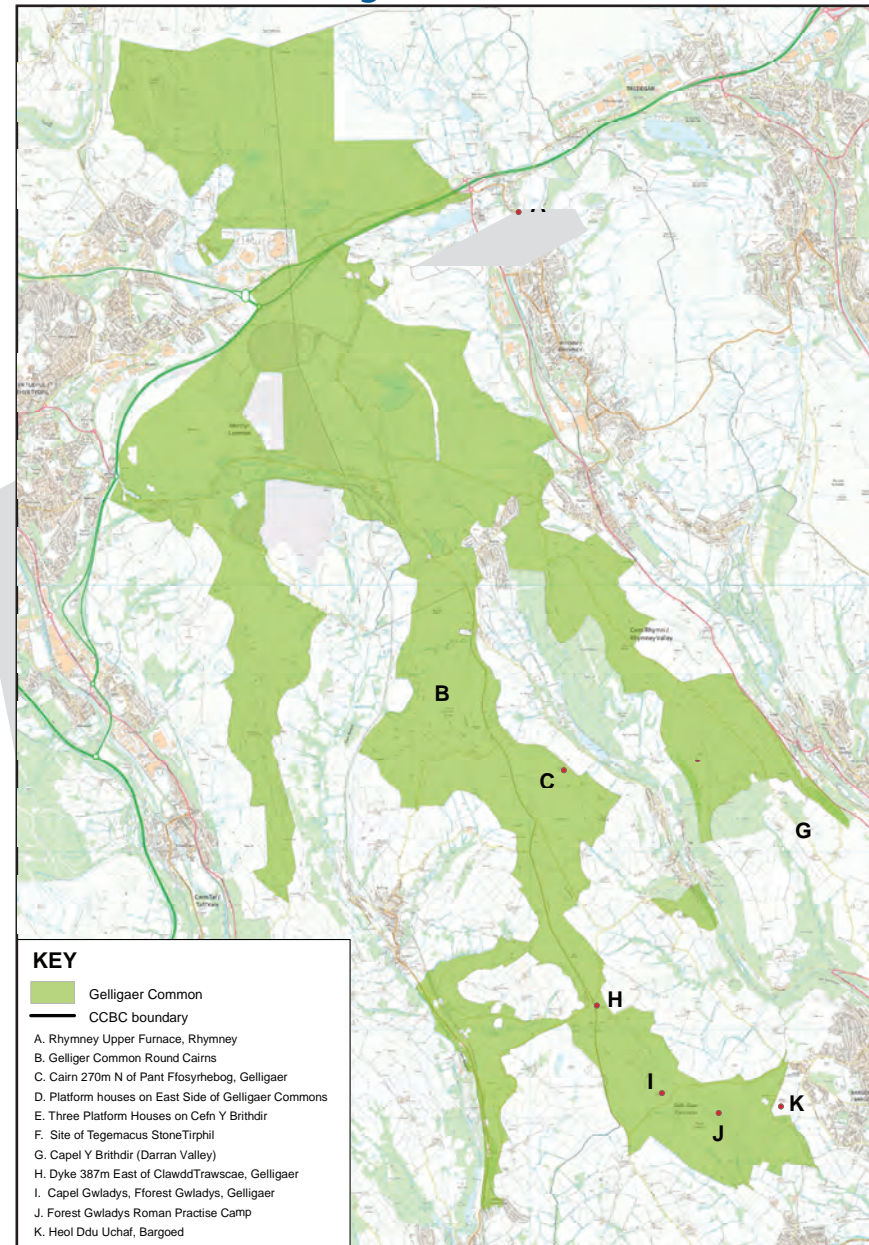
On the Caerphilly side, the ridgetop occupied by the Common rises up 470m at Mynydd Fochriw, and slopes eastwards towards the Nant Bargod Rhymney. The landscape is diverse in form and in its archaeological and historical content.

Tourism

In terms of tourism, the Common could serve as an integral element of the HOVRA's offer. The characteristics of the landscape raise the potential for:

- Utilising the area's archaeological and historical context;
- Providing a linkage to other facilities within the HOVRA e.g. Parc Cwm Darran; Bute Town as well as those outside – the Common's close proximity to the National Park could enable it to attract visitors southwards;
- Maximising the attractiveness of features such as Rhaslas Pond for tourism and leisure purposes;
- Provision of accommodation and the

Gelligaer Common



hospitality sector in settlements such as Rhymney, Fochriw and Deri – this will be dependent on sufficient demand being created in the first instance.

Community Development

The Common provides important economic, social and environmental value to the communities that surround it. However, the landscape is threatened by anti-social behaviour including fly-tipping, littering, off-road vehicles and environmental damage.

A pilot project, Tirwedd y Comin (Common Landscape) is being launched and will be led by the Commoners' Association, the two local authorities and others in order to work with the local community and restore, maintain and protect the Common. This will ensure custodianship of it can be passed on to future generations.

Tirwedd y Digidol (Digital Landscape) seeks to work with local communities to establish a virtual digital centre for the landscapes of Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent, which will

provide an information platform for residents and visitors alike.

These schemes, within the context of the Common and other landscapes, will:

- Enable the development of new skills locally in relation to landscape stewardship and digital technology, linking with Community Regeneration programmes;
- Facilitate community cohesion and development;
- Provide an information platform for local residents from which they can engage with local natural resources;
- More effectively utilise technology to highlight the attributes of the Common, and other important local landscapes, to potential visitors.

E - 6 Parc Coetir Bargod

Parc Coetir Bargod is the County Borough's newest country park, created on land formerly occupied by Gilfach, Bargoed and Britannia

Collieries, and provides a route along the Rhymney River in attractive surroundings which can be accessed from 11 different gateways.

New Active Travel routes are planned which will improve connections between the park and the following surrounding communities:

- Pengam;
- Fleur-de-Lis;
- Gilfach;
- Aberbargoed

It is anticipated that this will increase the park's accessibility as a local visitor destination, and have benefits in terms of health and well-being.

E - 7 Bargoed Park

Bargoed Park is the largest park in the County Borough at over 19 ha and contains a number of facilities:

- Formal gardens;
- Children's playground;
- Multi-use games area;

Parc Coetir Bargod



- Skateboarding area;
- Football and rugby pitches.

The Council will look for opportunities to optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town, including:

- Ensuring that facilities maximise the number of visitors;
- Reinforcing the vitality of the town centre, and maintaining links.

F - Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure

The HOVRA is well-placed to deliver structural benefits through energy schemes. Whilst climate change is a challenge, it can also present opportunities. Welsh Government is embracing the transition to a low-carbon economy through Planning Policy Wales and the *Well-Being of Future Generations Act*, and has set out a commitment to delivering the following outcomes in *Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition*:

- Reducing the amount of energy we use;
- Reducing our reliance on energy generated from fossil fuels;
- Actively managing the transition to a low-carbon economy;
- Utilising existing services provided by Groundwork Wales around energy efficiency within homes – connecting with communities and schools to capitalise on global warming awareness, recycling and food waste initiatives.

Renewable energy can be a way of meeting some of these objectives, as well as providing a means of building economic resilience, providing clean growth and contributing to improved health. Suitable renewable energy schemes will therefore be supported, in appropriate locations.

F - 1 North of the A465

Land immediately north of the A465 consists of upland, greenfield land in close proximity to the boundary with the Brecon Beacons

National Park and is located within a Special Landscape Area (SLA) designation identified through the adopted LDP. Part of the site is a SINC designation.

Given the upland nature of the site and its location north of the A465, this area has the potential to accommodate a renewable energy generation scheme, although work will need to be undertaken to determine its feasibility and environmental impact, particularly in respect of the visual impact on the Common and the Brecon Beacons National Park. Any energy generated on this site can be fed back into the grid, giving the proposal an economic, as well as a sustainability, benefit and would also generate potential community benefits.

There is the potential for a scheme to be developed in conjunction with adjoining land in Blaenau Gwent, complementing schemes already operating along this corridor and forming part of a Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt', thereby increasing the sustainability credentials of the wider A465 corridor.

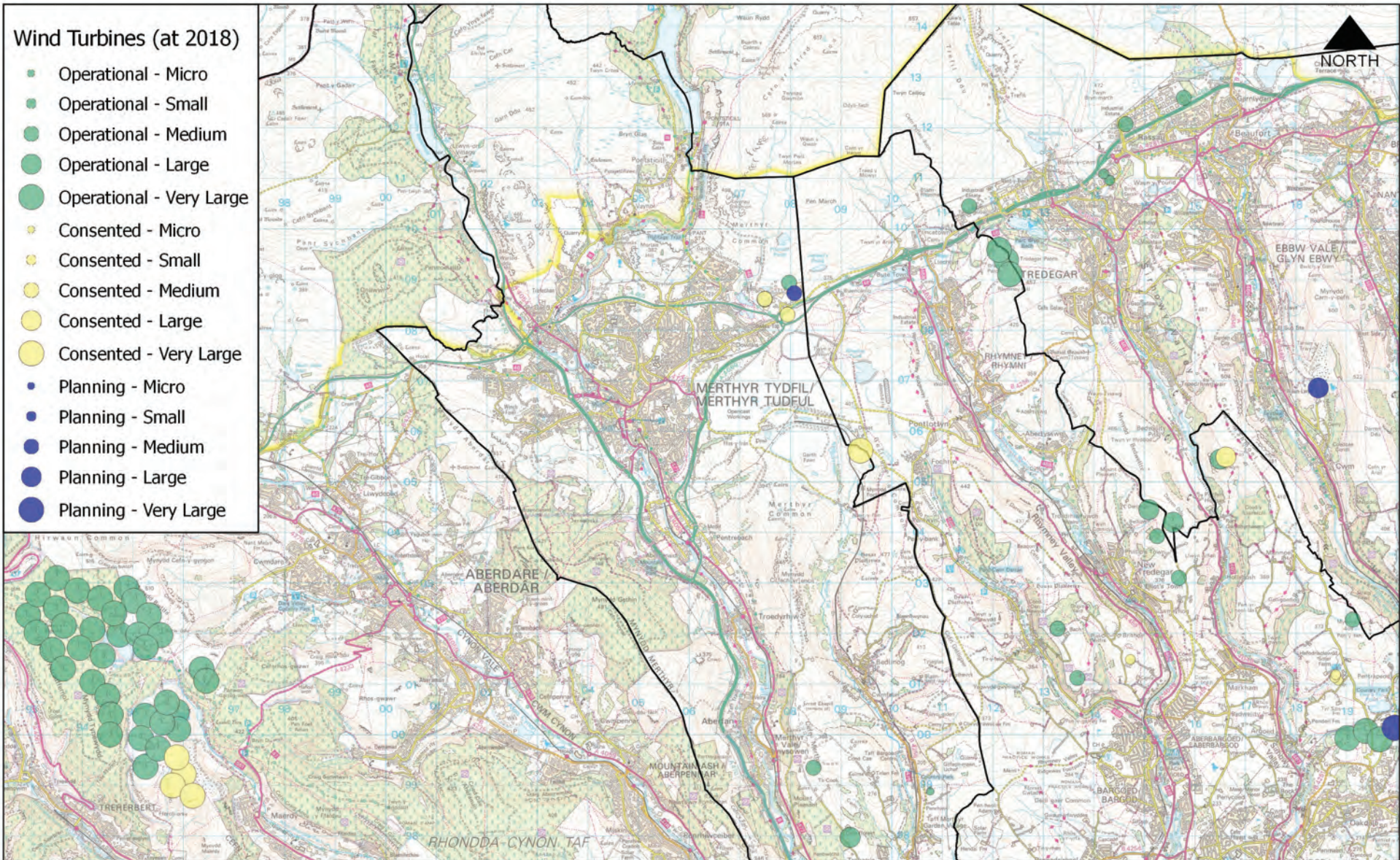
Development Principles

- Creation of a sustainable energy generation scheme;
- Less reliance on non-local, non-sustainable forms of energy;
- Economic advantages of supplying energy to the grid;
- Community benefits derived for local community groups;
- Potential local job creation.

In terms of energy generation and public utilities schemes, the upgrading of infrastructure can deliver community benefit, not only in terms of improved provision to people's homes but through greater community interaction with utility providers, the development of social capital and the extension and creation of community networks, training opportunities and skills.

There is also an economic benefit, as such schemes operate within the context of some degree of community ownership. Examples

Operational and Planned Windfarm Developments in the A465 Corridor



exist from elsewhere of utility providers and renewable energy companies investing in community development with the help of a community fund established for that very purpose. Where such organisations are involved in the development of proposals within a particular locality, they should be encouraged to:

- Engage with the community to establish its needs and aspirations;
- Make funding available for the benefit of that community as part of a community fund, possibly as match funding in conjunction with other initiatives;
- Allow community representatives to take a lead in terms of how such funds are spent.

F - 2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme

The Council, in partnership with Argoed Community Council and Renew Wales, is investigating the potential for a community-focused renewable energy generation

scheme on land at Markham Colliery, and is also considering the options for hydro, solar and wind generation. Initial scoping work has been undertaken and has determined that such a scheme could supply enough electricity for 1,500 homes.

Development Principles

- Creation of a sustainable energy generation scheme;
- Increased community resilience;
- Integration with country park development at Markham Colliery;
- Increasing the potential range of rural economic uses to be located within the envisioned country park;
- Job and training opportunities delivered through community benefit;
- Linking with similar initiatives and partners to improve awareness.

F - 3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water are presently

producing plans for increasing water resilience in the HOVRA. Work regarding physical improvements in terms of infrastructure will commence in early 2020. In addition, however, this will involve local engagement to ensure that the concept of water resilience is embedded within the local community. This will involve:

- Engagement through existing community networks e.g. Parent Network, Flying Start, Community Regeneration;
- Dissemination of information and good practice through local schools, community groups;
- Establishing links with private landlords' networks;
- Obtaining increased resilience through Council's portfolio of housing (monitoring usage and downsizing meters in Council properties, where appropriate and beneficial).

Principles

- Embedding sustainability principles within the community;

- Ensuring a joined-up approach between stakeholder organisations;
- Increased community development and confidence;
- Physical improvements to utility infrastructure.

G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations

Despite the success of the LDP Strategy in delivering new housing elsewhere within the County Borough, this is not the case in the HOVRA where, despite some small-scale development having taken place, many of the sites allocated for housing in the LDP remain undeveloped, irrespective of the sustainability of their locations.

There is therefore a need to provide new sustainably located housing development in order to increase the amount and quality of housing stock, and to support the role and function of settlements, in tandem with the economic improvements that are anticipated

as a result of City Deal, Metro and the council's regeneration aspirations.

New models of housing delivery are required to bring development forward and these will include:

Self Build: Welsh Government has introduced a self-build scheme aimed at encouraging first time house buyers to build their own homes. Through the Development Bank of Wales, Welsh Government will offer loans to self-builders to assist in building their own homes and Welsh Government is setting up a database of sites that are being promoted for self-build development.

Stalled Sites: Welsh Government has introduced a system of loans to assist in bringing housing sites, which have stalled for various reasons, forward for development.

Small-scale council house building:

Through the WHQS process the council may bring forward a number of small-scale sites for housing development. In doing so

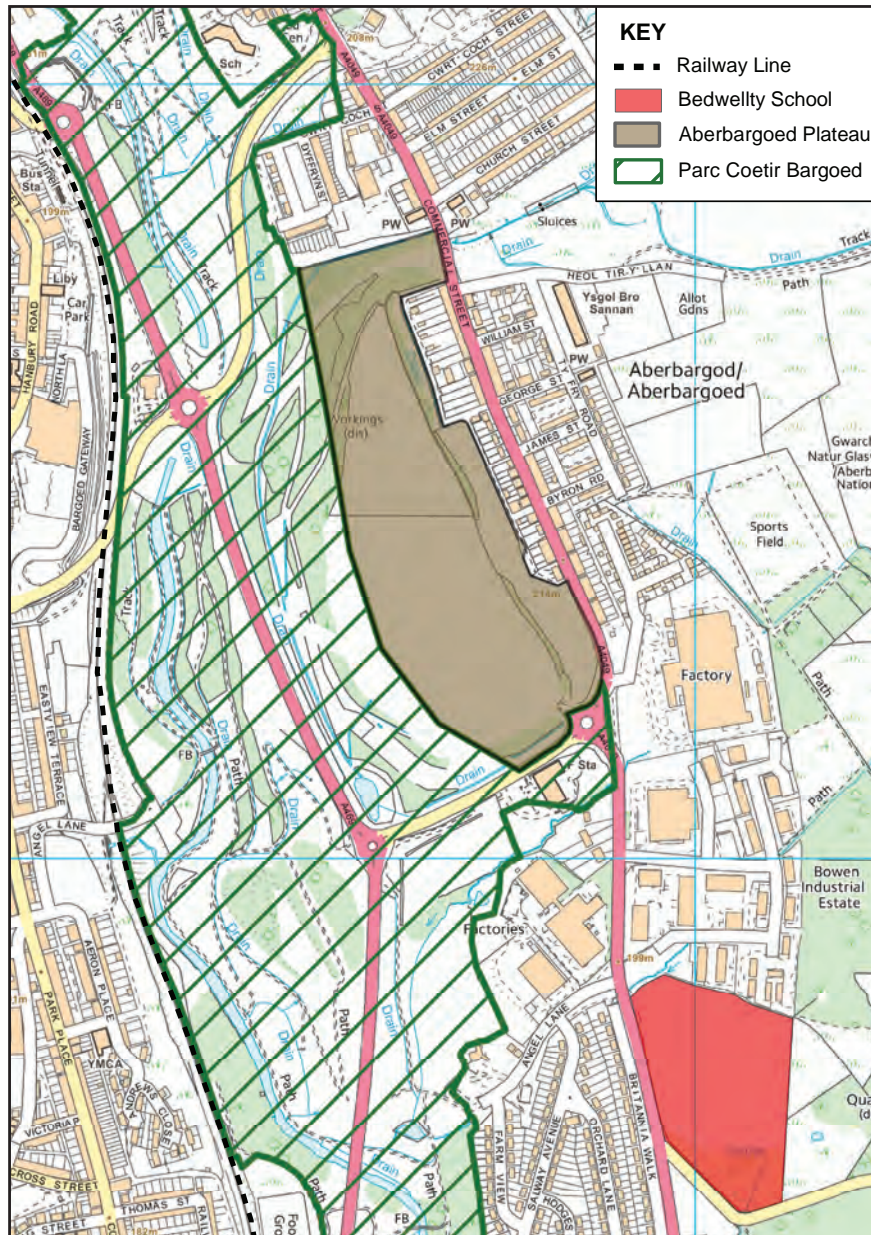
the council will seek to maximise use of the foundational economy of the area, which will ensure goods and services are procured locally and that the schemes will assist in developing appropriate skill sets within the population.

These options will bring forward new housing, which will increase the range and choice of housing available in the Masterplan area. However, these will not be sufficient to address the situation completely. Consequently the council will continue to lobby Welsh Government to provide mechanisms for incentivising housing development in the Masterplan area, as well as the wider A465 corridor, to ensure that a sufficient level and range of housing is developed to sustain the existing communities.

G - 1 Aberbargoed Plateau

The plateau is the result of the reclamation of the old Bargoed Colliery tip, and is situated on the Aberbargoed side of the Rhymney

Aberbargoed Plateau & Bedwelty School



Valley. It is allocated for housing in the adopted LDP, though remains undeveloped, and is in Council ownership. Redevelopment of the plateau would utilise an important brownfield site and provide an opportunity for the diversification of the housing stock in the area. However, the viability of the site for residential development remains an issue.

The site is in close proximity to the neighbourhood centre of Aberbargoed and is adjacent to Parc Coetir Bargod, one of the council's country parks, providing a sustainable location with an attractive environmental setting.

A review is presently being undertaken of sixth form, single sex and surplus provision across the County Borough and there is the possibility that part of the site could be utilised for a new education provision to serve this part of the County Borough. This would facilitate the development of a mixed-use scheme for the plateau, enabling housing to come forward on the remainder.

The formulation of an appropriate scheme would enable such a scheme to meet its full potential, from a sustainability perspective.

Development Principles

- Sustainable mixed-use scheme taking advantage of the site's location on Angel Way;
- Some provision for housing development, providing new build development in the area and adding variety and choice to existing housing stock, close to existing employment facilities;
- Development of a new FE college to cover the Upper Rhymney Valley;
- Providing access to Parc Coetir Bargod through extension of the cycle route.

G - 2 Bedwelty School

Planning permission was granted in 2019 for residential (55 units) on the former Bedwelty School site and development is underway. The development of this site will result in the diversification of housing stock in the

Aberbargoed area, sustainably located within close proximity of Aberbargoed town centre, the A4049 and employment uses at Bowen Industrial Estate and Angel Lane. Cabinet approval has since been forthcoming to release land immediately to the south for a second phase of development.

Development Principles

- Diversification of housing stock within the local area, adding variety and choice to the local housing market;
- Ease of accessibility in relation to local facilities;
- Utilisation of vacant, brownfield land.

G - 3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme

Following the implementation of a successful model in Rhondda Cynon Taf, £10 million has been provided by Welsh Government to fund the Empty Homes Grant Scheme across the VTF area, which offers purchasers funding for the renovation of empty homes, bringing them back into beneficial use.

Property owners can only apply in relation to owner occupation and the grant is not open to builders or landlords for the purposes of renting out accommodation. The scheme will be rolled out over two phases:

- Phase one will be rolled out with the following conditions:
 - Homes would need to have been empty for a six-month period (the immediate six months prior to approval of the grant);
 - Property owners can apply once, to avoid landlords and builders from benefiting;
 - Maximum grant of £20,000.
- Phase two will involve working with local authorities on developing frameworks to support local supply chains, with links to:
 - Skills and apprenticeships;
 - Local supply chains;
 - Foundational economy.

Principles

- Potential reduction in the number of empty homes;
- Increase in the diversity of housing stock;
- Development of skills;
- Strengthening of local supply chains through use of local firms.

H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets

The provision and location of community facilities are of crucial importance to the sustainability of settlements and to the well-being of their populations. New facilities that have opened since the start of the LDP plan period in 2006 include:

- Bargoed Library and Customer First Centre (Hanbury Chapel);
- Hafod Deg Resource Centre;
- Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre;
- Idris Davies School, Abertysswg.

Whilst constraints on public resources have an impact on the provision of such facilities, this does present an opportunity for new models of delivery. For instance, the rationalisation and sharing of facilities as multi-purpose 'hubs' can provide community benefits, as well as providing opportunities for more cost-effective managing and resourcing of facilities. This can have a positive impact in terms of social capital, engendering networking opportunities, knowledge sharing and the development of transferable skills which are of invaluable importance in a modern social and economic context.

H - 1 21st Century Schools

The Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Colleges programme is a major, long-

term and strategic capital investment programme supporting large-scale capital projects with the aim of enhancing school buildings to meet modern educational and community needs.

The key aims are to:

- Reduce the number of schools in poor condition;
- Ensure the right size schools in the right location;
- Ensure the effective and efficient use of the educational estate for both schools and the wider community.

Idris Davies School in Abertysswg was developed under Band A of the programme as a replacement for Abertysswg and Pontlottyn Primary Schools on land within the existing Rhymney Comprehensive School site. As well as an all through 3 to 18 years school it also accommodates a nursery, Flying Start unit and integrated children's centre offering after-school and wraparound provision.

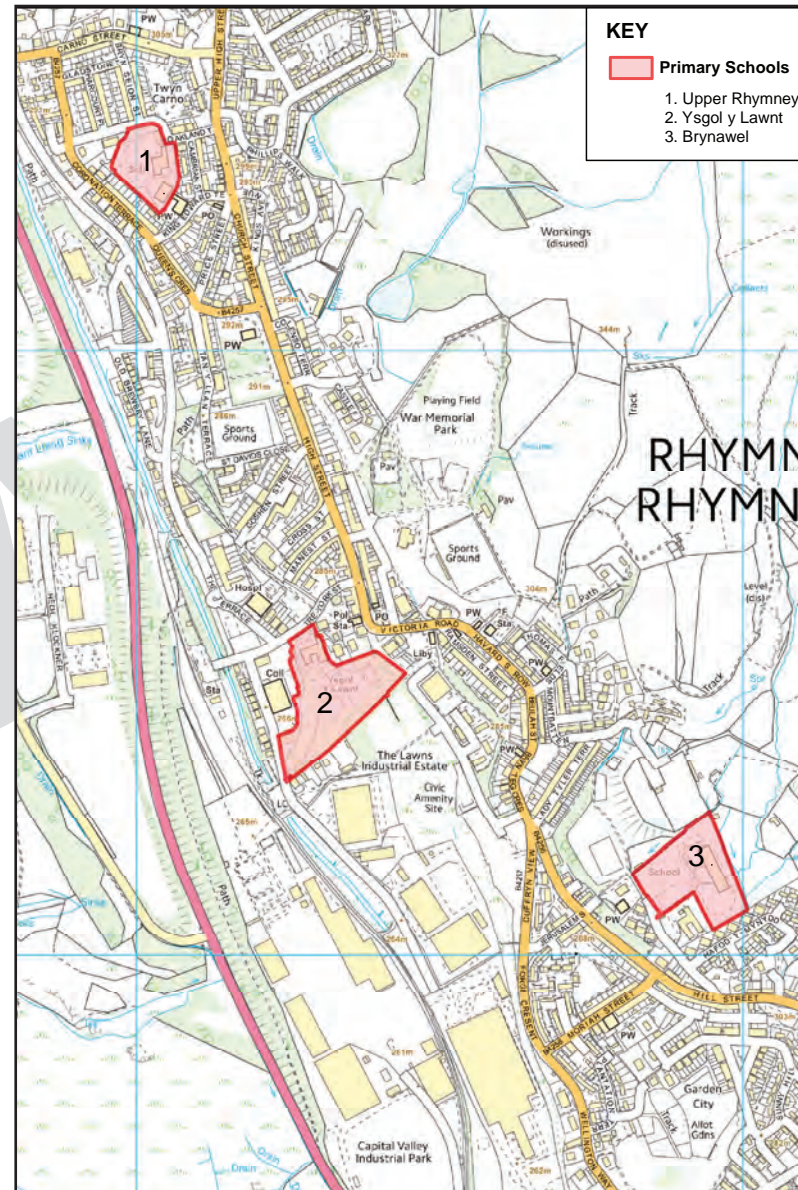
Band B of the 21st Century Schools programme runs between 2019 and 2026 and proposals have been developed. However, these remain proposals at this stage, subject to a business case approval by Welsh Government; in addition, consultation with stakeholders will be a key part of the process. Proposals concerning primary education will be dependent on the review of secondary education that is ongoing. Band B proposals in Rhymney include:

- New build school to replace the existing Upper Rhymney Primary School;
- Relocation of Brynawel Primary School pupils to Upper Rhymney Primary and Idris Davies Schools;
- Refurbishment of a school site to relocate Ysgol y Lawnt.

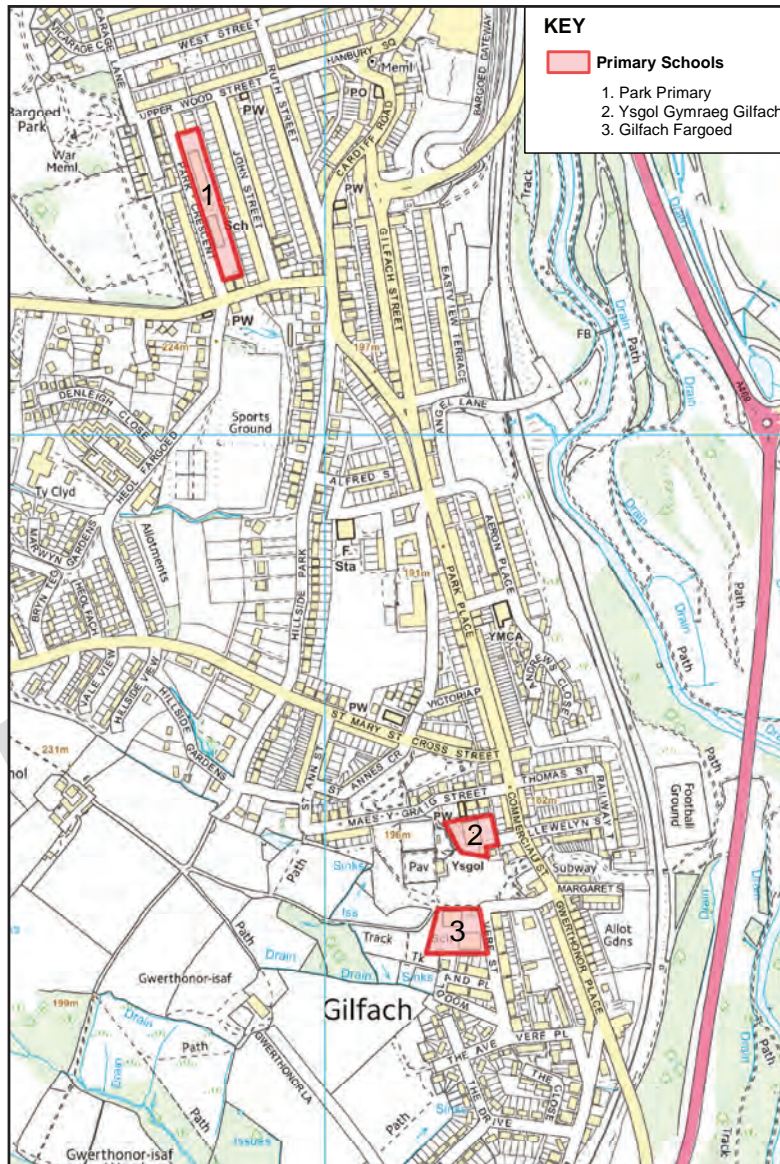
Band B proposals in Bargoed include:

- Amalgamation of the Park and Gilfach Fargoed Primary Schools into a new build school;

The Current Locations of Upper Rhymney and Brynawel Primaries and Ysgol y Lawnt



The Current Locations of Park and Gilfach Fargoed Primaries and Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed



- Refurbishment of Park Primary School to accommodate the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Gilfach Fargoed.

These are expected to realise the following benefits:

- Target areas of high social deprivation;
- Creation of fit-for-purpose, energy efficient schools;
- Significant reduction of surplus places;
- Estimated saving on backlog maintenance costs;
- Increased opportunities for community use and on-site childcare provision;
- Expansion of Welsh medium education.

H - 2 Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre and Hafod Deg Resource Centre

The Integrated Health and Social Care Centre for the north of the County Borough brings together several different community health functions in an integrated way, including:

- Two GP practices, complementing a continuing presence at New Tredegar and Deri;
- Dental practice;
- Optometry services;
- Social services day care facilities;
- In-patient facilities;
- A base for health and social services staff delivering a range of services across the north of the County Borough.

Hafod Deg Resource Centre delivers a range of support services for people in the local area, including:

- Citizens Advice;
- Mental health organisations;
- Credit union;
- Nutritional and dietary advice;
- Space for volunteering and community groups.

Through the integration of service delivery from facilities such as these, the capacity of

public sector resources to have a positive impact within the community is maximised. However, it is necessary that this approach ensures the delivery of services for the whole community, and therefore the Council will work with key organisations such as the Local Health Board, the 'third sector' and others to ensure that community-based services and well-being can continue to be delivered in a sustainable and coordinated manner.

H - 3 Integrated Well-Being Networks

In keeping with the Welsh Government's £100m NHS Transformation Fund aimed at driving integration and its "long term future vision of a 'whole system approach to health and social care' focused on health and wellbeing, and on preventing illness"; the Gwent Regional Partnership Board is supporting Aneurin Bevan Health Board, in conjunction with the Council and other partners, to develop and deliver the concept of Integrated Well-Being Networks (IWNs).

Integrated Well-Being Networks are place-

based models of more effective collaborative, integrated working to support and sustain community well-being. In essence, this means effectively connecting and coordinating the disparate assets that contribute to well-being in a location.

There are four elements to IWN development:

- Place-based collaboration;
- Connecting community-based 'hubs';
- People who deliver services and support;
- Easily accessible well-being information.

The initial focus for IWN development in the County Borough is the area covered by Caerphilly North Neighbourhood Care Network, much of which lies within the HOVRA. Initial mapping work has been undertaken for part of the area and there is an intention to roll this out, as part of a programme of community engagement, in order to help make existing networks of facilities more identifiable for service users.

Integrated Well-Being Networks

HOW INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS WORK

PEOPLE IN GWENT HAVE ALL THE THINGS THEY NEED TO KEEP WELL AND ARE LIVING HEALTHIER LIVES, FOR LONGER.

1. PLACE-BASED COLLABORATION

WE ARE COLLABORATING WITH PARTNERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND WORKING TOGETHER BETTER TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WHAT WE HAVE.



3. PEOPLE WHO DELIVER SERVICES & SUPPORT

WORKING CO-PRODUCTIVELY WITH PEOPLE, BUILDING ON THEIR STRENGTHS TO FIND THEIR OWN SOLUTIONS AND CONNECTING PRIMARY CARE TEAMS TO WELL-BEING RESOURCES.

2. COMMUNITY-BASED HUBS

HUBS CONNECT PEOPLE WITH HEALTH AND WELL-BEING RESOURCES, ACTIVITIES, AND OTHER PEOPLE. LINKING OUR HUBS IN THE COMMUNITY TO IMPROVE THEIR WELL-BEING ROLE AND ACCESS TO THE RIGHT SERVICES AND SUPPORT.

4. EASY ACCESS TO WELL-BEING INFORMATION

PROVIDING WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO ACCESS RELIABLE WELL-BEING INFORMATION, THIS CAN BE THROUGH:

- FAMILY, FRIENDS OR A SERVICE
- A LINK WORKER
- A HUB IN THE COMMUNITY
- TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING DEWIS CYMRU



INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS ARE NOT ABOUT CREATING SOMETHING NEW - IT'S ABOUT STARTING WITH WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE. USING THE UNIQUE STRENGTHS AND ASSETS THAT EXIST IN OUR COMMUNITIES: OUR PEOPLE - RELATIONSHIPS, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OUR PLACES - HEALTHY PEOPLE NEED HEALTHY PLACES OUR PROVISION - WELL-BEING SUPPORT AND SERVICES.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.WALES.NHS.UK/IWNGWENT AND SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT INTEGRATED WELL-BEING NETWORKS GWENT USING #IWNGWENT



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The recommended approach to delivering IWNs will contribute to the delivery of the Public Service Board's Well-Being Plan. This approach includes:

- Establishing the core offer of well-being services that exist across:
 - Health and social care hubs e.g. GP surgeries;
 - Local authority hubs libraries, Customer First Centres, provision of housing advice;
 - Community hubs – shared spaces for people, community groups and recreational activities;
- Agreeing the role of lead organisations, including the Council, Health Board, Public Health Wales, Housing Associations, GAVO and others;
- Review 'linking' roles to ensure the effective use of resources and address identified gaps – 'linking' roles are people and organisations that provide connections

between people, professionals and different parts of the well-being network.

I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes

Accessibility is a cross-cutting objective which is relevant to schemes within the HOVRA. All development proposals should adhere to the principles of inclusive design to ensure that schemes meet the accessibility needs of all those living, working and visiting the HOVRA, including those with mobility and sensory impairments and learning difficulties.

J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

As a result of the 2019 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD), it has been agreed that there will be a priority focus to implement a new way of working in a number of the deprived communities within the County Borough.

A fundamental change to how public services are collectively approached and delivered is required to address the multifaceted needs in the County Borough's most deprived communities. There should be more emphasis upon local government working with communities as enablers, rather than delivering for them.

A greater emphasis on identifying community assets is required. When practitioners begin with a focus on what communities have, as opposed to what they don't have, a community's efficacy in addressing its own need increases, as does its capacity to lever in external support. Currently, services are designed to 'fill gaps' and 'fix problems', creating dependency and disempowering individuals who become passive recipients of services.

The Council's new approach to service provision will provide a changing perspective on building bridges with communities, mobilising individual and community assets

and enabling a process of co-production, with community members as active agents in their own and their families' lives. Co-production requires users of services to be seen as experts in their own circumstances and capable of making decisions, while service providers move from being fixers to facilitators. This will necessitate new relationships to be developed with front line professionals, and an enabling role being adopted.

This will require an approach to public service provision that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact. The intention is to adopt a place-based focus, with a review of public services to assess how well they meet the outcomes required by residents, and how they could improve their impact and value for money. The role of the Public Service Board, with the support of its partners, is key to implementing this approach and it provides an opportunity to develop this across a number of key areas across the County Borough.

The projects identified in the HOVRA have the potential to provide far-reaching benefits for all residents, including those living in deprived areas within the Masterplan area and the wider County Borough.

Section 7: Delivering and Implementing Change

The table below sets out the projects identified in Section 6 of the report, together with the expected outputs that the project will deliver and how these proposals will

address the objectives of A Foundation for Success. The table identifies the indicative costs of each scheme and highlights any funding that has been secured to date. It

should be noted that many of these projects are at an embryonic stage and, as such, the outputs and costs can only be estimated.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys	A - 1 Capital Valley, Rhymney	Redevelopment for modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a Heads of Enterprise Zone (expansion of Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone); • Development of underutilised land/old premises for employment use; • Accelerate business growth within the Rhymney area; • Creation of physical premises required for growth of complementary sectors to the EZ; • Potential to capitalise on Metro improvements and greater connectivity with external markets, through existence of a railhead; • Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs; • Inclusion of social clauses in relevant public sector contracts to encourage local community benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SP1 • SP3-5 • SP9-11 • SB1-4 • CPP2-5 	<p>Funding secured: none to date, expected to come from VTF or CCRCD</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p> <p>Dialogue is ongoing between the Council, Welsh Government and site owner in relation to potential investment</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative Outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
A - Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys	A - 2 The Lawns Industrial Estate	Development of additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone in conjunction with Ebbw Vale; ● Development of additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns; ● Better integration of business space within the site, enhanced legibility of access; ● Additional space for business start-up provision to cater for demand; ● Potential to capitalise on Metropolitan Rail links through proximity to Rhymney Station; ● Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs; ● Inclusion of social enterprises in relevant public sector contracts to maximise community benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP1 ● SP3-5 ● SP9-11 ● SB1-5 ● CPP2-5 	<p>Funding secured: ERDF match-funded with CCBC core capital funding</p> <p>Future phases: Privately financed or via UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p>
	A - 3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	Development of modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises, potentially including redevelopment of existing stock and provision of a business conferencing facility to serve A465 corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creation of a Heads of the Valleys Enterprise Zone in conjunction with Ebbw Vale; ● Development of underutilised land/older premises for employment use; ● Utilisation of vacant land for business conferencing facility and/or B2 use; ● Additional space for business start-up provision to cater for demand; ● Capitalising on good transport links (adjacent to A469, just south of A465); ● Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs; ● Creation of physical premises required for growth of key sectors, including existing life sciences presence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP1 ● SP3-5 ● SP9-11 ● SB1-6 ● CPP2-4 	<p>Funding secured: likely to be privately financed</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
B - Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably	B - 1 Education, training and careers advice	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of strengthening the area's employment function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinated approach to education and training between relevant organisations; ● Improving links between education and training providers and business; ● Tailored education/training programmes to meet the requirements of business; ● Provision of appropriate career support through the curriculum and for adults; ● Addressing the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs and the training provided; ● Upskilling to ensure that 'skills deficits' are addressed in relation to current employment needs; ● Attracting employers and improving prospects for indigenous growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP1-3 ● SP4-9 ● SP11 ● SB1-3 ● SB5-6 ● CPP5 	Funding secured: dependent on a range of stakeholders from the public and 'third' sectors Total cost: to be determined
	B - 2 Foundational economy	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of ensuring widespread economic and social benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working with local businesses to establish networks of collaboration ● Ensure that Council procurement processes invest in local firms and organisations by utilising local expertise and putting in place social contracts that benefit the community ● Developing the necessary skills base to maintain networks of collaboration and access funding opportunities (WG Foundational Economy Challenge Fund) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP1 ● SP3-6 ● SP8-11 ● SB1-3 ● SB5-6 ● CPP5 	Funding secured: £1.5m will be available for the VTF area through the Welsh Government Foundational Economy Challenge Fund Total cost: to be determined

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C - 1 Land around Rhymney Station	Station improvements, additional car parking and creation of a multi-function business hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced stabling facilities, platform extension and remodelling, additional parking, toilet block, new waiting rooms, cycle racks and ticketing and wifi upgrades; Creation of multi-functional business hub offering business units, live-work space and a commercial element including meeting facilities; Enhancing Rhymney's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity; Additional provision for local station provision; Potential to capitalise on Metro improvements through proximity to Rhymney Station; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP3-5 SP9 SP11 SB1-5 SQL3 CPP2-4 	<p>Funding secured: dependent on Transport for Wales commitments</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	C - 2 Other stations (Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil)	Station improvements at Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil	Enhanced facilities plus potential for EV charging infrastructure; Optimising increased journey frequency through facilities improvements, to encourage use of sustainable modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPP2 CPP4 	<p>Funding secured: dependent on Transport for Wales commitments - EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	C - 3 A465/A469 Transport Hub	Development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of park and ride between A465 and Rhymney Station; Creation of sustainable transport links between A465 and new employment provision at Capital Valley et al; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1 SP3 SP6-9 SB1-4 CPP2-4 	<p>Funding secured: Metro Enhancement Framework to be drawn up</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of links with planned and existing Active Travel routes; Enhancing multi-modal connectivity along A465 corridor between Merthyr and Ebbw Vale; Increased access to employment, leisure, essential services for residents; Increased attractiveness of businesses to external markets and investors 		
	C - 4 A469 Resilience Route	Pursue consideration of an A469 resilience route between New Tredegar and Rhymney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding north-south resilience to the highway network in the Masterplan area; Increase in business confidence due to better intra-area links, enabling more firms to reach external markets; Potential for local business growth due to better connectivity; Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs; Increased access to employment, leisure, essential services for residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP3-4 SP9 SB1-4 CPP1 CPP4 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	C - 5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney	Development of a commercial or service-related facility, incorporating EV charging points to serve this stretch of the A465 corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of an 'attractor' to encourage potential passing trade between Merthyr and Ebbw Vale, taking advantage of the site's location just off the A465; 'Plugging a gap' in terms of regional EV charging infrastructure, adding to the area's sustainability credentials; Very close to Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate – development of a regional business conferencing facility at this location could enhance the economic attraction of such a development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP4-5 SP9 SB1-4 CPP1 CPP3 CPP5 	<p>Funding secured: EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
C - Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity	C - 6 Dyffryn Terrace, New Tredegar	Development of EV charging points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roll-out of the Council's all-electric public transport network to the north of the County Borough; ● Sustainability benefits of EV charging points; ● Utilisation of a public car park will increase accessibility of the scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP4 ● SP9 	<p>Funding secured: EV infrastructure dependent on OLEV funding</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	C - 7 Active Travel Routes	Developing a network of cycle routes and pathways over the next 15 years, as per the Integrated Routes Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increasing the network of sustainable connections between different places; ● Improving comprehensive utilisation of Active Travel as a means of integrating different modes; ● Maximising opportunities to utilise Active Travel as a means of supporting employment and essential services; ● Potential to link to additional routes, such as those associated with leisure and tourism facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP6 ● SP8 ● SQL3 	<p>Funding secured: £390k Core Active Travel Fund allocation for 2019/20</p> <p>Total cost: LAs required to bid for funding annually</p>
D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough	D - 1 Land at Bargoed Station	Expansion of car parking provision and general station improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maximising usage through enhanced station facilities and additional parking; ● Enhancing Bargoed's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity; Increased attractiveness of development opportunities at northern end of town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SB1-4 ● SQL3 ● SQL7 ● CPP2-4 	<p>Funding secured: Metro Enhancement Framework to be drawn up</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough	D - 2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street	Redevelopment of vacant units for office use, some retail and complementary commercial uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancing Bargoed's business and commercial focus by taking advantage of increased connectivity; Maximising the benefits arising from its proximity to bus and rail station opportunity to market Bargoed for office use with better access to regional markets; Reduction in commuting through provision of local jobs; Reduction of underutilised premises; Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB1-4 SQL3 SQL5 SQL7 CPP2-3 CPP5 	<p>Funding secured: VTF funding may become available. Possibility of expanding scope of Welsh Government's Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund (which targets redevelopment of vacant and underused premises)</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	D - 3 Bargoed Retail Plateau	Development of remaining part of Bargoed Plateau for commercial use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of complementary uses to existing retail in the vicinity; Potential for increased town centre footfall, thereby benefiting town centre as a whole; Development of underutilised land; Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQL3 SQL7 CPP3 	<p>Funding secured: likely to be from private sector investment</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
D - Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough	D - 4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Square	Redevelopment of the former cinema for commercial/ office use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of complementary uses to existing retail in the vicinity; • Taking advantage of improved connectivity through Metro; • Reutilisation of existing premises; • Diversifying role of town centre, increasing economic resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB1-4 • SQL3 • SQL7 • CPP3 	<p>Funding secured: VTF funding may become available. Possibility of expanding scope of Welsh Government's Urban Centre Property Enhancement Fund (which targets redevelopment of vacant and underused premises)</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E - 1 Parc Cwm Darran	Expansion of the park's role as a visitor attraction and community resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved tourism facility for local residents and visitors; • Economic benefits of increased dwell time and spending; • Knock-on benefits for additional facilities and services in nearby locations e.g. shops and pubs; • Development of social capital through education and training programmes in relation to community woodland; • Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through increased provision of outdoor activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SP5-6 • SP8 • SB1-2 • SB6 • SQL1-2 • SQL4 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: £567k (£55k design costs) according to Visioning Study</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E - 2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links	Better coordination of existing facilities (Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town) through extension of cycle routes, interpretation work re. Rhymney Upper Furnace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better linkage of tourism facilities in the area; Increase in visitor numbers to Rhymney attractions as a result of Parc Bryn Bach patronage; Developing a greater role for Bute Town Reserve Knock-on benefits for additional facilities and services in nearby locations e.g. shops and pubs; Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through extension of walking and cycle links 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP8 SB1-2 SQL1-2 SQL4 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	E - 3 Winding House	Utilisation of office space and better integration of educational, visitor and economic development functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased office provision for local businesses and others, inc. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water; Assistance to local business start-ups; Strengthening of a multi-purpose community hub through integration of different services and uses; Retention of a locally important cultural facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1 SP3-7 SP9 SB1-3 SB5-6 SQL2-4 CPP5 	<p>Funding secured: temporary contract with DCWW for duration of infrastructure works (2 years)</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined – DCWW use will generate income</p>
	E - 4 Markham Colliery	Development of country park including extension of existing routes, widening visitor appeal and creation of appropriate economic uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved tourism facility for local residents and visitors; Economic benefits of increased dwell time and spending, plus links to other facilities such as Penyfan Pond; Diversification of local economy to include appropriate rural economic uses; Community development through activities such as woodland management; Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through increased provision of outdoor activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP4-5 SP8 SB1-2 SB5-6 SQL1-2 SQL4 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: £1 million (£87k design costs) according to Visioning Study</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
E - Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance important green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism	E - 5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common	Enhanced custodianship, community development and increased utilisation of the Common as a visitor attraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launch of <i>Tirwedd y Comin</i>, to protect and maintain the Common; ● Launch of <i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i>, which will establish a virtual data centre for residents and visitors; ● Linkage to other attractions e.g. Parc Coetir, Darran, Bute Town; ● Potential for accommodation and hospitality provision in adjacent settlements; ● Community development through landscape stewardship and digital technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP4-6 ● SP8 ● SB1-2 ● SB6 ● SQL1-2 ● SQL4 ● CPP6 	<p>Funding secured:</p> <p><i>Tirwedd y Comin</i> £160k (£128k RDP funding via two local action groups, £32k from GMCA);</p> <p><i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i> £33.5k (£26.8k RDP funding via Cwm y Mynydd LAG, £6.7k from CCBC)</p> <p>Total cost: <i>Tirwedd y Comin</i> £160k, <i>Tirwedd y Digidol</i> £33.5k</p>
	E - 6 Parc Coetir Bargod	Increase park's accessibility to local settlements via new and extended cycle and walking routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase park's accessibility as a local visitor destination; ● Increased opportunities to utilise the most sustainable forms of travel; ● Greater opportunity for linkages to additional nearby facilities through the VRP; ● Promoting more active, healthier lifestyles through use of the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP6 ● SP8 ● SQL1-2 ● SQL4 ● CPP2 	<p>Funding secured: £390k Core Active Travel Fund allocation for 2019/20</p> <p>Total cost: LAs required to bid for funding annually</p>
	E - 7 Bargoed Park	Optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Look at opportunities to maximise visitor numbers; ● Ensure that facilities are fit for purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP8 ● SQL1-3 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
F – Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure	F - 1 North of the A465	Potential development of a renewable energy scheme as part of the Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a renewable energy scheme would give the area an economic purpose, as part of the wider 'Energy Belt'; Potential job creation within the energy sector; Sustainability benefits of renewable energy; Utilisation of funds for community benefit, and community development as a result of engagement by community groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP4-5 SB1-2 SQL1 	<p>Private sector investment predominantly in on-shore wind, could be opportunities for CCBC to co-invest</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	F - 2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme	Potential development of a community renewable energy scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to the HOV 'Energy Belt'; Sustainability benefits of renewable energy; Community resilience; Integration with, and contribution to, the range of rural economic uses within the country park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP4-5 SP9 SB1-2 SQL1 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	F - 3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities	Increasing water resilience through improvements to physical infrastructure and community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embedding sustainability principles within the community; Ensuring a joined-up approach between stakeholder organisations; Increased community development and confidence; Physical improvements to utility infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP4-6 SP8 SP9 SP11 SB6 	Scheme funded by DCWW

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
G - Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations	G - 1 Aberbargoed Plateau	Mixed-use scheme comprising some residential, FE provision and extension of the cycle route to Parc Coetir Bargod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realisation of some residential development in close proximity to existing employment uses (Angel Lane, Bowen Ind Est); Investment in training and education th provision; Establishing further links with Coetir Bargod promoting walking and cycling; Enhancing Aberbargoed Plateau as a sustainable settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1-6 SP8-9 SB2 SB6 SQL2-3 SQL5-6 	<p>Funding secured: none to date</p> <p>Total cost: to be determined</p>
	G - 2 Bedwellty School	Development of former Bedwellty School site for residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation of vacant, brownfield land; Diversification of housing stock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQL5-6 	Funding secured: privately funded
	G - 3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme	Grant funding for purchasers of empty homes for renovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential reduction in the number of empty homes; Increase in the diversity of housing stock; Development of skills; Strengthening of local supply chains through utilisation of local firms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1 SP3-6 SP10 SB1-3 SB5 SQL5-6 	£10m over two years provided by Welsh Government for the VTF area

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets	H - 1 21st Century Schools	Replacement and relocation of school buildings in Rhymney and Bargoed via 21st Century Schools programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing fit-for-purpose school buildings in areas of high deprivation; Expansion of Welsh medium education; Reduction of surplus places and savings in financial terms; Increased opportunities for community use and children's provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP2 SP6 SP8-9 SB6 SQL2-3 	<p>Funding envelope subject to Business Case Approval: £110 million for Band B proposals across CCBC - £78m capital funding (25%/35% met by CCBC), £32m revenue funding (19% met by CCBC)</p> <p>Total cost: £4.9 million (Rhymney), £5.9 million (Bargoed)</p>
H - Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets	H - 2 Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Hafod Llanfachraeth Resource Centre	Integration of community-based services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving service availability and awareness of available support; Better coordination of distinct, yet complementary, services; Provision of workspace for community and volunteering groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1-9 SB5-6 SQL2-3 	<p>Funding secured: dependent on a range of stakeholders from the public and 'third' sectors</p> <p>Total cost: to be identified</p>
	H - 3 Integrated Well-Being Networks	Establish IWNs for the Masterplan area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a mapping exercise of existing facilities, in order to make networks more identifiable; Connection of community-based 'hubs' and service deliverers; Avoidance of duplication in terms of provision of advice and signposting; Greater clarity for service users and accessibility of information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP1-9 SB5-6 SQL2-3 	<p>Funding secured: funded by ABHB</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding Secured and Potential Costs
I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes		This is a cross-cutting objective that should be considered an integral part of all projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Accessibility for those living, working or visiting the Masterplan area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SQL3 	
J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan		Address multi-faceted needs in the most deprived communities by adopting a place-based focus that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social, economic and environmental outputs for deprived communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SP1-11 ● SB1 ● SB6 ● SQL3 ● SQL6 	

Appendix 1 – A Foundation for Success Objectives

Supporting People	Supporting Business	Supporting Quality of Life	Connecting People and Places
SP1: Increase employability	SB1: Building a more resilient and diversified economy	SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, while accommodating much-needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green space for community well-being	CPP1: Promote and identify major highway projects that would significantly improve connectivity and accessibility
SP2: Raise educational attainment	SB2: Supporting economic growth and innovation	SQL2: Improve access to culture, leisure and the arts	CPP2: Promote public transport integration and connectivity
SP3: Reduce worklessness	SB3: Creating an environment that nurtures business	SQL3: Active place marking	CPP3: Promote place-making development around key transport hubs and nodes
SP4: Improve resilience and support development of the foundational economy	SB4: Key sites and infrastructure for employment opportunities	SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic and natural heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents	CPP4: Actively promote rail improvements and the reinstatement of new links
SP5: Develop skills in key growth areas	SB5: Boost business support and enterprise	SQL5: Improve the delivery of new housing and diversify housing across all tenures	CPP5: Seek to reduce travelling distance and reduce out-commuting
SP6: Targeted intervention of key groups	SB6: Improve the links between businesses, schools and education and training providers	SQL6: Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention, particularly in terms of Council-owned housing stock	CPP6: Promote digital connectivity

Supporting People	Supporting Business	Supporting Quality of Life	Connecting People and Places
SP7: Ensure a clear, coordinated 'package of services is available in order to reconnect people to employment		SQL7: Refocus town centres to serve the needs of residents and businesses	
SP8: Support interventions to improve health			
SP9: Reduce inequality by reducing the number of lower super output areas within the top 10% deprived in Wales			
SP10: Ensure that cultivational procurement is a key consideration in the procurement of goods and services			
SP11: Tackle in-work poverty			

Appendix 2 Well-being of Future Generations

The Masterplan has had regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. In order to demonstrate this, an assessment has been made as to which well-being goals each strategic objective would support. The Strategic Objectives of the Masterplan are:

- A.** Complement, and integrate with, nearby initiatives such as the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) in order to develop a strategic employment function for Rhymney, establishing it as a gateway to the Valleys;
- B.** Improve social and economic resilience through education, training and careers advice, and foster the development of the foundational economy within this area to ensure that economic growth accrues more equitably;
- C.** Expand the area's sphere of influence and improve connectivity;
- D.** Reinforce the role of Bargoed as a service centre for the north of the County Borough;
- E.** Maximise the impact of the Valleys Regional Park, protect and enhance green spaces and built heritage and promote tourism;
- F.** Support proposals for renewable energy generation and community benefit through utility infrastructure;
- G.** Support the development and diversification of housing in sustainable locations;
- H.** Provide a suitable level of community, leisure and education facilities, aligning with national and local initiatives including 21st Century Schools and the CCBC Sport and Active Recreation Strategy where applicable and establish Integrated Well-Being Networks in order to connect communities' strengths and assets;
- I.** Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes;
- J.** Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan

Goal	Description of the goal	How it will be achieved by the Masterplan
A prosperous Wales	An innovative, productive and low-carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - A, B, C, D, F</i> Objectives A - D seek to increase employment by producing investment in specific sites and locations within the context of national and regional initiatives such as City Deal, VTF T... Valleys and Metro. Ensuring that education and training are... with this context in mind will produce the skills and employment... that lends additional sustainability to this approach... and the Masterplan's role within the VTF's 'Energy Belt', will contribute to a society that recognises the need to generate sustainable... and respects the... of the environment.
A resilient Wales	A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy, functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - C, E, F</i> The Valleys Regional Park and the promotion of tourism relies, in large part, on the natural environment in which it is set, and therefore protection of this is paramount in its success. Improving accessibility and connectivity by way of expanding the capabilities of the public transport network through Metro, and the supporting of renewable energy schemes, are two ways in which the Masterplan seeks to strengthen environmental resilience and sustainability.
A healthier Wales	A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - A, E, G, H</i> All objectives will positively impact on this goal to a degree, but strengthening the area's economy, developing measures to ensure a supply of good quality housing stock, opportunities to utilise the natural environment for leisure purposes and ensuring access to facilities and services that directly enhance health and well-being are of utmost importance.

Goal	Description of the goal	How it will be achieved by the Masterplan
A more equal Wales	A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socioeconomic background and circumstances).	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - A, B, C, E, G, H, I, J</i> Objectives concerning connectivity in relation to job opportunities and key services, leisure and the Valleys Regional Park and ensuring the delivery of new housing are important in terms of enabling people in the Masterplan area to access such things. However, the strengthening of the local economy, along with adequate levels of education and training to enable more people to access such opportunities, will help to reduce inequality.
A Wales of cohesive communities	Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives - A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J</i> Improving the economic fortunes of the area and the redevelopment of key sites in line with this ethos, along with the Metro proposals, will make the area increasingly viable as a series of distinctive, yet connected and interdependent, communities. Programmes such as the Valleys Regional Park will add to its attractiveness, both in terms of residents and visitors alike.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, sports and recreation.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – E</i> Developing the Valleys Regional Park concept and maximising the impact of the area’s cultural heritage will encourage understanding of this aspect and participation in related activities. The Masterplan will be available bilingually.
A globally responsive Wales	A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.	<i>Relevant Strategic Objectives – C, E, F</i> There are strong links between this goal and ‘A resilient Wales’. The Valleys Regional Park proposals require the protection and enhancement of green spaces in its effort to develop the area for tourism. The Masterplan promotes the use of more sustainable modes of transport in the form of Metro and Active Travel, and references the opportunity to promote renewable energy generation.

The development of the Masterplan has also been informed by the five ways of working:

Involvement – The proposals contained within the Masterplan are subject to consultation with the local community, and have been developed through engagement with stakeholders such as landowners, partner organisations including the Local Health Board and Idris Davies School, and local authority ward members and community councillors representing the various communities within the Masterplan area.

Collaborate – The development of the Masterplan has drawn upon the expertise from key representatives across local authority departments, including Planning, Regeneration, Housing, Engineering and Countryside. The delivery of the projects identified within the Masterplan will involve collaboration between the public, private and third sectors, and the Council will work closely with these partners to deliver schemes in a collaborative manner.

Long term – The objectives identified, and the projects that will deliver these objectives, are part of a longer-term vision of enhancing the role of the Heads of the Valleys as a sub-regional economic hub capable of supporting local communities. The Masterplan recognises the need for development in order to support economic growth, but recognises that this development should be of a sustainable nature, both in terms of its purpose and its location.

Integration – The projects identified in the Masterplan will help deliver a number of the objectives of within the Council's regeneration strategy A Foundation for Success (as set out within Section 7 of this document), as well as proposals contained within the adopted Local Development Plan. They will also deliver against the Council's own well-being objectives by identifying projects that will lead to job creation and training opportunities, promote more healthy and active lifestyles and reduce the carbon

footprint through improved Active Travel routes and facilities locally.

Prevention – The Masterplan recognises that there are a number of challenges within the Heads of the Valleys that need to be addressed, in order to realise the vision. The proposals identified will respond to these key concerns and will raise the profile of the area, developing the economy within the context of the A465 corridor, increasing and improving the tourism offer and enhancing town centres – all from the basis of improved connectivity, infrastructural investment and an advantageous strategic location in regional terms – thereby improving quality of life for those visiting, living and working in the Masterplan area.

Appendix 3 - Assessment of Site-Specific Proposals against the National Well-Being Goals and the CCBC Well-Being Objectives

This appendix provides an initial assessment of the projects identified within the Masterplan against the national well-being goals and the Council's well-being objectives, as set out within the Corporate Plan 2018-2023. The national well-being objectives are set out in Appendix 2, and the corporate objectives are set out below. It should be noted that many of the projects identified are at an embryonic stage and therefore a detailed analysis of the relationship between proposals and the well-being goals and objectives cannot be undertaken at this stage.

Caerphilly CBC Well-being Objectives

Number	Description
Objective 1	Improve education opportunities for all
Objective 2	Enabling Employment
Objective 3	Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes throughout the county borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being
Objective 4	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment
Objective 5	Creating a county borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the Sustainable Development Principle within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
Objective 6	Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
A	A - 1 Capital Valley, Rhymney	Redevelopment for modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	A - 2 The Lawns Industrial Estate	Development of additional (modern, fit-for-purpose) start-up units at The Lawns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	A - 3 Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate	Development of modern, fit-for-purpose class B premises, potentially including redevelopment of existing stock and provision of a business mentoring facility to support +65 companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
B	B - 1 Education, training and skills advice	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of ensuring widespread economic and social benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Improve education opportunities for all; Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being
	B - 2 Foundational economy	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be addressed as part of ensuring widespread economic and social benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Improve education opportunities for all; Enabling employment; Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
C	C - 1 Land around Rhymney Station	Station improvements, additional car parking and creation of a multi-function business hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C - 2 Other stations (Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Tirphil)	Station improvements at Pontlottyn, Brithdir and Tirphil Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C - 3 A465/ A469 Transport Hub	Development of a transport interchange close to the intersection of the A465 and A469	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C - 4 A469 Resilience Route	Pursue consideration of an A469 resilience route between New Tredegar and Rhymney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
C	C - 5 Former Skinner's Site, Rhymney	Development of a commercial or service-related facility, incorporating EV charging points to serve this stretch of the A465 corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C - 6 Dyffryn Terrace, New Tredegar	Development of EV charging points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities ● A globally responsible Wales 	<p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	C - 7 Active Travel Routes	Developing a network of cycle routes and pathways over the next 15 years, as per the Integrated Routes Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities ● A globally responsible Wales 	<p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
D	D - 1 Land at Bargoed Station	Expansion of car parking provision and general station improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales ● A resilient Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	D - 2 Business Quarter and Bargoed High Street	Redevelopment of vacant units for office use, some retail and complementary commercial uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales ● A more equal Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	D - 3 Bargoed Retail Plateau	Development of remaining part of Bargoed Retail Plateau for commercial use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	D - 4 Former Cinema, Hanbury Square	Redevelopment of the former cinema for commercial/office use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales ● A more equal Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
E	E - 1 Parc Cwm Darran	Expansion of the park's role as a visitor attraction and community resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E - 2 Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town and Relevant Links	Better coordination of existing facilities (Parc Bryn Bach, Bute Town) through extension of cycle routes, interpretation work re. Rhymney Upper Furnace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E - 3 Winding House Museum	Utilisation of office space and better integration of educational, visitor and economic development functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
E	E - 4 Markham Colliery	Development of country park including extension of existing routes, widening visitor appeal and creation of appropriate economic uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E - 5 Gelligaer and Merthyr Common	Enhanced custodianship, community development and increased utilisation of the Common as a visitor attraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	E - 6 Parc Coetir Bargod	Increase park's accessibility in relation to local settlements via new and extended cycle and walking routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
E	E - 7 Bargoed Park	Optimise the role of the park in terms of the sustainability of the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales ● A healthier Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language ● A globally responsible Wales 	<p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
F	F - 1 North of the A465	Potential development of a renewable energy scheme as part of the Heads of the Valleys 'Energy Belt'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	F - 2 Markham Renewable Energy Scheme	Potential development of a community renewable energy scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	F - 3 Rhymney to Bargoed Water Resilient Communities	Increasing water resilience through improvements to physical infrastructure and community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A resilient Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A globally responsive Wales 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
G	G - 1 Aberbargoed Plateau	Mixed-use scheme comprising some residential, FE provision and extension of the cycle route to Parc Coetir Bargod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales ● A more equal Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	G - 2 Bedwellty School	Development of former Bedwellty School site for residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	G - 3 Empty Homes Grant Scheme	Grant funding for purchasers of empty homes for renovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A resilient Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	<p>Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
H	H - 1 21st Century Schools	Replacement and relocation of school buildings in Rhymney and Bargoed via 21st Century Schools programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; ● A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	H - 2 Rhymney Integrated Health and Social Care Centre and Hafod Deg Resource Centre	Continued integration of community-based services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>
	H - 3 Improved Education Well-being Network	Welsh IWNs in the Merthyr area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A prosperous Wales; ● A healthier Wales; ● A more equal Wales; ● A Wales of cohesive communities; 	<p>Improve education opportunities for all;</p> <p>Enabling employment;</p> <p>Creating a County Borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable development principle within the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;</p> <p>Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	National well-being goals	CCBC Well-being objectives 2018 - 2023
I	I - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes	This is a cross-cutting objective that should be considered an integral part of all projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A more equal Wales ● A healthier Wales 	Promote a modern, integrated and sustainable transport system that increases opportunity, promotes prosperity and minimises the adverse impacts on the environment;
J	J - Ensure all communities within the Heads of the Valleys are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan	Address multi-faceted needs in the most deprived communities by adopting a place-based focus that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A more equal Wales ● A Wales of cohesive communities 	Address the availability, condition and sustainability of homes through the County Borough and provide advice, assistance or support to help improve people's well-being

Appendix 4: Sectoral Analysis

Almost 68 ha. of allocated or protected employment land lies in the HOVRA across six sites, making it the County Borough's smallest area in terms of economic/industrial presence. The table below sets out the economic sectors on sites within the HOVRA, by floorspace and numbers of units

Economic sectors on HOVRA sites, expressed by floorspace and numbers of units (2018)

Sector	Floorspace (sq m)	% Occupied Floorspace	Units	% Occupied Units
Mining & quarrying	3,285	2.2	1	0.7
Food, drink & tobacco	184	0.1	2	1.4
Textiles	623	0.4	3	2.1
Wood & paper	11,627	7.7	2	1.4
Printing & recording	56	0.0	1	0.7
Non-metallic mineral products	3,973	2.6	10	6.9
Metals & metal products	1,415	0.9	4	2.8
Machinery	714	0.5	2	1.4
Other manufacturing & repair	25,016	16.6	16	11.0
Electricity & gas	239	0.2	2	1.4
Water, sewerage & waste	21,998	14.6	8	5.5
Construction	50,593	33.7	10	6.9
Motor vehicles trade	5,311	3.5	11	7.6
Wholesale trade	343	0.2	1	0.7

Sector	Floorspace (sq m)	% Occupied Floorspace	Units	% Occupied Units
Retail trade	910	0.6	5	3.4
Land transport	826	0.5	1	0.7
Warehousing & postal	5,301	3.5	20	13.8
Food & beverage services	545	0.4	6	4.1
Head offices & management consultancies	211	0.1	4	2.8
Architectural & engineering services	1,841	1.2	8	5.5
Other professional services	2,415	1.6	7	4.8
Business support service	6,324	4.2	12	8.3
Public administration & defence	4,351	2.9	1	0.7
Education	387	0.3	1	0.7
Health	43	0.0	1	0.7
Arts	330	0.2	3	2.1
Recreational services	1,029	0.7	1	0.7
Other services	380	0.3	2	1.4
TOTAL	150,270	100	145	100

In terms of sectors, there is a great deal of variety with nearly 30 represented. Only two sectors, 'warehousing and postal' and 'other manufacturing and repair' account for

at least 10% of occupied units. In terms of floorspace, this is dominated by 'construction', which accounts for over a third. Other notable sectors regarding floorspace are

'other manufacturing and repair' and 'water, sewerage and waste', both of which account for over 10%.

On a site-by-site basis, this level of variety is also borne out, though some sites do appear to display some degree of specialism (though this must be tempered by the fact that these sectors are somewhat generic compositions of various sub-sectors):

- Heads of the Valleys – ‘other manufacturing’ (including manufacture of furniture, repair of machinery and miscellaneous manufacture that does not fall into any other sector);
- Maerdy – ‘other manufacturing’ (as above);
- Capital Valley – ‘construction’ (construction of buildings, specialised construction and civil engineering).

These sectoral groupings conceal the fact that the HOVRA is home to some key local employers, including Convatec (manufacturer of medical products) and Richards and Appleby (manufacturer of cosmetics) at Heads of the Valleys Industrial Estate, and Williams Medical (medical supplier) at Maerdy. Each of these companies employs between 100 and 200 people.

There is a need to highlight how firms are categorised within particular sectors. The three employers mentioned above are all categorised within ‘other manufacturing’. However, Williams Medical is arguably a better fit within ‘wholesale trade’, or all three companies within ‘health’. Only one unit is identified as being within the ‘health’ category – City and Country Healthcare Group, which occupies a small unit on Bowen Industrial Estate. Due to the size of this operation, this company is unlikely to feature as a key player in the area of health and life sciences in isolation, although it is possible that it may have strong links with others in the local area.

The HOVRA sites presently support some businesses categorised as ‘other professional services’ which could, theoretically, include scientific-based operations with potential links to healthcare-related industries. However, in reality, these include solicitors, driving instructors and other small businesses which offer services to the local community

and no ostensible links to the area’s larger employers.

Despite the presence of a diverse economic foundation, it is clear that some of the area’s larger firms have a common basis in healthcare-related occupations, though further definition is not possible due to the slightly different nature of those firms i.e. the fact that manufacturers exist as well as suppliers, each with a focus on different types of products. It is therefore necessary to look further afield across the HOVRA in order to identify whether there is sectoral strength in this area, and whether the potential for linkages between these firms may exist.

Regional Context

As well as the northern part of Caerphilly County Borough, the HOVRA also incorporates the entirety of Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil, and the northern parts of the Torfaen and Rhondda Cynon Taf administrative areas. However, although information was sought from all of these, it was only provided by Blaenau Gwent.

Blaenau Gwent is particularly pertinent to the Caerphilly context due to:

- it being the location of the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone (EZ) – a Welsh Government-supported network of eight industrial sites designed to accommodate automotive-based uses; and
- its proximity to the Rhymney sites.

Although a comprehensive, sectoral-based inventory of businesses in Blaenau Gwent is not available, manufacturing remains dominant which, like Caerphilly, is diverse in nature. There are two potential areas of focus here:

- The presence of firms operating in healthcare/life sciences, which, in conjunction with the firms operating in Rhymney, may demonstrate the importance of this sector to this part of the HOVRA; and
- The success of the EZ sites in developing an automotive base, which could provide an opportunity for the development of

complementary uses in the Caerphilly part of the HOVRA.

In terms of healthcare/life sciences, the following firms are of potential importance, given its role as a targeted sector within the CCR Industrial and Economic Plan:

- Crown Business Park – Eurocaps Ltd (capsule/soft gelatine manufacture);
- Rassau Industrial Estate – Weiss Technik UK Ltd (environmental test chambers);
- Roseheyworth Business Park – Neem Biotech (laboratory);
- Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate – Nordic Care Services (supplier of healthcare products), PCI Pharma Services (pharmaceutical manufacture).

Each of the firms mentioned above occupy units of 1,000 sq m+, suggesting that each has a not insignificant role in the local economy. Together with Convatec, Williams Medical and Richards and Appleby, this indicates the importance of the Ebbw Vale-

Rhymney stretch of the A465 corridor as being a geographical nucleus for healthcare/life sciences, with the existence of a cluster that itself displays some diversity within its field, including pharmaceuticals, testing, other health-related manufacture and supply.

Of the EZ sites, the following accommodate firms that may have some direct value in developing the area's role as an automotive hub:

Rassau Industrial Estate – G Tem (manufacture of car components), Sears Manufacturing (seat assembly/manufacturing);

Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate – Tenneco Walker (exhausts);

Waun-y-Pound Industrial Estate – Continental Teves UK Ltd (hydraulic brake systems).

Of the additional (non-EZ) sites, Sogefi Filtration Ltd (automotive manufacture) at Crown Business Park also falls into this

category. Again, all of these firms occupy units of 1,000 sq m+.

The Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone is particularly relevant to the north of Caerphilly County Borough as it encompasses sites that are a few miles from those at Rhymney, including Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate which lies on the Caerphilly-Blaenau Gwent boundary. Therefore, an attempt to develop the automotive focus of this location could have an impact on those other sites within its immediate environs, in terms of creating opportunities for the development of complementary uses – albeit without the benefit of publicly-funded financial incentives as is the case in the EZ.

For instance, the CCR Employment and Skills Plan identifies advanced materials and manufacturing as being a priority sector for employment and skills support. Whilst this might include life sciences, it would also include businesses in other areas, some of which could help diversify and strengthen the EZ's economic base. However, the 2018 ELAS

does not identify any examples of existing firms, other than those already provided, that might be regarded as being currently operational in the north of the County Borough.

Premises

The JLL report makes the case for the development of different types of units, three of which would appear to be relevant to the HOVRA:

- Sites developed in conjunction with Metro stations, such as Rhymney, could benefit from some level of small business unit/ office provision as part of a 'business hub pathfinder' scheme;
- Larger B2 units – larger sites are best-placed to cater for units of 25,000+ sq ft due to the lack of remaining, vacant floorspace. Some of the Rhymney sites such as Capital Valley would appear to meet the required criteria, along with sites in the Ebbw Vale EZ;

- Small B1/B2/B8 units – existing premises have very high occupancy rates and strong levels of demand suggest that these would be suitable for smaller estates as well as some larger sites in order to complement the portfolio of stock at these locations. Again, these units could be considered for 'business hub' schemes in relation to Metro stations. Whilst some provision is being made for new start-up units at The Lawn, additional provision at Capital Valley would add further capacity and take advantage of the site's proximity to the station.

Appendix 5: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019)

Data is collated for the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) at super output area (SOA) level. Of the twenty LSOAs that constitute the HOVRA, six are in the most 10% deprived of all Welsh LSOAs. A further five are in the most 10%-20% deprived. Data regarding each of the indices is set out below, for each of the LSOAs:

Twyn Carno 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	8	10% most
Income	21	10% most
Employment	8	10% most
Health	25	10% most
Education	9	10% most
Access to Services	510	20-30% most
Community Safety	148	10% most
Physical Environment	450	20-30% most
Housing	1198	50% least

Twyn Carno 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	473	20-30% most
Income	509	20-30% most
Employment	303	10-20% most
Health	642	30-50% most
Education	817	30-50% most
Access to Services	1075	50% least
Community Safety	71	10% most
Physical Environment	426	20-30% most
Housing	1059	50% least

Moriah 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	391	20-30% most
Income	497	20-30% most
Employment	331	10-20% most
Health	230	10-20% most
Education	221	10-20% most
Access to Services	1657	50% least
Community Safety	863	30-50% most
Physical Environment	976	50% least
Housing	476	20-30% most

Moriah 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	67	10% most
Income	137	10% most
Employment	44	10% most
Health	186	10% most
Education	62	10% most
Access to Services	562	20-30% most
Community Safety	27	10% most
Physical Environment	629	30-50% most
Housing	552	20-30% most

Moriah 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	228	10-20% most
Income	368	10-20% most
Employment	122	10% most
Health	189	10% most
Education	477	20-30% most
Access to Services	1464	50% least
Community Safety	70	10% most
Physical Environment	310	10-20% most
Housing	582	30-50% most

Pontlottyn	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	315	10-20% most
Income	370	10-20% most
Employment	180	10% most
Health	447	20-30% most
Education	258	10-20% most
Access to Services	1079	50% least
Community Safety	219	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1013	50% least
Housing	843	30-50% most

Darren Valley 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	832	30-50% most
Income	958	50% least
Employment	819	30-50% most
Health	682	30-50% most
Education	816	30-50% most
Access to Services	860	30-50% most
Community Safety	712	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1731	50% least
Housing	219	10-20% most

New Tredegar 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	578	30-50% most
Income	768	30-50% most
Employment	594	30-50% most
Health	538	20-30% most
Education	651	30-50% most
Access to Services	1204	50% least
Community Safety	25	10% most
Physical Environment	1299	50% least
Housing	1421	20-30% most

Darren Valley 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	137	10% most
Income	338	10-20% most
Employment	98	10% most
Health	71	10% most
Education	50	10% most
Access to Services	736	30-50% most
Community Safety	621	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1526	50% least
Housing	606	30-50% most

New Tredegar 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	246	10-20% most
Income	348	10-20% most
Employment	308	10-20% most
Health	188	10% most
Education	280	10-20% most
Access to Services	383	20-30% most
Community Safety	241	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1369	50% least
Housing	279	10-20% most

New Tredegar 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	59	10% most
Income	73	10% most
Employment	83	10% most
Health	77	10% most
Education	104	10% most
Access to Services	367	10%-20% most
Community Safety	41	10% most
Physical Environment	1075	50% least
Housing	222	10-20% most

Bargoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	704	30-50% most
Income	711	30-50% most
Employment	553	20-30% most
Health	623	30-50% most
Education	871	30-50% most
Access to Services	1861	50% least
Community Safety	129	10% most
Physical Environment	1035	50% least
Housing	551	20-30% most

Bargoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	538	20-30% most
Income	626	30-50% most
Employment	381	10-20% most
Health	300	10-20% most
Education	778	30-50% most
Access to Services	1049	50% least
Community Safety	297	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1464	50% least
Housing	1038	50% least

Bargoed 3	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	456	20-30% most
Income	635	30-50% most
Employment	422	20-30% most
Health	486	20-30% most
Education	341	10-20% most
Access to Services	1539	50% least
Community Safety	248	10-20% most
Physical Environment	954	30-50% most
Housing	153	10% most

Bargoed 4	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	29	10% most
Income	23	10% most
Employment	18	10% most
Health	29	10% most
Education	161	10% most
Access to Services	343	10-20% most
Community Safety	146	10% most
Physical Environment	1613	50% least
Housing	765	30-50% most

Aberbargoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	349	10-20% most
Income	426	20-30% most
Employment	286	10-20% most
Health	349	10-20% most
Education	233	10-20% most
Access to Services	764	30-50% most
Community Safety	318	10-20% most
Physical Environment	1280	50% least
Housing	877	30-50% most

Gilfach	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	482	20-30% most
Income	576	30-50% most
Employment	248	20-30% most
Health	501	20-30% most
Education	710	30-50% most
Access to Services	1182	50% least
Community Safety	464	20-30% most
Physical Environment	1096	50% least
Housing	514	20-30% most

Aberbargoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	177	10% most
Income	162	10% most
Employment	139	10% most
Health	210	10-20% most
Education	282	10-20% most
Access to Services	1335	50% least
Community Safety	180	10% most
Physical Environment	1297	50% least
Housing	149	10% most

Argoed 1	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	213	10-20% most
Income	156	10% most
Employment	192	10% most
Health	267	10-20% most
Education	155	10% most
Access to Services	1375	50% least
Community Safety	604	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1584	50% least
Housing	411	20-30% most

Argoed 2	Rank (of 1909)	Deprivation
Overall	710	30-50% most
Income	913	30-50% most
Employment	958	50% least
Health	1198	50% least
Education	826	30-50% most
Access to Services	260	10-20% most
Community Safety	678	30-50% most
Physical Environment	1294	50% least
Housing	44	10% most

DRAFT



COUNCIL – 17th NOVEMBER 2020

**SUBJECT: CARE INSPECTORATE WALES
PERFORMANCE REVIEW – APRIL 2019 -
MARCH 2020**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL
SERVICES AND HOUSING**

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The attached report was considered by the Social Services Scrutiny Committee on 20th October 2020 in order to consider the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Local Authority Performance Review for Caerphilly CBC for 2019/20, prior to its consideration at Council.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The attached letter from CIW summarises their review of Caerphilly County Borough Council's performance in carrying out its Social Services functions from April 2019 to March 2020. At the Social Services Scrutiny Committee on the 20 October 2020 the Local Authority Inspector from the Care Inspectorate Wales attended to present this report. Her presentation to the Committee can be found on the Caerphilly County Borough Council Virtual Meetings Page - [Social Services Scrutiny Committee Recording](#)

3. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- 3.1 The scrutiny committee welcomed CIW Local Authority Inspector Ann Rowling to the meeting and invited her to provide an overview of the findings outlined in the performance review. Ms Rowling firstly stated that the review showed that Caerphilly has an experienced and stable senior management team that staff have confidence in and who provide a safe work culture.
- 3.2 Members were advised that the Inspectors were confident that safeguarding for both Adults and Children are thoroughly monitored and quality assured, and CIW are kept informed when any issues arise. The people in receipt of services provided by Caerphilly are at the heart of the service provision and their voices are heard. The Corporate Parenting role at Caerphilly ensures that those in care and care leavers are supported and engaged with. The CIW met with this cohort and the young people praised the wider corporate response provided to them. The work to bring looked

after children back into the county borough which although resource intensive is of benefit and good to see.

- 3.3 The scrutiny committee were pleased to hear that CIW consider that Prevention is at the core of the work of the department and noted the positive work being done which aims to keep young people at home. Members also noted that the Contract and Commissioning Team are regarded by CIW as second to none.
- 3.4 The partnership work in Caerphilly has always be well developed but it was particularly noted how this has moved on in the past 6 months. Recognition that services may have to change going forward in areas such as adult day services is being considered for the longer term.
- 3.5 Members were assured that the senior management team are willing to adapt and change and are always looking for ways to improve with a solution focussed approach. CIW consider Caerphilly in high regard with no risks or concerns.
- 3.6 The scrutiny committee asked how engagement with the children in the 13+ looked after age group could be improved. Members were advised that because this is a sensitive area the department would avoid identifying them as a group through youth services. Therefore, they have used creative methods such as social media and specific Applications instead of formal methods. Officers have worked with the 'Shout Out' group, which is made up of older looked after children, to examine engagement. As a result children have information sent out through their mobile telephones which they can choose to complete online or alternatively text any issues they may have.
- 3.7 Members sought additional information on the Community Connectors, how they were established, how the need was identified and where they work. The committee were advised that there are six community connectors. The service need was identified by the health board as it was recognised that many people attend GP surgeries but often do not have medical needs, such as isolation. Funding was provided through Compassionate Communities Project for the North of the county borough and was due to end in March 2021. However, this has now been extended up until March 2022 and will now cover the whole county borough. Members were advised that people are identified for this service by GP referral or other professionals but can also make a self-referral. It was clarified that if someone couldn't attend a GP practice because of their condition, prior to the current Coronavirus restriction the community connector would have collected them to transport them in the first instance.
- 3.8 The scrutiny committee asked for further information on the issue identified in the review with multi-agency partners struggling with the 'Strength Based Approach' in family meetings. Members were advised that this referred to meetings between partner professionals, which had changed its approach. Formerly the meeting had a traditional approach, consideration of the issues and then strengths. The new approach firstly considers the strengths of a family before moving on to any issues. This has changed the focus of these meetings and the approach is being monitored through the local safeguarding network meetings. Overall it is considered that the initial struggles have now settled down with everybody committed to the approach.
- 3.9 The scrutiny committee were pleased to see the positive messages in the report and asked that the Corporate Director find a way to disseminate the report to all staff in the department and pass on the congratulations and thanks of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Social Services Scrutiny Committee noted the information contained in the report and commend the findings of the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Local Authority Performance Review for Caerphilly CBC for 2019/20 to Council.

Author: Catherine Forbes-Thompson, Scrutiny Manager – forbec1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Appendices: Report to Social Services Scrutiny Committee 20th October 2020 – Agenda Item 6.

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**SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
20TH OCTOBER 2020**

**SUBJECT: CARE INSPECTORATE WALES PERFORMANCE REVIEW –
APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2020**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND
HOUSING**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present to Scrutiny Committee the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Local Authority Performance Review for Caerphilly CBC for 2019/20.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 The attached letter from CIW summarises their review of Caerphilly County Borough Council's performance in carrying out its Social Services functions from April 2019 to March 2020.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to note the content of the letter.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The performance review letter gives members of the Scrutiny Committee a relatively detailed perspective of CIW's view of the Directorate performance in discharging our statutory functions.

4.2 The report also lays out the CIW Performance Review Plan for 2020-21, albeit this is subject to amendment due to the impact of the ongoing pandemic.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 Like all Social Services Departments in Wales our activities are overseen and regulated by Care Inspectorate Wales. CIW undertake an annual programme of visits

to reassure both themselves, the authority and the public that services are of the appropriate standard and being delivered in accordance with the requirements and principles of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

5.2 The attached letter is informed by the performance evaluation activity undertaken by the Inspectorate during the course of the year. This activity included:

- focused activity adults services January 2020
- focused activity children's services February 2020
- engagement with older adults and their carers September 2019
- head of service meetings
- challenge meeting prevention and promotion of independence for older people October 2019

5.3 The report is based around a summary of strengths and areas for improvement under four main headings. These are;

- Well-being
- People
- Prevention
- Partnerships

5.4 Areas for improvement identified in the report will make their way into our Directorate Plans for what remains of 2020/21 and 2021/22.

5.5 **Conclusion**

The report from CIW paints a generally positive picture of the Directorate's performance during 2019/20. We will continue to engage with CIW in accordance with the agreed programme of visits and will use the feedback as part of my Annual Directors report for 2019/20 which is currently being written.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 There were no assumptions made in writing this report.

7. **LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES**

7.1 **Corporate Plan 2018-2023.**

The contents of this report contributes towards to or impacts on the following Corporate Well-being Objectives;

Objective 5 - Creating a county borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable Development Principle within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Objective 6 - Support citizens to remain independent and improve their well-being

8. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

8.1 This report contributes to the following Well-being Goals:-

- A resilient Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities

The report is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act.

:

- Long Term – The feedback from CIW helps us understand and ensure that our services are fit for purpose and sustainable in meeting people’s needs moving forward.
- Prevention – Prevention is a key part of the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. The letter from CIW contains specific reference with regard to our performance around prevention.
- Integration – Good quality social care services play a fundamental part in ensuring the well-being, not just to the recipients of the service, but also to their immediate families and the general community. Supporting unpaid carers allow people to continue to work and gives carers the support they need to continue to care for their loved ones longer term allowing the recipients of the service to remain in their own homes for longer.
- Collaboration – Partnerships are now a cornerstone of delivering our services. This is both with other public bodies and the people who use our services. The letter from CIW makes specific reference to our performance in this area.
- Involvement – Involving citizens in the planning and delivery of services is a key part of the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Co-production of services is now a basic requirement of social work services.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no equalities impacts arising from this report. Equalities is a central plank of the delivery of social care services. There are no services development issues arising from this report that require equality impact assessments to be completed.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The Directorate has a set annual revenue budget and has successfully operated within the confines of this budget during 2019/20.

11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

12. CONSULTATIONS

12.1 There are no consultation responses that have not been reflected in this report.

13. STATUTORY POWER

13.1 Social Services provision is delivered in accordance with the requirements of the Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.

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Consultees: Councillor Shayne Cooke, Cabinet Member
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Appendices:
Appendix 1 Care Inspectorate Wales Local Authority Performance Review
April 2019 - March 2020



Dave Street
 Director of Social Services
 Caerphilly County Borough Council
 Penallta House
 Tredomen
 Ystrad Mynach
 CF82 7PG

Date: 03 August 2020

Dear Dave Street,

Care Inspectorate Wales Local Authority Performance Review April 2019 - March 2020

The code of practice for review of local authority social services in April 2019 outlines our intention to write and publish an annual letter for local authorities which will:

- provide feedback on inspection and performance evaluation activity completed by us during the year
- report on progress the local authority has made in implementing recommendations from inspections and/or child and adult practice reviews
- outline our forward work programme

This letter summarises our review of Caerphilly County Borough Council performance in carrying out its statutory social services functions from April 2019 – March 2020.

We acknowledge, due to the unprecedented circumstances relating to COVID-19, we were unable to complete the annual performance review meeting. We believe that there remains significant benefits in identifying and drawing the attention of the local authority and its partners, recognising strengths and areas for improvements required. The letter is intended to assist the local authority and its partners to continually improve.

It follows the four principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and our increasingly collaborative and strengths based approach to supporting improvement.

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Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW)
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The content of this letter is informed by the performance evaluation activity undertaken by the inspectorate during the course of the year. This activity included:

- focused activity adults services January 2020
- focused activity children's services February 2020
- engagement with older adults and their carers September 2019
- head of service meetings
- challenge meeting prevention and promotion of independence for older people October 2019

Summary of strengths and areas for improvement in line with principles of the Act 2014

Well-being

Caerphilly County Borough Council benefits from a stable and experienced senior management team. Both adult and children services receive political and corporate support and there is a shared understanding of the direction and drive needed to ensure that services improve outcomes for people.

The local authority has continued to work hard, in the implementation of the Act 2014, during a time of financial constraint and budgetary savings to reshape its services. The ambition of the local authority's plans signals its commitment to improving people's well-being and independence. There is a clear recognition that a whole systems approach is needed, working in partnership with service users, local communities, partner agencies and across children's and adults services, to improve the quality of services.

Older people and their carers benefit from initiatives which promote their well-being and independence. We received positive feedback from individuals through our engagement activities about the significant difference these initiatives have made, reducing social isolation and promoting independence in local extra care schemes.

We undertook focused activity in adult services specifically looking at safeguarding. We identified strengths including voice and wishes of the person effectively embedded within the process and practice. We found evidence of positive multi-agency working with effective and supportive management oversight with clear decision making rational. We saw how practitioners arranged immediate protection to keep vulnerable individuals safe from the risk of harm. The local authority recognises its responsibilities as a corporate parent with partners, stakeholders and directorates understanding the issues faced by young people with a clear commitment to care experienced leavers.

The local authority has a relatively stable looked after children population. For its most complex and challenging young people the development of children's residential homes within the local authority continues, with an application to register a second home and plans to develop a third by the end of 2020. This initiative is intended to enable a reduction in the need for children to be placed in high cost residential provision outside of the local authority.

We found within family group meetings and core groups a strength based approach being introduced, multi-agency partners initially struggled but can see the benefits for children and their families. Outcomes are evidenced using "distant travelled tools" at all key stages within a young person's journey.

Responsibility for children's and adult safeguarding are managed within children's services. This has improved capacity and resilience by working collaboratively across disciplines.

People

Caerphilly County Borough Council continues to have a stable and skilled workforce, with many staff having worked for the local authority for a number of years. During focused activities staff informed us of the positive professional support within teams, from their line and senior managers.

Many local authorities including Caerphilly County Borough Council continue to find recruitment difficult in some areas of the social care workforce. Successful initiatives including reviewing the market supplement for key posts and implementing an enhanced remuneration package for foster carers has promoted recruitment in hard to fill posts.

The local authority is fully committed to involving residents in the shaping of services. The local authority over the past year have undertaken a number of consultations in respect of reviewing and developing services with 19 surveys being sent out five for adult's services and 14 for children's services. In addition, young people have been involved in the Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru (4Cs) evaluation of placements.

The local authority have identified the difficulty in hearing the voices of young people within the 13 plus age range. Engagement has been undertaken an example being consultation undertaken between young people and independent reviewing officers (IRO) where documentation was reviewed and following young people's views made available on line. The local authority considers this area as a challenge and will continue to develop creative approaches to gather the views of children and families about their experiences.

We identified the impact of how training by all staff on "What Matters" conversation has improved practice, ensuring better outcomes for adults and children. Staff articulated how their practice had changed and how they had shared their training experience with colleagues.

Significant changes to documentation on Welsh Community Care Information System (WCCIS) has allowed more open narrative led recordings. We found evidence of social workers using strength based outcome focused conversations working with service users, cares and families to promote their wishes and feelings. Children's Services social workers discussed how they are now using the risk model and are "holding the risk", formulating care and support plans and moving away from written agreements with families to developing shared safety plans.

Interviews during focused activity with care experienced young people evidenced positive engagement with their personal assistant (PA), youth services, housing, and partner agencies. The 16+ team were praised for being flexible in their approach, responsive and going the extra mile to ensure the young person's best interest is at the forefront of their practice.

During the adults focused activity, we saw evidence of good Mental Capacity Act (MCA) assessments being undertaken by social workers where people lacked capacity,

assessments provided appropriate understanding of the issues significant to them and best interest decision made accordingly. Social workers provided robust assessments that accurately represented the person's situation.

We found evidence during adult focused activity of people being supported by advocates to participate in decisions that affect them. We were told how the regional partnership board had worked on a partnership agreement for formal advocacy developing the wider Gwent offer.

The local authority has undertaken a creative approach in seeking to recruit domiciliary care workers, arranging a tea and cake recruitment event resulting in 30 people being interviewed. Registration of domiciliary care workers has been promoted with staff attending planned workshops with Social Care Wales to support workers undertaking the registration process, this has included supported living staff. Regional Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) bid has been submitted to pay for registration fee for all independent sector staff as an incentive to register.

We continue to monitor of the implementation of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) which has identified the local authority, in common with many others in Wales, is unable to assure itself that people's human rights are not being breached by being deprived of their liberty unlawfully. Our joint national report on DoLS will be issued in due course.

Prevention

Prevention is an inherent part of the Caerphilly County Borough Council's business. Social services have identified the long term benefits for individuals and families who engage in the services within the prevention agenda. Collaboration is an inherent part of this agenda with evidence of both internal and external partnership working with agencies as being critical in developing and delivering services.

Within adults services we saw relevant information shared with contract and commissioning team and the quality assurance and improvement officer. Through identifying safeguarding themes in relation to provider's services and undertaking thematic audits, provided evidence of practice development to improve the safety and well-being of service users.

A key priority has been the implementation of the safe reduction strategy in respect of children who have become looked after. Work has been undertaken with ICF funding being used in early help and prevention services to prevent young people from entering the looked after system. Additional resources for family group meetings, extra psychologist in Team around the Family (TAF) are also used to prevent admission into care. Fostering has expanding its support services to support family and friend's placements through working with My Support Team (MyST) who offer additional psychologist support to such placements to prevent placement breakdown.

Partnership

We were told of how the transformation grant have been used to develop Integrated Well-being Networks within North Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Compassionate Communities. Health have employed 6 community connectors to work in GP surgeries supporting people at risk from loneliness and isolation as well as supporting people discharged from hospital.

Funding has been identified for next 18 months to develop the work of Community Champions and their role within the multi-disciplinary team.

Other positive areas of joint working include the Pan Gwent Better Care Project is one example of work undertaken on a regional basis with funding from Welsh Government, looking at all double handed calls with the aim of releasing more care hours into the system. Senior practitioner will assess packages of care, consider use of equipment, train staff in safe moving and handling. South East Wales Shared Lives (SEWLAS) are seeking to develop more placements with families, to reduce the need for hospital admissions for people with mental health problems.

During 2018 our programme of work focused on care experienced children and young people. The [report](#) is published on our website. Key findings highlight areas for improvement in respect of profile, sufficiency, practice, partnerships, stability, governance and corporate parenting. Many of the areas we have identified for improvement continue to be considered by Welsh Government's Ministerial Advisory Group on improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people and we also hope local authorities will consider their own contribution to addressing these findings.

In December 2019 we wrote to all local authorities asking for information about the Public Accounts Committee report following their enquiry into care experienced children, specifically recommendation 5 concerning the effectiveness and frequency of end of placement reviews.

Caerphilly County Borough Council confirmed the range of mechanisms they have in place to prevent potential placement breakdown and ensure stability, with a focus on learning and informing practice

Partnerships

Political support for social services remains strong. Senior officers are able to demonstrate how the links between the different directorates contribute to supporting the work of social services across the local authority. The Chief Executive and Director of Social Services (DoSS) describe their roles as supportive with appropriate challenge, fostering the right environment for the senior management team to undertake their role successfully.

Caerphilly County Borough Council is a proactive contributor to the regional boards and participates on sub groups and joint working projects. This has resulted in the finalisation and signing off a section 33 agreement to allow the allocation of pooled funds for residential care for older people.

Partnership arrangements at both regional and local level continue to develop and mature. The regional 'Home First' model at the Royal Gwent Hospital is an example of this in practice. Health and social care professionals working together to ensure people are screened by a 'trusted assessor', ensuring and supporting early discharge from hospital, with ongoing assessment undertaken at home.

We found evidence of good joint working on complex cases between children's services and specialist agencies services such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Youth Offending Services (YOS), Barnardo's and police, with effective risk

management and information sharing in the best interest of the young person embedded in practice.

CIW Performance Review Plan for 2020-2021

Our scheduled thematic inspection programme for 2019-2020 focused on prevention and promoting independence for older people, and for the current children's services thematic inspection the focus is on prevention, partnerships and experiences of disabled children. Due to the current emergency situation relating to COVID-19 we have paused the publication of our older persons report and paused all activity relating to the disabled children's review. We will advise you in due course when we envisage recommencing our inspections.

We hope to publish the older people's national report in due course and want to take this opportunity to thank you for your local authority's contribution to this.

Due to the unforeseen circumstances we find ourselves in, we are currently reviewing and considering our work plan for the remainder of 2020-2021.

CIW worked together with HMI Constabulary (HMICFRS), HMI Probation, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) and Estyn to develop a model of joint inspection of child protection arrangements in Wales (JICPA). This approach was piloted during the autumn of 2019. This was an excellent example of new ways of working across Wales and a real drive towards collaboration and integration in public services.

We continue to work closely with Social Care Wales to support improvement in social care services.

You will note that this letter has been copied to colleagues in Audit Wales, Estyn and HIW. CIW works closely with partner inspectorates to consider the wider corporate perspective in which social services operate, as well as the local context for social services performance.

We will publish the final version of this letter on our website.

Yours sincerely,



Lou Bushell-Bauers
Head of Local Authority Inspection

Cc.
Audit Wales
HIW
Estyn



COUNCIL - 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: LICENSING ACT 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

-
- 1.1 The attached report, which informed Members of the necessity to review the Statement of Licensing Policy and the result of consultations carried out, was considered by the Licensing and Gambling Committee on 5th November 2020, prior to its presentation to Council.
 - 1.2 The Licensing Act came into force on 7th February 2005 and requires the Authority to publish a Statement of Licensing Policy to determine how applications would be considered. The Authority is required to review the statement every five years. The current Policy was published in January 2016. The Council must therefore review the current Policy and, based upon the results of consultation undertaken, approve a revised Policy for publication in January 2021.
 - 1.3 Members were advised that the Authority has conducted a review of the Policy and consulted with responsible authorities detailed under the Act, for example: Police, Health Board, Fire Authority, Child Protection Officer, Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Planning. All existing licence premises licence holders and holders of club premises certificates in the borough were written to informing them of the consultation. In addition, residents and businesses throughout the Caerphilly Borough were invited to comment by accessing the Council's website during the consultation period from 14th August to 9th October 2020.
 - 1.4 Officers outlined the Guidance that the Council in accordance with Section 182 of the Act must have regard to when preparing a revised Policy, and where appropriate, this has been reflected in the Council's revised Policy, together with a number of legislative changes that were detailed in the report. The format of the Statement of Policy has been reviewed via the Gwent Licensing Forum which includes officers from council licensing, police licensing and health board representatives and amended to align with neighbouring Licensing authorities within the Gwent region, which share the same local health board and police force area to bring about a consistency of approach.
 - 1.5 The existing policy has been reviewed and amended to align itself to the Gwent region, and the proposed changes were outlined to Members and set out in Sections 5.5 to 5.8 of the Officer's report. Members were referred to the revised Statement of Licensing Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report and the Licensing Authorities model pool of conditions attached at Appendix 2 to the report and were asked to comment on the revised Policy prior to its presentation to Council.
 - 1.6 During the course of the ensuing debate and in response to Members' queries, Officers confirmed that two comments had been posted on the Council's website during the consultation period and some general enquires had been received from licensees regarding

the Policy, but assured the Committee that no adverse concerns had been received from consultees. Members were advised that Responsible Authorities took part in the pre-preparation of the revised Policy and that Gwent Police and the Local Health Board had both confirmed that they were satisfied with the revisions.

- 1.7 Members suggested that it would have been useful to view the current Policy with the suggested revisions included as track changes in order to easily identify the alterations. Officers explained that on this occasion, it was not possible to reflect the changes in this way, as the entire format of the Policy had been amended to align with neighbouring authorities, and therefore any changes would not be easily identifiable and instead were outlined in the Officer's report. However, Officers confirmed that any future reviews of the Policy could include track changes now that the document is in its updated format. Officers confirmed that this explanation would be included when the report is presented to Council.
- 1.8 The Licensing and Gambling Committee thanked Officers for the extensive work carried out in the preparation of the revised Policy, and following consideration of the report, it was unanimously recommended to Council that the revised Statement of Licensing Policy as appended to the report be approved.
- 1.9 Council are asked to consider the report and comments received from the Licensing and Gambling Committee and approve the revised Statement of Licensing Policy.

Author: R. Barrett, Committee Services Officer, Ext. 4245

Appendices:

Appendix Report to Licensing and Gambling Committee on 5th November 2020 – Agenda Item 3



LICENSING AND GAMBLING COMMITTEE – 5TH NOVEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: LICENSING ACT 2003 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT -

- 1.1 To inform Members of the necessity to review the Statement of Licensing Policy and the result of consultations carried out. The report is seeking the views of Members prior to its presentation to Council.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Licensing Act came into force on 7 February 2005, and requires the Authority to publish a Statement of Licensing Policy to determine how applications would be considered. The Authority is required to review the statement every five years.
- 2.2 The current Policy was published in January 2016. The Council must therefore review the current Policy and, based upon the results of consultation undertaken, approve a revised Policy for publication in January 2021.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members review the revised Statement of Licensing Policy offering appropriate comments prior to presentation of a Report to Council for approval.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 In order to give effect to the statutory obligations imposed by the Licensing Act 2003 and in Regulations made under the Act.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 The Licensing Act 2003

In accordance with the above Act, the Council, as Licensing Authority, is responsible for issuing licences and certificates for the supply of alcohol, entertainment, late night

food and other licensable activities. The Council has a duty to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy, having firstly consulted a wide range of bodies and individuals and to review it every five years.

- 5.2 The Authority has conducted a review of the Policy and consulted with responsible authorities detailed under the Act, for example: Police, Health Board, Fire Authority, Child Protection Officer, Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Planning. All existing licence premises licence holders and holders of club premises certificates in the borough were written to informing them of the consultation. In addition, residents and businesses throughout the Caerphilly Borough have been invited to comment by accessing the Council's website during a period of consultation 14th August to 9th October 2020.
- 5.3 When preparing the revised Statement of Licensing Policy, the Council, in accordance with Section 182 of the Act, must have regard to the Guidance issued by the Home Office who hold responsibility for the Licensing Act 2003. Revised Guidance was issued in April 2018 and, where appropriate, this has been reflected in the Council's revised Policy. There have also been a number of legislative changes that have been incorporated into the revised policy which include the Policing and Crime Act 2017, which gives the licensing authority the ability to revoke or suspend personal licences. In addition, the Immigration Act 2016 in relation to making Home Office, a responsible Authority and also allowing the detection and prevention of illegal working on premises that hold an alcohol or late-night refreshment licence.
- 5.4 The format of the Statement of Policy has been reviewed via the Gwent Licensing Forum which includes officers from council licensing, police licensing and health board representatives and amended to align with neighbouring Licensing authorities within the Gwent region, which share the same local health board and police force area to bring about a consistency of approach.
- 5.5 The existing policy has been reviewed and amended to align itself to the Gwent region and the changes proposed include the following:
- An update of the implications of drug and alcohol harm provided by Public Health. (Paragraphs 7.1 – 7.7 of revised policy)
 - Best Practice guidance in relation to prevention of crime and disorder (Paragraph 10.4)
 - Sets out measures on how to prevent and report sexual exploitation, modern day slavery and human trafficking. (Paragraph 10.7)
 - Prevention of public nuisance working with partners such as environmental health and referral to Welsh Government's Noise and Soundscape Action plan 2018-2023 (Paragraphs 11.1 – 11.10)
 - Public Safety – provides advice on risk assessments and control measures. (Paragraph 12.1 -12.7)
 - Protection of children from harm, including safeguarding advice and underage sales. (Paragraph 13.9)
 - Provides advice on how the licensing authority will deal with petitions in support of or objecting to applications. (Paragraph 28.24)

- 5.6 In addition to the above, the revised policy seeks to advise applicants planning outdoor events requiring Temporary Event Notices (TENs) or Premises Licences to contact the Council's Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) in good time, in order that advice and guidance in relation to the event can be provided. (Paragraph 21.10)
- 5.7 Furthermore, the revised policy sets out that there will be an expectation that Premises Licence holders, Designated Premises and holders of Club Premises Certificates will be aware of their permitted licensable activities, permitted hours and conditions and that failure to demonstrate or have a lack of regard could result in a lack of confidence in management by a Responsible Authority which could give lead to enforcement action or licence review. (Paragraph 19.7 & 20.4)
- 5.8 In relation to the prevention of crime and disorder licensing objective, the revised policy details the approach by Responsible Authorities to work together sharing all available data to address alcohol related crime and disorder, particularly violence by including NHS sources of data to identify premises or areas of concern. (Paragraph 10.5)
- 5.9 Attached as **Appendix 1** to this report is the revised Statement of Licensing Policy. The Policy will also be presented to Council in November, with a view to the document being finally approved in readiness for publishing in January 2021.
- 5.10 Attached as **Appendix 2** to this report are the Licensing Authorities model pool of conditions, which assist applicants, responsible authorities, local residents and businesses who may be considering making comments as to conditions of licence as part of the application or review process. The use of the pools of conditions assists in attaching enforceable and consistent conditions. These conditions have not been changed since the current policy was approved.

5.9 **Conclusion**

The Licensing Authority is required to review its statement of licensing policy every 5 years. The revised policy takes into account legislative change since the adoption of the last policy. Work has been undertaken to align the policy to neighbouring Gwent Authorities for a consistent approach towards licensing applications. Whilst the format of the policy has been amended, there are no major changes in policy.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 No assumptions have been made in the preparation of this report.

7. **LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES**

- 7.1 Statement of Licensing Policy 2016.

7.2 **Corporate Plan 2018-2023.**

The aim of licensing is generally public safety and protection and to ensure a fair and level market place for licensable activities.

The report impacts on the following Corporate Well-being Objectives, which are:

Objective 2 - Enabling employment

Objective 5 - Creating a county borough that supports a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the sustainable Development Principle within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

8. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

8.1 The Authority has a duty to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The areas covered in this report contribute to the following Well-being Goals

- A prosperous Wales
- A resilient Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A globally responsible Wales

They are consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act and support the objectives of other stakeholders.

There is an emphasis on prevention as the licensing process ensures that a number of checks and safeguards are in place before a licence is granted. There is also involvement particularly through the consultation process for polices and applications allowing other agencies and the community to input into the decision-making process. The prime focus for the Council is to ensure public safety and to provide an efficient and effective licensing service.

9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no potential equalities implications of this report and its recommendations on groups or individuals who fall under the category identified in Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan. No potential for unlawful discrimination and/or low level or minor negative impact has been identified; therefore a full EIA has not been carried out. The Council ensures that it treats all individuals who are renewing or making new applications for licenses, with equal respect in line with the Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2016 to 2020.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no financial implications for the Authority arising directly from this report.

11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no personnel implications.

12. CONSULTATIONS

12.1 Comments received from the bodies or individuals consulted, in particular the

Responsible Authorities have been considered and, where necessary, amendments or inclusions have been made to the revised policy. During the period of consultation only one formal response was completed which informed of amended contact details for a Responsible Authority.

- 12.2 This report has been sent to the Consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

13. STATUTORY POWER

- 13.1 Licensing Act 2003 and any Regulations made under the Act. The decision is the responsibility of the full Council.

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Consultees: Cllr Denver Preece Chair, Licensing & Gambling Committee
Cllr Julian Simmonds, Vice Chair, Licensing & Gambling Committee
Cllr Nigel George, Cabinet Member for Waste and Public Protection
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Steve Harris, Head of Corporate Finance, S.151 Officer
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Shaun Watkins, HR Manager

Background Papers:
Statement of Licensing Policy 2016

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Revised Statement of Licensing Policy
Appendix 2 Model Pool of Conditions

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Licensing Act 2003

Draft Policy Statement 2020

Revision 2020

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Mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn ar gael yn Gymraeg ac mewn ieithoedd neu fformatau
eraill ar gais.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Council, in fulfilling its role as the Licensing Authority, to publish a “Licensing Policy” that sets out the policies the council will generally apply to promote the licensing objectives when making decisions on applications made under the Act. This is that statement of policy prepared in accordance with the provisions of the 2003 Act and the latest version of Home Office Guidance issued under section 182 of the Act.
- 1.2 Caerphilly County Borough Council (“the Council”) is the Licensing Authority under the Licensing Act 2003 and is responsible for granting premises licences, club premises certificates, and personal licences in respect of the sale and/or supply of alcohol and the provision of regulated entertainment and late night refreshment. Throughout the document, the Council will be referred to as the Licensing Authority, where appropriate to prevent confusion between this role and the other functions carried out by the Council.
- 1.3 This policy sets out how applications for licences, which are required by the Licensing Act 2003, will be considered by the Licensing Authority.
- 1.4 In developing this licensing policy, the advice of bodies such as Local Government (LG), the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and various trade associations have been taken into account wherever possible. Where appropriate, the Policies of other Gwent authorities have also been taken into account, in order to achieve uniformity wherever possible and to help ensure the integration of the various policies over a wider geographical area. Other Corporate policies adopted by the Council have also been taken into account, and these will be referred to throughout this document as appropriate.
- 1.5 The Equalities Act 2010 introduced measures to tackle discrimination encountered by disabled people in certain areas including employment, and access to goods, facilities and services. The applicant shall have regard to this legislation. However, the Licensing Authority will not use licensing to pursue such issues, other than where supported by legislation and accepted good practice.
- 1.6 Caerphilly County Borough Council has a legal obligation to comply with all legislation that promotes equality it has a policy in place to promote equality to all. The Council has a Strategic Equality Plan which is available for inspection on our website. Licensing of persons and premises under the Licensing Act 2003 will actively promote equality of service and enforcement to all members of the community.
- 1.7 The Human Rights Act 1998 incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights and makes it unlawful for a local authority to act in a way that is incompatible with such a right. The Licensing Authority will have regard to the Human Rights Act when considering any licensing issues, and particularly in respect of the way in which applications are considered and enforcement activities are carried out.
- 1.8 Each application will be considered on its individual merits, and in the light of this Policy

- 1.9 The Licensing Authority acknowledges that it may need to depart from this Policy and from the guidance issued under the Act in individual and exceptional circumstances, and where the case merits such a decision in the interests of the promotion of the licensing objectives. Any such decision will be taken in consultation with the appropriate legal advisors for the Licensing Authority, and the reasons for any such departure will be fully recorded.
- 1.10 The licensing policy will not seek to regulate matters which are provided for in any other legislation and will seek to complement such regimes e.g. planning, health and safety, employment rights, fire safety, etc.
- 1.11 The Licensing Authority wishes to encourage licensees to provide a wide range of entertainment activities in Caerphilly County Borough throughout their opening hours and to promote live music, dance, theatre, etc. for the wider cultural benefit of the community.
- 1.12 This Licensing Authority will update and publish a new Licensing Policy whenever necessary but in any case within five years of the date of this Policy, and will fully consult with partners, trade associations and residents groups as appropriate at that time, any representations received will be considered at that time. However where updates are required due to changes in national legislation, statutory guidance or contact details the council reserves the right to amend this policy without consultation where it is necessary to ensure the policy reflects national legislation or statutory guidance.
- 1.13 This policy revision will take into account the following matters in its re-drafting.
- The amendment's to the Licensing Act 2003 made by:
 - ❖ The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
 - ❖ The Live Music Act 2012
 - ❖ The Deregulation Act 2015
 - ❖ Statutory instruments laid
 - ❖ Revised Guidance issued under S182 of the Licensing Act 2003
 - ❖ Immigration
- 1.14 In addition to the above, a Review of the council's Licensing Policy was conducted with members of the Gwent Licensing Forum, which consists of Council Licensing Officers, Police licensing and Public Health Officer covering the areas of Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and Newport. The Forum sought to align its policies across Gwent with a view to provide a consistent approach to licensing across the region.

2. Profile of the County

- 2.1 The County Borough has a population in excess of 181,019 and is semi-rural in character covering a total area of 69,160 acres. There are seven main town centres servicing the area, (Caerphilly, Blackwood, Bargoed, Ystrad Mynach, Newbridge,

Risca and Rhymney) along with numerous villages, each with their own individual character. The authority is comprised of 33 wards.

- 2.2 There are many major concentrations of premises in the County Borough providing regulated entertainment and / or retail sale of alcohol. There are also many private clubs, several nightclubs, theatres and premises for the exhibition of films. Local venues such as village, community and school halls, sports clubs, etc provide additional locations for cultural activities.
- 2.3 During the summer months, several open-air events provide for the larger cultural audiences and many local carnivals, fetes etc are organised in smaller communities.
- 2.4 There are many public houses in the County Borough outside of the main towns, many of these in smaller villages. These provide focal points for community life. In other cases this may be provided by small stores, shops and supermarkets that sell alcohol.
- 2.5 Premises and events which are licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 can provide a contribution to the local economy through tourism, cultural development and maximising night time trade.
- 2.6 The Local Authority may, in appropriate circumstances, consider seeking from the Licensing Authority premises licences in its own name for its own public spaces within the community. This may assist with the promotion of broader cultural activities and entertainments.

3. Licensing Committee

- 3.1 The Council will appoint a Licensing Committee in accordance with its constitution.
- 3.2 A Licensing Committee shall establish Sub-Committees (panels) consisting of three Members of the Committee, to consider applications where representations have been received from any person and/or Responsible Authorities.
- 3.3 In the interests of good governance, where a Councillor who is a Member of a Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-Committee has had a direct or indirect pecuniary or personal interest in any matter before them they will be disqualified from any involvement in the decision-making process affecting the premises licence. A Councillor will not sit on a Sub-Committee to consider an application within their 'Ward'.
- 3.4 Every determination of a licensing decision by the Licensing Committee or a Licensing Sub-Committee shall be accompanied with reasons for the decision.
- 3.5 The Council's Licensing Officers will deal with all licence applications where either no relevant representation has been received, or where representations have been received and it is agreed by the parties that a hearing is not necessary.

- 3.6 A periodic report will be made to Licensing Committee on the exercise of delegated powers.
- 3.7 The Council will ensure that members and relevant officers are appropriately trained to carry out their duties under the Act.
- 3.8 Matters in respect of the Licensing Act 2003 are to be dealt with as specified in the council's scheme of delegation under its constitution.

4. Fundamental principles

- 4.1 Licensing is about the control of licensed premises, qualifying clubs and temporary events within the terms of the 2003 Act, and conditions may be attached to licences, certificates and permissions that will cover matters which are within the control of individual licensees.
- 4.2 When considering these conditions, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the activities taking place at licensed premises on members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.
- 4.3 In this respect, the Licensing Authority recognises that, apart from the licensing function, there are a number of other mechanisms available for addressing issues that can occur away from the licensed premises, including:
- Planning controls;
 - On-going measures to create a safe and clean environment in these areas in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other Council departments;
 - Designation of parts of the county borough as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly;
 - Regular liaison with police on law enforcement issues regarding disorder and antisocial behaviour, including the issue of fixed penalty notices, prosecution of those selling alcohol to people who are drunk, confiscation of alcohol from adults and children in designated areas and instantly closing down licensed premises or temporary events on the grounds of disorder, or likelihood of disorder or excessive noise from the premises;
 - The power of the police, other responsible authority or interested party to seek a review of the licence or certificate.

5. Zoning and licensing hours

- 5.1 Paragraph 10.13 of the Government's current Section 182 Guidance states that:
"The 2003 Act gives the licensing authority power to make decisions about the hours during which premises can conduct licensable activities as part of the implementation of its licensing policy statement. Licensing authorities are best placed to make decisions about appropriate opening hours in their areas based on their local knowledge and in consultation with responsible authorities. However,

licensing authorities must always consider each application and must not impose predetermined licensed opening hours, without giving individual consideration to the merits of each application”

5.2 Paragraph 13.41 of the Government’s current Section 182 Guidance goes on to state that:

“As part of its licensing policy, the licensing authority may also wish to consider the use of alternative measures such as fixed closed times and zoning within its area, providing such mechanisms are justified on the basis of the licensing objectives and are only presumptive, with final decisions continuing to be made in relation to the individual premises on a case by case basis in accordance with what is appropriate to promote the licensing objectives. The licensing authority would be expected to include its intention to use such measures in its statement of licensing policy and justify doing so in order to orchestrate closing times so as to manage problems in the night-time economy based on the promotion of the licensing objectives. As with the creation of a cumulative impact policies, the use of such mechanisms would create a rebuttable presumption and would apply in the event of representation being received”

5.3 When dealing with licensing hours, the Licensing Authority recognises the requirement that each application will be dealt with on its individual merits. Nonetheless, whilst the Licensing Authority does not wish to unduly inhibit the continuing development of a thriving and safe evening and night-time local economies which are important for investment and employment locally. The Authority considers that it is vital to create an appropriate balance between the economic needs of licensed premises and the rights of local residents to be able to enjoy a reasonable degree of peace and quiet at noise-sensitive times and other persons not experience early fall out of the night-time economy. To this end, the Licensing Authority is prepared to consider identifying zones in its area where hours of operation for licensable activities will be fixed. At the time of preparing this policy, no zones have been identified. However, the Licensing Authority will consider the introduction of such zones and limiting of hours for licensable activities upon receipt of representations from and following consultation undertaken with Responsible Authorities. This will be applied in the event of representations being made upon an application unless the Licensing Sub-Committee is persuaded that it would not be appropriate to apply them in the circumstances of the application.

5.4 The Licensing Authority notes that the Government’s Section 182 Guidance states that “Shops, stores and supermarkets should normally be free to provide sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises at any times when the retail outlet is open for shopping unless there are good reasons, based on the licensing objectives, for restricting those hours”. However, because of the problems experienced in some local communities in the county borough arising from the availability of alcohol for sale at local shops for consumption off the premises this Licensing Authority has decided that it will not adopt this general position but instead will expect applicants and licence-holders to trade alcohol at hours which are appropriate to their particular local environment. Therefore applicants should very carefully consider the hours they seek when devising their operating schedule and it is recommended to discuss such application with the appropriate Responsible Authorities.

- 5.5 In the event that applications are submitted which have not demonstrated that appropriate alcohol trading hours have been properly considered, it is likely that representations will be made by the relevant responsible authorities and the public. This will delay the determination of the application and result in it being referred to a Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.
- 5.6 Once an application, or an existing licence in the case of a review, is referred to a Sub-Committee it can be expected that the Sub-Committee will scrutinise the application or licence very carefully and arrive at a decision regarding hours. Appropriate hours will be considered to promote the licensing objectives and may even result in the refusal of the application or the revocation of a licence.
- 5.7 Applicants and existing licensees should be mindful of local areas where there may be a concentration of problematic drinkers or where it is known that groups of people congregated and have caused anti-social behaviour. Applicants should very carefully consider the appropriateness of selling alcohol during early morning or late evening hours.

5.8 **Drinking up time / cooling down time**

Even though the traditional drinking up time was not carried over into the Act, the Council recommends that applicants of premises licensed for the on-sale of alcohol should consider a drinking up / cooling down period. During this time music volume may be reduced, customers may finish their drinks and make arrangements for transportation from the premises. The Council considers that a 30 minute drinking up time will assist in the gradual dispersal of customers and consequently reduce any potential negative impact on the area.

6. Commercial demand

- 6.1 The commercial demand for additional premises licences (as distinct from cumulative impact) will not be a matter for the Licensing Authority. These matters would be a specific consideration for the local Planning Authority taking into account the demands of the licensed trade and market demands.

7. Alcohol Harm

- 7.1 The evidence base for the impact of alcohol use on health and well-being is strong. Alcohol use contributes to over 60 different health conditions including liver disease, foetal alcohol syndrome and several cancers. Research shows that as well as being a contributor to a wide range of diseases and conditions, alcohol use can result in injuries and can contribute to, trigger and/or exacerbate mental health conditions. In addition, alcohol is a major cause of death and illness in Wales with around 1,500 deaths attribute to alcohol each year, (1 in 20 of all deaths).

- 7.2 Research has repeatedly shown that the economic, geographical and temporal availability of alcohol has a significant effect on the level of alcohol related harms, including health harms. Research and real-life experiments have shown that the range of times and days alcohol is available for sale has a significant impact on the harms caused by alcohol. The geographical ease of access also has an impact, as shown by a large body of research into outlet density. Research conducted in 2017 demonstrated that actively enforced Licensing policies lead to a reduction in alcohol-related hospital admissions. These are all factors that are influenced by local licensing frameworks and operational and enforcement approaches to licensing.
- 7.3 Research has demonstrated that the most effective and cost-effective approach to tackle the harms from alcohol misuse is to reduce the affordability, availability of and access to alcohol. The World Health Organisation and Public Health Wales have identified reducing the availability of and access to alcohol as key to reducing alcohol related health harms.
- 7.4 The intent of the Licensing Act 2003 is to regulate the supply of alcohol. Licensing is therefore the key mechanism by which the availability of alcohol can be regulated, through regulating the times and days of the week alcohol can be sold, premises which can supply alcohol and the conditions of sale.
- 7.5 Caerphilly has the largest population in Gwent of 181019. People are widely dispersed among fifty small towns and villages with the main settlements largely reflecting the area's rich coal mining heritage. Caerphilly has an expanding economy and benefits through good transport links to Cardiff but there are significant levels of unemployment and poor health.

Caerphilly County Borough Council recognises the significant negative impact on the health of our residents caused by alcohol, reflected in hospital admissions and deaths from alcohol related illnesses (see below).

Alcohol data shared by Public Health Wales in 2019 indicates that Caerphilly local authority area has:

- The highest rate of alcohol-specific admission rates for both males and females under 18s when compared to the five Local Authority areas in Gwent, and significantly higher rates than the national average.
- Significantly higher rates of alcohol-specific admissions than the national average in 2017-18, and has the second highest local authority rate when compared to other local authority areas in Gwent.
- The second highest rate of alcohol-attributable admissions (broad) compared to other local authority areas in Gwent, and the fourth highest local authority area in Wales when compared with all 22 Local Authorities. This level is significantly higher than the Welsh average for both males and females.

- The highest rate of alcohol specific mortality (deaths) when compared to other local authority areas in Gwent and the fourth highest in Wales. Alcohol attributable mortality has been increasing in Caerphilly since 2013-15 being higher than the national average, and mortality from liver disease was higher than the national average in 2015-17.
- Similar levels of reporting drinking above guidelines for adults in 2018-19 when compared to the national and regional average. In 2018-19, 18% of adults across Gwent local authorities reported drinking above the guidelines on at least one day in the past week, compared to Caerphilly at 18.6%.

7.6 Within the context of promoting the four licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority expects applicants to propose licensing conditions to mitigate the impact their premise may have on the health and well-being of their customers, the neighbourhood and the wider community. For examples of licensing conditions that can promote health and wellbeing reference can be made to Caerphilly County Borough Council's 'Model Pool of Conditions'.

7.7 In addition, the Licensing Authority expects applicants to consider the impact their premise may have on people vulnerable to alcohol misuse, in particular children and young people and problematic drinkers. Commissioned alcohol treatment services are set within the communities they serve. The availability of alcohol in near proximity to treatment services can create specific issues for treatment providers. The Licensing Authority expects applicants to consider and mitigate the harm by including licensing conditions when their premise is close to the location of treatment services, and areas where children and young people may congregate, such as schools, youth clubs and parks.

8. Drugs

8.1 The harms from drug misuse are numerous, and not restricted to health harms. Welsh drug death levels were at their highest ever level in 2018-19 with deaths from drug poisoning having increased by 78% over the last 10 years. Drug deaths appear to be increasingly occurring in people using drugs on a recreational basis.

8.2 The UK's drug market is rapidly evolving, with common street drugs continuing to increase in strength and purity, and an ever-widening array of substances in circulation. Licensing has a role in reducing the harms from drug misuse in the Night Time Economy and our licensed premises.

8.3 Where there are issues of concern the Licensing Authority will expect to see evidence that a drug policy has been implemented and reviewed.

8.4 Within the context of promoting the licensing objectives for preventing crime and disorder and ensuring public safety, the Licensing Authority expects applicants and licensees to:

3 National Survey for Wales, 2019

- Take all reasonable steps to prevent the entry of drugs into licensed premises
- Take all reasonable steps to prevent drugs changing hands within the premises
- Train staff to recognise understand the signs of drug misuse in people so that practical steps can be taken to deal with instances that occur
- Have appropriately trained staff to deal with drug related incidents
- Display appropriate drug safety awareness information to customers
- Provide a first aid room and first aid equipment, including a defibrillator in larger venues
- Deploy staff trained to assist with medical incidents
- Implement an appropriate banning policy

8.5 At the request of Gwent Police, licensed premises would be required to seize, retain and document any drugs found, with a clear audit trail and a process for surrender in compliance with Gwent Police written policy. Furthermore, in the interest of Crime and Disorder, Gwent Police would also require licensed premises to allow the use of the ION Track machine on their premises to assist with identifying the areas where illegal drugs may be used at the venue.

8.6 The Licensing Authority recognises that drug misuse is not something that is relevant to all licensed premises. However, it is committed to the reduction and eradication where possible of drugs from licensed premises as part of its role in promoting the crime and disorder licensing objective. The licensing authority expects all licence holders to actively support this aim in the way that they plan, manage and operate premises.

8.7 If relevant representations are received to an application for grant or variation of a licence special conditions may be imposed to support the prevention of the illegal supply or use of controlled drugs. Advice on conditions will be sought from the police or any other relevant organisation involved in the control of controlled drugs or the support and/or treatment of drug users.

8.8 In premises where drug misuse is problematic and where any responsible authority or other person apply for a review of the licence, the licensing authority will consider this as being very serious and will give appropriate consideration to the full range of options available, including suspension and revocation of the licence in accordance with the statutory guidance issued by the secretary of state. The licensing authority recognises that each case is individual and will be decided on its own facts and specific merits.

9. Licensing Objectives

9.1 The Licensing Authority has a duty under the Act to carry out its functions with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. The licensing objectives (of which each one is of equal importance) are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;

- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- The protection of children from harm.

9.2 It is recognised that the licensing function is not the primary method of securing the delivery of these objectives. The Licensing Authority will therefore continue to work in partnership with its neighbouring authorities, the Police, Health Board, Immigration, Community Safety Partnership, local businesses, licensees and local people towards the promotion of the objectives.

10. Prevention of crime and disorder

10.1 Licensed premises, especially those offering late night/early morning entertainment, alcohol and refreshment for large numbers of people, can be a source of crime and disorder problems.

10.2 The Licensing Authority will expect operating schedules (see section 27) to satisfactorily address these issues from the design of the premises through to the day-to-day operation of the business. Details of the factors that will need to be considered as part of the operating schedules are given in the Licensing Policies and matters for consideration when deciding applications, which are attached in the annex to this policy and in the Guidance notes for applicants.

10.3 Applicants are recommended to seek advice from the Licensing Authority's licensing officers and the police, as well as taking into account, as appropriate, local planning and transport policies, tourism, cultural and crime prevention strategies, when preparing their plans and operating schedules.

10.4 The Licensee/applicant should also use their own experience and knowledge of their customers and locations when drafting their operating schedule, which subsequently becomes the basis of conditions on the licence. Failure to do this may lead to a representation from the Authority, a responsible authority or other person. Applicants may wish to consider the following and are advised to refer to the Authority's 'Model Pool of Conditions' when considering an application.

- Is there CCTV, and, if so what are the areas covered, does it have the ability to see clear full face recording of patrons entering, does it record the patron search area at the entrance. What is the retention period of recordings, how easy it to access, produce copies or download images if requested by Police and Licensing.
- Are Security Industry Authority (SIA) door staff employed and what checks are made to the validity of the SIA licence? What records are kept of SIA checks, search policy, entrance policy, restriction of patrons using outside areas, such as smoking areas, employment times of SIA and their training?
- Is there ID scanning on entry to the premises? Will there be 'No ID No Entry' policy in place?
- Is there a clear drug and weapon policy? Is there a regular documented training of this policy carried out with staff when drugs/weapons are seized or stored.

Are areas or surfaces designed to prevent the likelihood of drug use at the premises?

- Has the use of plastic or toughened glass for serving of alcohol been considered, will glass bottles be handed over the bar? Are there restrictions of drinks being taken outside?
- Is there a proof of age scheme, do the premises have a challenge 25 policy? Are staff trained regularly on this policy and is it documented?

10.5 The Licensing Authority recognises that although Gwent Police and other criminal justice services suffer the greatest resource burden from preventable alcohol related crime and disorder, the health system is also impacted upon. Preventable alcohol-related attendances and admissions have a negative impact on limited NHS resources, staff and other patients. Physical injury and the psychological impacts from violent incidents directly affect the health and wellbeing of individuals, their family, friends and work colleagues, our public service staff and licensed premise staff who deal with these incidents, and the local community. Responsible Authorities will work together, sharing all available local data, and will use NHS sources of data to promote this licensing objective.

10.6 The Authority will endeavour to reduce crime and disorder throughout the County in accordance with its statutory duty under s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

10.7 Caerphilly County Borough Council, through agencies working together and sharing information aim to identify and prevent sexual exploitation, modern slavery and human trafficking. Licence holders can help as they may become aware or come into contact with such victims. This may be in hotels, bars and restaurants, late night takeaways, off licences or other licensed premises. Licence holders, and staff employed in licensed premises, are in an ideal position to help protect people.

Modern slavery and human trafficking is a crime and a violation of fundamental human rights and can take various forms such as slavery, servitude and compulsory labour. The licence holder and staff who work in licensed premises should look for and ask themselves the following;

- Has the person got any physical signs of abuse or neglect? Deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care or other life necessities?
- You see worrying behaviour towards someone.
- Is the victim in possession of a passport, identification or travel documents? Are these documents in possession of someone else?
- Does the victim act as if they were instructed or coached by someone else? Do they allow others to speak when spoken directly?
- Was the victim recruited for one purpose and forced to engage in some other job? Was their transport paid for by facilitators, whom they must pay back through providing services?
- Does the victim receive little or no payment for their work? Is someone else in control of their earnings?
- Was the victim forced to perform sexual acts?
- Does the victim have freedom of movement? Can they freely contact friends and family? Do they have limited social interaction?

- Has the victim or family been threatened with harm if the victim attempts to escape?
- Is the victim bonded by debt, or in a situation of dependence?

If there are concerns the licence holder are to report the matter to [Modern Day Slavery helpline](#) on 08000 121 700 or visit the website_ or can report to Licensing on 01443 866750 or e-mail licensing@caerphilly.gov.uk. If someone is in immediate danger to call the Police on 999.

In addition, all staff who are employed in the UK must have the right to work in the UK. Employing someone illegally without carrying out the prescribed checks can lead to robust sanctions against the licence holder.

11. Prevention of public nuisance

- 11.1 Licensed premises have significant potential to impact adversely on persons living and working (including those carrying on business) in the area around the premises, and also further afield through public nuisances that arise from their operation. It is therefore important that in considering the promotion of this licensing objective, Licensing Authorities and Responsible Authorities focus on the effect of the licensable activities at the specific premises on these parties which may be disproportionate and unreasonable.
- 11.2 The definition of what may be considered as a potential or actual ‘public nuisance’ is to be interpreted in line with its broad common law meaning established through relevant case law. This is the interpretation which the Licensing Authority will apply when considering such matters. Matters giving rise to ‘public nuisance’ are mainly accepted to include issues relating to noise, light pollution, odour and litter. It may also arise as a result of the adverse effects of dust, insects, accumulations or any other matter which is determined to have an adverse impact on the living and working environment of other persons living and working in the area of the licenced premises.
- 11.3 The Licensing Authority recognises that limiting the public nuisance that may be associated with licensed premises and their operation is an important factor for health and well-being.

The Licensing Authority recognises the key links to health and well-being from public nuisance in terms of disturbed sleep, stress caused by nuisance and pollution. Disturbed sleep and stress can add to residents’ mental and physical health issues, and their wider wellbeing. Lack of sleep can have an impact on the immune system and can contribute to heart disease and diabetes. Lack of sleep can also contribute to anxiety and depression. Stress can contribute to anxiety and depression, and cardio-vascular diseases.

Applicants should consider the potential impact their premise may have on public nuisance particularly from noise and put in place mitigating measures.

- 11.4 The Licensing Authority expects applicants for premises licences and club premises certificates to have made relevant enquiries and considerations about the local area before submitting their application. The purpose of this is to enable the applicant to consider the most appropriate controls for potential inclusion in the operating schedule with a view to ensuring their activities do not undermine the licensing objective with regard to the prevention of public nuisance. It is important to recognise that the impacts of licensed activity are not contained within a building. Inevitably there is a wider impact as people travel to and from the premises or congregate outside whilst it is in operation. Nuisance is best managed by careful consideration of the suitability of the selected site and any necessary mitigation at an early stage.
- 11.5 Applicants will be encouraged to demonstrate in their Operating Schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to prevent public nuisance. When a suitable site is identified, operating schedules should be prepared on the basis of a risk assessment of the potential sources of nuisance posed by the premises operation to those who may be impacted by their activities. The operating schedule should demonstrate an understanding of the level of risk of nuisance and include positive measures to manage any potential risks.
- 11.6 The Licensing Authority recommends that licensees apply a high standard of control to minimise the potential for any public nuisance that may arise from their operation of the premises, particularly where:
- they are situated in a residential or noise sensitive area; or
 - extended opening hours are proposed.
- 11.7 The Licensing Authority recognises that beyond the immediate area surrounding the licensed premises the control that a licence-holder can exert over its patrons diminishes and individuals who engage in anti-social behaviour are accountable in their own right. However, applicants are encouraged to consider the actions they may take as a responsible licence-holder to mitigate the potential adverse impact of patrons. The operating schedule should again be used to demonstrate an understanding of the potential risks and the positive measures that may be implemented to manage such issues.
- 11.8 Applicants are encouraged to engage with the Licensing Authority and other relevant Responsible Authorities (such as Environmental Health) at an early stage and prior to the submission of an application, wherever reasonably practicable. These Authorities will be able to provide advice in respect of appropriate control measures that may be put in place, and included in the operating schedule, to mitigate the potential risks of public nuisance occurring.
- 11.9 **The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Noise & Soundscape Management.**

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (hereinafter referred to as the WFG Act 2015) places a duty on Local Authorities including the Licensing Authority to embody sustainable development principles aimed at achieving seven

prescribed well-being goals as part of its fundamental operation; this includes the delivery of its Licensing function. One of the cornerstone areas of consideration is the management of noise and its impact on health and well-being.

- 11.10 The Statutory Licensing guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 does not currently provide any reference to how operationally Licensing Authorities are to have regard to the requirements of the WFG Act 2015 specifically as it may relate to the promotion of the Licensing Objective, the Prevention of Public Nuisance. It is clear however in the Welsh Government's 'Noise and Soundscape Action Plan 2018-2023' that there is recognition of the impact of noise. The Licensing Authority will have regard to this action plan when determining applications (please refer to section 17 Integrating strategies below).

12. Public safety

- 12.1 The Council is committed to ensuring that the safety of any person visiting or working in licensed premises is not compromised. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate in their Operating Schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been identified and will be implemented and maintained to ensure public safety, relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events. Applicants are advised to seek advice from various organisations, such as the Caerphilly CBC health and safety enforcement officers, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service etc., before preparing their plans and schedules, particularly where regulated entertainment is to be provided.
- 12.2 The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 introduced a requirement that any person responsible for the management of a premises must make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks, to which persons may be exposed for the purpose of identifying the general fire precautions, which need to be taken. Therefore no conditions may be imposed on an authorisation where it directly relates to fire safety. It is expected therefore that authorisation holders will conduct a thorough risk assessment which is regularly reviewed and updated. The risk assessment should be retained at the premises and be available upon request by any authorised officer of the Council.
- 12.3 Where an applicant identifies an issue with regard to public safety, which is not covered by existing legislation, the applicant should indicate in the operating schedule the steps which will be taken to ensure public safety.

Depending on the individual style and characteristics of the premises and/or events, the following issues may be relevant:

- The number of people attending the premises/safe capacity levels, (factors may include access and egress, flow around premises, comfort levels, seating provisions, dance areas, accessibility to bars, etc);
- The age, condition, design and layout of the premises, including the means of escape in case of an emergency;

- The nature of the activities to be provided, in particular the sale or supply of alcohol and/or the provision of music and dancing and including whether those activities are of a temporary or permanent nature;
- The hours of operation, differentiating between the hours of opening from the hours when the licensable activities will be provided;
- Customer profile (e.g. age, disability etc.);
- The use of special effects such as lasers, pyrotechnics, smoke machines, foam machines etc.
- Electrics and heating as part of the risk assessment.

12.4 The following examples of control measures are considered to be important and should be taken into account by applicants in their Operating Schedule, having regard to the particular type of premises and/or activities -

- Suitable and sufficient risk assessments;
- Effective and responsible management of premises;
- Provision of a sufficient number of people employed or engaged to secure the safety of everyone attending the premises or event;
- Appropriate instruction, training and supervision of those employed or engaged to secure the safety of everyone attending the premises;
- Adoption of best practice guidance (Assistance can be obtained by contacting such Environmental Health, Fire Safety and HSE).
- Provision of effective CCTV in and around premises;
- Implementation of crowd management measures;
- Regular testing (and certification where appropriate) of procedures, appliances, systems etc. pertinent to safety.
- Appropriate First Aid facilities and staff training on when to administer/ not administer First Aid.

12.5 The authority recommends that specialists, e.g. qualified safety officer, should be consulted to assist with an assessment of public safety issues, (excluding fire safety as such a risk assessment is a mandatory requirement).

12.6 Heddlu Gwent Police promotes the use of polycarbonate drinking vessels to reduce injuries caused either deliberately or accidentally from glass drinking vessels. The Council supports this initiative and would advise any applicant or authorisation holder that toughened glass often lose their tempering through repeated use, and should consider the introduction of solely polycarbonate or plastic drinking vessels. Where premises are associated with crime and disorder, the Council may also advocate that open glass bottles for consumption on the premises should not be permitted and that contents are decanted before serving to customers, the purpose being to reduce any incidents where bottles may be used as weapons.

12.7 The Licensing Authority recognises that there are links between public safety and health, for example injuries suffered in licensed premises that need medical treatment. Falls are a contributor to alcohol related hospital attendances and admissions.

Considering and noting issues relating to public safety in responses to a licensing application can be an effective way of addressing these issues through conditions being placed on a licence, or, in more extreme cases a licence not being granted. The Health Board, as a Responsible Authority, may be able to provide evidence of prevalence, costs and impacts of public safety issues as appropriate.

13. Protection of children from harm

- 13.1 Nothing in this statement of policy shall limit or require access of children to premises unless there is an overriding requirement of necessity to prevent harm to children. Areas that will give rise to particular concern are highlighted elsewhere in this policy.
- 13.2 With the exception of the restrictions specified in Section 145, the 2003 Act does not prohibit children from having free access to any licensed premises. However, the Licensing Authority recognises that limitations may have to be considered where it appears necessary to protect children from harm.
- 13.3 The Licensing Authority will not impose any condition that specifically requires access for children to be provided at any premises. Where no restriction or limitation is imposed the issue of access will remain a matter for the discretion of the individual premises or club.
- 13.4 The 2003 Act details a number of offences designed to protect children in licensed premises and the Licensing Authority will work closely with the police and trading standards to ensure the appropriate enforcement of the law, especially relating to the sale and supply of alcohol to children.
- 13.5 Officers from Child Protection, Trading Standards and Local Health Board will be consulted on issues relating to protecting children from harm.
- 13.6 Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. Child sexual exploitation is a crime that can affect any child, anytime, anywhere – regardless of their social or ethnic background. Child sexual exploitation involves perpetrators grooming youngsters and using their powers and it can take many forms, whether it occurs through a seemingly 'consensual' relationship with an older partner, having sex in return for attention, gifts, money, alcohol and cigarettes. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common forms of exploitation, with some vulnerable children being given drugs or made to sell drugs and/or are forced to be part of county lines network.

Hotels, bars and restaurants, late night takeaways, off licences or other licensed premises may come into contact with such children. This Authority encourages those premises to look out for signs of possible exploitation. Licence holders and staff should look for and ask themselves the following -

- Does a child appear to be in a relationship with an older person?
- Does the child appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs?

- Is the hotel booking done by an adult, who is trying to conceal they are with a young person?
- Numerous adults and young people coming to a hotel who do not appear to have a reason for being there, or high levels of visitors to a guest room. With guests moving in and out of the premises at unusual times.
- Guests arriving and asking for specific rooms number without knowing the name of the person the room is booked under.

For safeguarding children the Council do not support contactless check in systems (virtual reception) whereby no members of staff will have interaction with the customers at a hotel.

If there are concerns the licence holder and staff are to report the matter to Caerphilly Information, Advice and Assistance Service on 0808 100 1727 or via Caerphilly Information, Advice and Assistance Service.

If someone is in immediate danger to call the Police on 999.

- 13.7 The Licensing Authority recognise that compared to adults, children and young people are at higher risk of harm in relation to alcohol use and consumption, and the health impacts can be higher where they happen. Children and young people are also more vulnerable to certain harms in licensed settings. Furthermore, earlier take up of regular drinking increases lifetime risks of alcohol-related harms.

Children and young people have multiple vulnerabilities related to the impact that alcohol can have on their health and development. They have higher levels of vulnerability and risk associated with being on licensed premises that need to be considered and appropriately addressed in licensing policies, practices and processes. A significant impact from a child or young person suffering illness, injury or dependence as a result of access to alcohol and licensed premises is likely to fall to the Health Board.

The Licensing Authority also recognise the serious impact of parental alcohol misuse on children at every age, and the long-term consequences (i.e. adverse childhood experiences). There is potential for lower levels of harmful parental alcohol consumption having a beneficial impact on reducing childhood adversity in the home environment (e.g. reductions in violence, in particular domestic abuse).

- 13.8 Evidence demonstrates that young people are more vulnerable than adults to the adverse effects of alcohol due to a range of physical and psycho-social factors. As such, initiatives to prevent the sale and supply of alcohol to children are supported.

- 13.9 The Authority expects age verification measures to be operated by licensed premises involved in the sale and supply of alcohol to ensure the licensing objective for the protection of children is met.

To support the age-verification process the Authority strongly recommended that premises have the following measures in place to ensure age verification for sales

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- That 'Challenge 25' is supported as part of the age verification scheme established. The scheme should require the production of evidence of age from any person appearing to staff engaged in selling or supplying alcohol to be under the age of 25 and who is attempting to buy alcohol.
- That evidence of the scheme (in the form of documented procedures) is maintained and made available for inspection by authorised officers.
- That all staff involved in the sale of alcohol shall be trained in age verification schemes and proxy sales, where a person attempts to buy alcohol for a person under 18. Records of such training shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by authorised officers.
- That an incident log be maintained, and details of all age-related refusals recorded. This book shall be reviewed monthly by the DPS and actions taken recorded in the book and signed off by the DPS. The log shall be retained on the premises and made available for inspection by authorised officers.
- That a personal licence holder shall be on the premises at all times that alcohol is supplied.
- That the DPS shall ensure that, as far as is reasonably practical, alcohol is displayed in an area which can be constantly monitored or supervised by staff, separate from goods likely to be purchased by persons under 18.
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14. Rights of representations

- 14.1 The Licensing Authority will expect applicants to address the licensing objectives in their operating schedule having regard to the type of premises, the licensable activities to be provided, the operational procedures, the nature of the location and the needs of the local community. In this way, those with a right to make representations or objections are able to fully assess the factors that may affect them.
- 14.2 Relevant representations may be made by a responsible authority, other persons or organisations representing them, but they should state whether they are making a representation on their own behalf or on behalf of another person.
- 14.3 Amendments to the Act has inserted the term 'other person' to replace 'interested party' as someone who can make representations, it also removed the vicinity test for residents and the specific term of councillor. This opens up the range of persons who may make representation and includes for example the following:-
- Residents living near the premises
 - Persons with an interest in the premises or locality
 - Local councillors
 - Businesses with an interest in the premises or locality.
 - Organisations with an interest in the locality, premises or licensable activities.

The Council will have to decide if the representation is relevant and/or reasonable, and in making that assessment will assess the person or organisation making the representation and their relationship to the premises and or vicinity.

14.4 Relevant representations will be taken as those that relate to the fundamental principles of the Licensing Act, any organisation or individual wishing to object to any application will therefore need to state whether they are doing so on the grounds of:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- The protection of children from harm.

14.5 Unreasonable, frivolous and vexatious representations will be disregarded. Representations that have been made and considered elsewhere, for example as an objection to a planning application, may also be disregarded where consideration of such representations would be duplication.

14.6 Petitions may be accepted if the Authority believes all those that signed the petition understood the implications of what they were signing. Please refer to 28.24 below for further guidance.

15. Responsible authorities

15.1 The Licensing Act 2003 as amended specifies who is responsible authorities that may make representations on applications or apply for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate, and they are:

- The Chief Officer of Police
- The Fire Authority
- The enforcing authority for Health and Safety at Work
- The local planning authority
- The local authority responsible for minimising or preventing the risk of pollution of the environment or of harm to human health
- The local weights and measures authority
- The Director of Social Services and the body representing matters relating to the protection of children from harm, currently the Local
- Safeguarding Children Board
- In relation to a vessel, a navigation authority, the Environment Agency, or the British Waterways Board
- The Local Health Board (Aneurin Bevan University Health Board)
- The Licensing Authority (The Council)
- Immigration (Home Office Immigration Enforcement)

16. Other persons

- 16.1 Changes to the Licensing Act 2003 by virtue of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 have now removed the test of “vicinity” from the 2003 Act and as a consequence, the categories of “interested party” no longer exist.
- 16.2 Therefore, any person is able to make representations in relation to certain types of applications as an “Other Person” However; all representations must relate to the licensing objectives and may not be frivolous or vexatious.

17. Integrating strategies

- 17.1 The Secretary of State’s Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 states that the Licensing Authority should outline how it will secure proper integration between its licensing policy with policies and strategies concerned with local crime prevention, planning, transport, tourism, equality schemes, cultural strategies and any other policy or plan introduced for the management of town centres and night time economies. The Licensing Authority agrees that such co-ordination and integration is crucial to achieve the Council’s aims for a safe and vibrant night time economy. Other pieces of legislation may impact directly or indirectly on the licensing regime. The Licensing Authority must have regard to the following when it discharges its responsibilities under the Licensing Act 2003 in relation to the promotion of the four licensing objectives:

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

This Act requires local authorities and other bodies to consider crime and disorder reduction. Section 17 of the Act states that it shall be the duty of each authority, to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment). This links specifically with the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder and the licensing authority will take into account all reasonable measures that actively promote this licensing objective.

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

This Act gives a wide range of powers to local authorities and the police to tackle incidents of crime, disorder and nuisance that may be impacting on residents. The Act introduced public spaces protection orders, which allows the local authority to designate areas where anti-social behaviour such as street drinking will be prohibited. The Act also gives powers to the local authority and police to close licensed premises where nuisance and anti-social behaviour is taking place. This Act therefore clearly supports and actively promotes the licensing objectives contained within the Licensing Act 2003.

Immigration Act 2016

Section 36 and Schedule 4 of the Immigration Act 2016 amended the Licensing Act 2003 and made Home Office Immigration Enforcement a Responsible Authority concerned with the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder. They will exercise their power both in respect of being a consultee on new licence applications and having right of entry to licensed premises with a view to seeing whether an offence under any of the Immigration Acts is being committed on a licensed premises. This will primarily involve the detection and prevention of illegal working on premises that have an alcohol licence or a late night refreshment licence. The offence of employing people at licensed premises who have no right to work in the UK is also now listed in the Secretary of State's guidance under Section 11.27 which covers criminal activity deemed to be particularly serious and where a licensing authority should consider revoking a premises licence even in the first instance. This Act clearly supports and actively promotes the licensing objective of preventing crime and disorder and the licensing authority will work with colleagues in the Immigration service and Gwent Police to enforce this.

Human Rights Act 1998

The Council has a duty under the European Convention on Human Rights to protect both the rights of resident to privacy and family life (Article 8), and the rights of a licence holder to operate their business without undue interference (Article 1 of the First Protocol). This promotes the need for the licensing authority to reach a balance between these two principles when making decisions.

Equality Act 2010

The Act places a legal obligation on public authorities to have regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between persons who shared a protected characteristic and those that do not. Protected characteristics include age, disability, race, religion and sexual orientation. When making a decision, the licensing authority will have regard to this due to the goal of ensuring that the night time economy is safe and accessible to all. Other legislation that the Licensing Authority will consider -

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

This Act requires Local Authorities in Wales to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems, such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change. The Act clearly supports and actively promotes the licensing objectives. This Act links specifically to the prevention of crime and disorder and public nuisance. It recognises that there is a need to create appropriate soundscapes – the right acoustic environment in the right time and place. The Local Authority will consider the management of noise and soundscapes and in particular the five ways of working contained under this Act namely, i) Long term – the importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs, ii) Integration, iii) Involvement, iv) Collaboration and v)

Prevention. Welsh Government has produced a '[Noise and Soundscape Action Plan for 2018-2023](#)'

The Licensing Authority will also have cognisance to the following legislation when it decides to discharge its responsibilities under the Licensing Act. This list is not exhaustive:-

- Environmental Protection Act 1990 which deals with noise and nuisance
- Regulatory Reform Order 2005 which deals with fire safety
- Highways Act 1980 which deals with pavement café licences.

- 17.2 The Licensing Authority will as far as possible seek to avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes when dealing with the licensing function. If other existing law already places certain statutory responsibilities on an employer or operator of premises, it cannot be appropriate or proportionate to impose the same or similar duties on the premises licence holder or club. Once the discretion of the Licensing Authority is engaged, it is only where additional and supplementary measures are appropriate to promote the licensing objectives that appropriate and proportionate conditions will be attached to a licence.
- 17.3 Other Local Authority and Government policies, strategies, responsibilities, and guidance documents may also refer to the licensing function, and the Licensing Authority may liaise with the relevant authorities or its directorates with regard to these. Whilst some of these may not be directly related to the promotion of the four licensing objectives, they can indirectly impact upon them.
- 17.4 It is the Local Authority's intention that it will, through its Licensing Committee monitor how these matters, set above, impact on the Authority's licensing and other functions, in order that it may seek to co-ordinate and integrate its licensing function with other relevant strategies.
- 17.5 In respect of cultural strategies the Licensing Authority will, for example through periodic consultation with local Leisure and Destination & Events officers, consider whether the provision of live music and cultural activities and entertainments are being deterred by local licensing requirements. Where there is any indication that this is the case, the Licensing Authority may consider investigating how the situation might be reversed, and may if necessary in the light of such investigations consider a revision to the Statement of Licensing Policy.

Relationship with Planning Process

- 17.6 Applications for premises licences for permanent commercial premises should normally be from businesses with planning consent for the property concerned. However, applications for licences may be made before any relevant planning permission has been sought or granted by the Local Planning Authority.
- 17.7 It is strongly recommended that prospective licence applicants contact the Local Planning Authority in advance of making a licence application in order to check, or seek advice on, any planning consents or any conditions relevant to the use of the

premises. It clearly makes operational sense to ensure that planning and licensing are compatible.

- 17.8 The Licensing Authority wishes to emphasise that the granting by the Licensing & Gambling Sub Committee of any variation of a licence which involves a material alteration to a building would not relieve the applicant of the need to apply for planning permission or building control consent where appropriate.
- 17.9 The Local Authority will aim to properly separate planning, building control and licensing regimes in order to avoid duplication and inefficiency. The Licensing and Planning regimes involve consideration of different (albeit related) matters.
- 17.10 The Licensing Authority will avoid treating licensing applications as a re-run of planning applications, and will not normally:
- cut-across decisions taken by the Local Authority Planning Committee or following appeals decisions taken by that Committee; or
 - impose licensing conditions where the same or similar conditions have been imposed on a planning consent.
- 17.11 The Licensing Authority is not bound by decisions made by the Planning Committee and vice versa.
- 17.12 Where, as a condition of planning permission, a terminal hour has been set for the use of premises for commercial purposes that is different to the licensing hours, the licensee must observe the earlier closing time in order to avoid any breach of their planning permission - for which they may be liable to prosecution under planning law (and vice versa where the licensing hours finish earlier than the planning permission).

18. Personal alcohol licence

- 18.1 The Council recognises it has very little discretion in the granting of a personal licence. In general provided an applicant is aged 18 or over, is entitled to work in the UK, has an approved qualification, has not had a personal licence forfeited within 5 years of this application and does not have relevant criminal convictions or civil penalty received after 6 April 2017 for immigration matters, the application must be granted.
- 18.2 Individuals applying for a personal licence must be entitled to work in the UK. Licences must not be issued to people who are illegally present in the UK who are not permitted to work, or who are permitted to work but are subject to a condition that prohibits them from doing work relating the carrying on of a licensable activity.
- 18.3 Where an applicant's immigration permission to live and work in the UK is time-limited, a personal licence may be issued but will become invalid when the immigration permission expires. In the event that the Home Office cuts short or ends a person's immigration permission, any personal licence issued in respect of an application made on or after 6 April 2017 will automatically lapse.

- 18.4 If an applicant declares that they have been issued with an immigration penalty or convicted of an immigration offence or foreign offence comparable to an immigration offence, the licensing authority is required to notify the Secretary of State for the Home Department (through Home Office Immigration Enforcement).
- 18.5 If an applicant has a relevant conviction the Police can oppose the application. If an applicant has been issued with an immigration penalty or convicted of a relevant immigration offence on or after 6 April 2017, the Home Office may object to the application. When an objection is lodged a hearing must be held.
- 18.6 Applicants with unspent convictions for relevant offence as set out in the Regulations made under the Act are encouraged to first discuss their application with the Council's Licensing Officer and/or the Police.
- 18.7 At a hearing in respect of an objection to the granting of a personal licence, or the revocation of an existing licence, the Council will consider carefully whether the grant of, or continuation of, the licence will be in the interests of the crime prevention objective. It will consider the seriousness and relevance of any conviction(s), the period that has elapsed since the offence(s) was/were committed and any mitigating circumstances. The Council will only grant the application, if it is satisfied that doing so will promote this objective.
- 18.8 Prevention of crime is both an objective of the Licensing Act 2003 and a responsibility of the Council under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. A person holding a personal licence should be a person who is not only properly qualified but a person who will assist in the prevention of crime. Granting a licence to a person with a relevant criminal record could undermine rather than promote the crime prevention objective.
- 18.9 From 6 April 2017 the Policing and Crime Act 2017 gives licensing authorities the power to revoke or suspend personal licences. This is a discretionary power and may be undertaken when a licensing authority becomes aware that the licence holder has been convicted of a relevant offence or foreign offence or been required to pay an immigration penalty on or after 6 April 2017. The decision must be made by the Licensing Committee or sub-committee and they may revoke the licence or suspend it for a period up to 6 months.

19. Premises licence

- 19.1 A premises licence is granted in respect of any premises, other than a private members club or similar type premises, authorised for one or more licensable activities, such as the supply of alcohol, late night refreshment or regulated entertainment.
- 19.2 There are some exemptions for the requirement of a licence and they include the exhibition of films for educational or promotional reasons, films shown as part of an exhibition, amplified live and recorded music to audiences of less than 500

people between the hours of 8.00 am and 11.00 pm. Applicants are advised to contact the licensing authority on other exemptions for further guidance.

- 19.3 Where alcohol is supplied, a Designated Premises Supervisor, who must be the holder of a personal licence, must be nominated to authorise the sale of alcohol at the premises.
- 19.4 Premises licences are issued to individuals over the age of 18 years who carry on, or propose to carry on, a business which involves the use of the premises for licensable activities. In addition, charities, health service bodies, educational institutions and persons of other prescribed descriptions may apply for a premises licence.
- 19.5 A licence may be issued subject to conditions, which must be complied with at all times whilst the premise is being used for licensable activities during the times specified in the licence. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of a licence or if licensable activities are carried out without a premises licence, may result in a fine, which is unlimited or a term of imprisonment of up to 6 months, or both.
- 19.6 Fees for licences are based on the rateable value of a premises and although licences are usually issued for an indefinite period, an annual fee is payable.
- 19.7 It is an expectation that the premises licence holder and designated premises supervisor will be aware of their permitted licensable activity types, permitted hours and conditions of licence. Failure to demonstrate or have a lack of regard could result in a lack of confidence in management by a Responsible Authority.

20. Club premises certificate

- 20.1 A qualifying club, industrial and provident society, friendly society and miners welfare institute that satisfies the criteria specified in part 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 may provide licensable activities for its members and guests of a member that are authorised by a club premises certificate (CPC).
- 20.2 A CPC only authorises the use of a premises for the benefit of its members and their guests and cannot be used to provide licensable activities to non-members. If the premises are to be used to provide licensable activities for non-members an additional authorisation will be required. This may be a premises licence (PL) or a temporary event notice (TEN).
- 20.3 A premises operating under the authorisation of a CPC enjoy special privileges. If a club premises operate under the authorisation of a PL or TEN the privileges do not apply. The privileges include; restricted rights of entry, no need to have a qualified person authorising sales of alcohol. Other considerations would be different taxation rules, advice should be sought from HMRC.
- 20.4 It is an expectation that the CPC holder will be aware of their permitted licensable activity types, permitted hours and conditions of licence. Failure to demonstrate or

have a lack of regard could result in a lack of confidence in management by a Responsible Authority.

21. Temporary Event Notices

- 21.1 Temporary Event Notices (TENs) can be used to allow licensable activities to be carried out on a one-off or occasional basis. They are the most appropriate type of authorisation for small-scale, one-off events, such as community, school and charity fundraising events, at which it is intended to:
- sell or supply alcohol;
 - provide regulated entertainment; or
 - sell hot food/drink between 11 pm and 5 am.
- 21.2 Unless sent electronically, a TEN must be sent to the relevant licensing authority, to the Police and the local authority exercising environmental health functions at least ten working days before the event. A premises user may also give a limited number of “Late TENs” to the licensing authority less than 10 working days before the event, but certain restrictions apply.
- 21.3 The Police or authority exercising environmental health functions may intervene to restrict the event or prevent the event taking place. They may agree a modification of the TEN directly with the TEN user. When giving a TEN, the premises user should consider the promotion of the four licensing objectives.
- 21.4 There are two types of TEN, a standard TEN and a late TEN. A standard notice is given no later than ten working days before the event to which it relates and a late notice is given not before nine and not later than five working days before the event. The period excludes the day the notice is received and the first day of the event. Late TENs are intended to assist premises users who are required to submit a notification at short notice for reasons outside their control.
- 21.5 The Police and authority exercising environmental health functions have a period of three working days from when they are given the notice to object to it on the basis on any of the four licensing objectives.
- 21.6 If an objection notice is received in relation to a standard TEN the licensing authority must hold a hearing to consider the objection, unless all parties agree that a hearing is unnecessary.
- 21.7 If an objection notice is received in relation to a late TEN, the notice will not be valid and the event will not be permitted to go ahead as there is no scope for a hearing or for any existing licence conditions to be applied to the notice.
- 21.8 A number of limitations are imposed on the use of TENs by the Licensing Act 2003. Notice givers are advised to contact the licensing authority for further advice.
- 21.9 The Licensing Authority recommends that anyone wishing to submit a Temporary Event Notice, particularly where this involves the provision of regulated

entertainment, gives as much notice to the Authority as possible, to ensure that proper advice can be given and any anticipated issues resolved in a planned and timely manner. Whilst notices can legally be submitted with 10 working days or a late notice in 5 working days prior to the event taking place, a period of 12 weeks is recommended for larger events.

- 21.10 The Licensing Authority may notify the Council's Event Safety Advisory Group (ESAG) of any Temporary Event Notices involving the provision of regulated entertainment. This Panel brings together the various enforcement bodies that may be responsible for enforcement in respect of an event, along with any applicants and other organisers, and allows agreement to be reached regarding the way that the event will be organised etc. It is recommended that all applicants submitting a Temporary Event Notice go through the Events Panel when drawing up their Notice, and the Events Panel will be of particular assistance to charities, community and voluntary groups, and other event organisers who may not have access to legal advice or technical knowledge.

It is recommended that ESAG is contacted in adequate time to factor in the possibility of objections to a licence or temporary event and the hearing timescale. As such, it is recommended that ESAG be contacted for events under 500 people, 24 working days before the event and 68 working days before the event for events over 500. This is recommended where alcohol, regulated entertainment and/or late night refreshment is taking place.

- 21.11 External areas and outdoor events will normally be restricted to 08.00 – 22.00hrs unless the applicant can demonstrate the comprehensive control measures have been implemented that ensure the promotion of the licensable objectives, in particular the public nuisance objective.

22. Sale and supply of alcohol

- 22.1 Shops, stores and supermarkets should generally be permitted to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises during the normal hours they intend to open for shopping purposes. However, in the case of individual premises, which are known to be a focus or cause of disorder and disturbance then, subject to representations from the police and other responsible authorities, a limitation on licensing hours may be appropriate.
- 22.2 Licensed premises authorised under the Act for the sale and/or supply of alcohol must consider their responsibilities with regard to who they supply with alcoholic drinks, in particular:
- The sale to persons under the age of 18 years
 - The sale to persons who are delivering to persons under the age of 18 years
 - The sale to persons who are drunk
- 22.3 The Licensing Authority actively encourages that the sale or supply of alcohol should terminate at least thirty minutes before the closing time of the premises. This provides a suitable 'wind down' period and a slower dispersal of customers.

22.4 The council recommend that any licensed premises that is authorised to sell or supply alcohol have a policy that sets out how the sale or supply is controlled and must include staff training requirements. Records should be kept of all training provided and any incidents e.g. a refusal to sell and reasons.

23. Regulated entertainment

23.1 Schedule 1 to the 2003 act sets out what activities are regarded as the provision of regulated entertainment and when they are licensable and those activities, which are not and therefore exempt from the regulated entertainment regime. (Applicants are strongly advised to review Home Office Section 182 Guidance of the Licensing Act 2003 regarding Regulated Entertainment).

The descriptions of entertainment activities licensable under the 2003 Act are:

- A performance of a play;
- An exhibition of a film;
- An indoor sporting event;
- A boxing or wrestling entertainment;
- A performance of live music;
- Any playing of recorded music;
- A performance of dance; and
- Entertainment of a similar description to a performance of live music, any playing of recorded music or performance of dance.

To be licensable, on or more of these activities needs to be provided for the purpose (at least partly) of entertaining an audience; has to be held on premises made available for the purpose of enabling that activity; and must also either:

- Take place in the presence of a public audience, or
- Where that activity takes place in private, be the subject of a charge made with a view to profit.

23.2 Public Audience

For the purpose of regulated entertainment, the term “audience” refers to any person for whose entertainment (at least in part) any licensable activities are provided. An audience member need not be, or want to be, entertained: what matters is that an audience is present and that the purpose of the licensable activity is (at least in part) intended to entertain any person present. The audience will not include performers, together with any person who contributes technical skills in substantial support of a performer (for example, a sound engineer or stage technician), during any associated activities. This includes setting up before the entertainment, reasonable breaks (including intervals) between activities and packing up thereafter. Similarly, security staff and bar workers will not form part of the audience while undertaking their duties.

More than one entertainment activity (or single activity, more than one performance or event) can be held concurrently, provided that the audience for each such performance or event does not exceed the threshold at which such a performance or event becomes licensable. In some circumstances, there will be a clear distinction between performances or events; for example, their taking place in separate rooms or on separate floors. However, organisers will have to ensure that audiences do not grow or migrate, so that the audience exceeds the relevant limit for any one performance or event at any time. If there is the possibility of audience migration, it might be easier and more flexible to secure an appropriate authorisation.

23.3 **Overview of circumstances in which entertainment activities are not licensable**

There are a number of exemptions that mean that a licence (or other authorisation) under the 2003 is not required. This Policy cannot give examples of every eventuality or possible entertainment activity that is not licensable. However, the following activities are examples of entertainment which are not licensable:

- Activities which involve participation as acts of worship in a religious context;
- Activities in places of public religious worship;
- Education – teaching students to perform music or to dance;
- The demonstration of a product – for example, a guitar – in a music shop;
- The rehearsal of a play or performance of music for a private audience where no charge is made with a view to make a profit;
- Morris dancing (or similar);
- Incidental music – the performance of live music or the playing of recorded music if it is incidental to some other activity;
- A spontaneous performance of music, singing or dancing;
- Garden fetes – or similar if not being promoted or held for purposes of private gain;
- Films for advertisement, information, education or in museums or art galleries;
- Television or radio broadcasts – as long as the programme is live and simultaneous;
- Vehicles in motion – at a time when the vehicle is not permanently or temporarily parked;
- Games played in pubs, youth clubs etc. (e.g. pool, darts and table tennis);
- Stand-up comedy; and
- Provision of entertainment facilities (e.g. dance floors)

23.4 **Deregulatory changes where a licence is not required**

As a result of deregulatory changes that have amended the 2003 Act, no licence is required for the following activities:

- **Plays:** no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, if the audience do not exceed 500.

- **Dance:** no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, if the audience do not exceed 500.
- **Films:** no licence is required for 'not-for-profit' film exhibition held in community premises between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser (a) gets the consent to the screening from a person who is responsible for the premises and (b) ensures that such screening abides by age classification ratings.
- **Indoor sporting events:** no licence is required for an event between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, if the audience do not exceed 1000.
- **Boxing or wrestling entertainment:** no licence is required for a contest exhibition or display of Greco-Roman wrestling, or freestyle between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, if the audience do not exceed 1000.
- **Live unamplified music:** No licence is required for a performance of unamplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, on any premises.
- **Live amplified music:** No licence is required for a performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, if the audience do not exceed 500. In a workplace that does not have a licence, if the audience do not exceed 500. In a church hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from (i) the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.
- **Recorded music:** No licence is required for any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day
 - On premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, if the audience do not exceed 500.
 - In a church hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance from a person who is responsible for the premises.
 - At the non-residential premises of (i) a local authority, or (ii) a school, or (iii) a hospital, provided that (a) the audience do not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from: (i) the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school proprietor or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.
- **Cross Activity Exemptions:** No licence is required between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, with no limit on audience size for:
 - Any entertainment taking place on the premises of the local authority where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the local authority;
 - Any entertainment taking place on the hospital premises of the health care provider where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the health care provider.
 - Any entertainment taking place on the premises of the school where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the school and
 - Any entertainment (excluding films and a boxing or wrestling entertainment) taking place at a travelling circus, provided that (a) it takes place within a moveable structure that accommodates the audience, and (b) that the travelling circus has not been located on the same site for more than 28 consecutive days.

If organisers are uncertain as to audience size or if audience migration is likely, it might be easier and more flexible to secure an appropriate authorisation.

Examples of where a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) could still be required include if the activity is the playing of recorded music or the exhibition of a film that required an authorisation; or if the entertainment is not authorised by an existing licence or certificate and its conditions.

Of course, anyone involved in the organisation or provision of entertainment activities – whether or not any such activity is licensable under the 2003 Act – must comply with any applicable duties that may be imposed by other legislation relevant to the event (e.g. in areas such as crime and disorder, fire, health and safety, noise, nuisance and planning). Any such person should take steps to be aware of relevant best practice, and may find responsible authorities a useful source of expert support and advice.

23.5 **Circumstances in which entertainment activities are no longer licensable**

Local Authorities, hospital healthcare providers and school proprietors: cross entertainment activity exemption

No licence is required for any entertainment provided by or on behalf of a local authority, health care provider, or school proprietor to the extent that it takes place on defined premises, between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day provided that:

- For entertainment provided by, or on behalf of, a local authority it takes place on premises in which that authority has relevant property interest, or is in lawful occupation.
- For entertainment provided by, or on behalf of, a health care provider, providing it takes place on any premises forming part of a hospital in which the provider has a relevant property interest, or is in lawful occupation; and
- For entertainment provided by, or on behalf of, a school proprietor it takes place on the premises of the school.

The policy cannot give examples of every eventuality where entertainment is not licensable under this exemption through being provided “by or on behalf of”. It will depend on the facts in each case.

However, the following are examples of activities that are not usually considered to be licensable under this exemption:

- Any entertainment activity hosted by a local authority on their own premises where there is a significant relationship between the local authority and the provider of the entertainment (e.g. principal and agent);
- Any entertainment activity organised on a local authority’s behalf on that local authority’s premises by a cultural trust in discharge of a local authority’s discretionary power to arrange entertainment provision and support for the arts, including festivals and celebrations.
- Any entertainment activity organised by a healthcare provider on their own hospital premises in partnership with a hospital charity.

- Any entertainment event on school premises organised by the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to benefit the school.

It is for the local authority, health care provider or school proprietor to determine whether, and on what basis, they can (or wish) to provide entertainment activity under this exemption, including consideration of issues around fundraising, profit making, governance or use of public funds. However a pure hire of premises by a third party does not constitute the provision of an entertainment event “on behalf of” a local authority, healthcare provider, or school proprietor and nor does commercial entertainment which the local authority merely facilitates through providing a public space.

All the terms used in this exemption such as “local authority”, “health care”, “health care provider”, “hospital”, “school”, “school premises”, “school proprietor”, “domestic premises” and “relevant property interest” are defined in the 2014 Order.

Local authority, hospital and school premises: third party music entertainment

No licence is required for a performance of live music or the playing of recorded music on local authority, hospital or school premises, that are not domestic premises, between 08.00-23.00 on any day provided that;

- It is performed in front of an audience of no more than 500 people; and
- A person concerned in the organisation or management of the music entertainment has obtained the prior written consent of the local authority, health care provider or school proprietor (as appropriate) for that entertainment to take place. It is for these “trusted providers” to determine whether, or not, they wish to make their premises available for music entertainment by a 3rd party and on what terms they deem it appropriate.

Community premises: music entertainment

No licence is required for a performance of live music or the playing of recorded music on community premises, between 08.00-23.00 on any day provided that;

- The community premises are not authorised, by a premises licence or club premises certificate, to be used for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- The music entertainment is in the presence of an audience of no more than 500 people and
- A person concerned in the organisation or management of the music entertainment has obtained the prior written consent of the management committee of the premises, or if there is no management committee, a person who has control of the premises in connection with the carrying on by that person of a trade, business or other undertaking, or failing that a person with a relevant property interest in the premises.

Community premises: exhibition of film

No licence is required for an exhibition of a film on community premises between 08.00-23.00 on any day providing that

- The film entertainment is not provided with a view to a profit
- The film entertainment is in the presence of an audience of no more than 500 people
- The admission of children is subject to such restrictions as are necessary to comply with the recommendation issued by BBFC or relevant licensing authority regarding the admission of children and
- A person concerned in the organisation or management of the exhibition of the film has obtained the prior written consent of the management committee of the premises, or if there is no management committee, a person who has control of the premises in connection with the carrying on by that person of a trade, business or other undertaking, or failing that a person with a relevant property interest in the premises

Under this exemption, one condition is that the film entertainment is not being provided with a view to profit. An entry charge does not of itself make the film entertainment licensable; it is whether the organiser intended to make a profit (that includes raising money for charity). A charge or contribution that is made solely to cover the costs of the film screening is consistent with 'not being provided with a view to profit'. The 'not with a view to profit' condition applies solely to the activity of exhibiting the film under this exemption. A charge with a view to making a profit may legitimately be levied for any other activity or event that is distinct from film admission, such as the provision of refreshments, film talks, or a social event.

This community film exemption is also conditional on those responsible having in place operating arrangements that ensure that the age rating for the film is implemented by means of a suitable child admission policy. How this is achieved is a matter for the organisation or social group exhibiting the film. For example, they may operate a membership subscription scheme which pays for entry to all titles in a season and is limited to adults. It could be a children's film club with a policy of only showing films that are suitable for all by being rated 'U' by the BBFC. Alternatively, the organisers could sell tickets to the public and ensure that children are only permitted to attend in accordance with any age rating for the film – i.e. a door admissions policy linked to proof of age.

Travelling Circuses

Where types of entertainment are present in a performance by a travelling circus they will not be licensable provided that certain qualifying conditions are met. The qualifying conditions are;

- The entertainment is not an exhibition of a film or a boxing or wrestling entertainment;
- The entertainment takes place between 08.00hrs and 23.00hrs on the same day;
- The entertainment takes place wholly within a moveable structure and the audience present is accommodated wholly inside that moveable structure; and

- The travelling circus has not been located on the same site for more than 28 consecutive days.

Live Music

Live music is licensable -

- Where a performance of live music – whether amplified or unamplified – takes place before 08.00 or after 23.00 on any day;
- Where a performance of amplified live music does not take place either on relevant licensed premises, or at a workplace that is not licensed other than for the provision of late night refreshment;
- Where a performance of amplified live music takes place at a time when the relevant licensed premises are not open for the purposes of being used for the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- Where a performance of amplified live music takes place at relevant licensed premises, or workplaces, in the presence of an audience of more than 500 people; or
- Where a licensing authority intentionally removes the effect of the deregulation provided for by the 2003 Act when imposing a condition on a premises licence or club premises certificate as a result of a licence review.

In any of the above circumstances, unless the performance of live music is appropriately authorised by a premises licence, club premises certificate or TEN, allowing it to take place could lead to enforcement action and, where relevant, a review of the alcohol licence or certificate.

A public performance of live unamplified music that takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day no longer requires a licence under the 2003 Act in any location. An exception to this is where a specific condition related to live music is included following a review of the premises licence or club premises certificate in respect of relevant licensed premises.

Key terms used in relation to live music

Under the live music provisions, “music” includes vocal or instrumental music or any combination of the two. “Live music” is a performance of live music in the presence of an audience which it is intended to entertain. While a performance of live music can include the playing of some recorded music, ‘live’ music requires that the performance does not consist entirely of the playing of recorded music without any additional (substantial and continual) creative contribution being made. So, for example, a drum machine or backing track being used to accompany a vocalist or a band would be part of the performance of amplified live music. The performance of a DJ who is merely playing tracks would not be classified as live music, but it might if he or she was performing a set which largely consisted of mixing recorded music in a live performance to create new sounds. There will inevitably be a degree of judgement as to whether a performance is live music (or recorded music) and organisers of events should check with their licensing authority if this consideration is relevant to whether the activity is authorised by a licence or certificate. In the event of a dispute about whether a performance is live

music or not, it will be for the licensing authority initially and ultimately, for the courts to decide in the individual circumstances of any case.

A “workplace” is as defined in regulation 2(1) of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 and is anywhere that is made available to any person as a place of work. It is a very wide term which can include outdoor spaces, as well as the means of entry and exit.

A “relevant licensed premises” for the purposes of this chapter is one which is authorised to sell or supply alcohol for consumption on the premises by a premises licence or club premises certificate. Premises cannot benefit from the deregulation introduced by the 2012 Act by virtue of holding an authorisation for the sale or supply of alcohol under a TEN.

Recorded Music

No licence is required for recorded music where it takes place on premises which are authorised by a premises licence or club premises certificate to be used for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises. However, recorded music remains licensable

- Where the playing of recorded music takes place before 08.00 or after 23.00 on any day;
- Where the playing of recorded music takes place at a time when the relevant licensed premises are not open for the purposes of being used for the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- Where the playing of recorded music takes place at a relevant licensed premises in the presence of an audience of more than 500 people; and
- Where a licensing authority intentionally removes the effect of the deregulation provided for by the 2003 Act (as amended).

Plays and Dance

No licence is required for a performance of a play or dance to the extent that certain qualifying conditions are satisfied. However a performance of a play or dance remains licensable;

- Where the performance takes place before 08.00 or after 23.00 on any day; or
- Where the performance takes place in the presence of an audience of more than 500 people.

Indoor Sport

No licence is required for an indoor sporting event to the extent that certain qualifying conditions are satisfied. However an indoor sporting event remains licensable;

- Where the performance takes place before 08.00 or after 23.00 on any day; or
- Where the event takes place in the presence of more than 1000 spectators.

23.6 Licence Conditions

Live Music or Recorded Music

Any existing licence conditions (or conditions added on a determination of an application for a premises licence or club premises certificate which relate to live music or recorded music remain in place, but are suspended between the hours of 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day where the following conditions are met:

- At the time of the music entertainment, the premises are open for the purposes of being used for the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises;
- If the music is amplified, it takes place before an audience of no more than 500 people; and
- The music takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day.

Whether a licence condition relates to live or recorded music will be a matter of fact in each case. In some instances, it will be obvious that a condition relates to music and will be suspended, for example “during performances of live music all doors and windows must remain closed”. In other instances, it might not be so obvious: for example, a condition stating “during performances of regulated entertainment all doors and windows must remain closed” would be suspended insofar as it relates to music between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day to an audience of up to 500, but the condition would continue to apply if there was regulated entertainment after 23.00.

More general licence conditions (e.g. those relating to overall management of potential noise nuisance) that are not specifically related to the provision of entertainment (e.g. signage asking patrons to leave quietly) will continue to have effect)

These conditions will, in effect, be suspended between 08.00 and 23.00 if a performance of live music or the playing of recorded music takes place before an audience of 500 people or fewer, but will remain on the face of the licence for when these activities may take place under other circumstances.

Where a performance of live music or the playing of recorded music on relevant licensed premises is not licensable, it remains possible for anyone to apply for a review of a licence or certificate, if there are appropriate grounds to do so.

Beer Gardens

Beer gardens are often included as part of a premises licence or club premises certificate. Live amplified music that takes place in a beer garden is exempt from licensing requirements, provided the beer garden is included in the licence or certificate applying to the relevant licensed premises, and the performance takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day before an audience of 500 people or fewer.

Where a beer garden does not form part of the relevant licensed premises and so is not included in plans attached to a premises licence or club premises certificate, it is nevertheless very likely that it will be a workplace.

Paragraph 12B of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act says that a performance of live music in a workplace that does not have a licence (except to provide late night refreshment) is not regulated entertainment if it takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day in front of an audience of no more than 500 people. Note that the exemption in paragraph 12B does not apply to the playing of recorded music.

However, a licensing authority may, where justified, impose a licence condition that relates to the performance of live music in an unlicensed beer garden being served by any associated premises licence or club premises certificate. Provided such a condition is lawfully imposed, it takes effect in accordance with its terms.

Plays, dance and indoor sport

Where qualifying conditions are satisfied, any current licence condition that relates to a performance of a play or dance, or an indoor sporting event for which a licence is no longer required will (except in the circumstances described in the next paragraph) have no effect.

Where, however, these non-licensable activities take place at the same time as other activities for which a licence is required (e.g. the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises), conditions included in a licence may nevertheless apply to the non-licensable activities in the circumstances set out above.

Dance that is sufficiently sexual in nature continues to be regulated. Performances of dance which are “relevant entertainment” within the meaning of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (“the 1982 Act”) are not deregulated, regardless of the size of the audience or the time of day. “Relevant entertainment” is defined in the 1982 Act as a live performance or live display of nudity that, ignoring financial gain, can be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience.

In almost all cases where a performance of dance is potentially licensable as both the provision of relevant entertainment (under the 1982 Act) and regulated entertainment (under the 2003 Act), the 1982 Act disapplies the entertainment licensing regime in the 2003 Act in favour of its stricter regime for the control of sex establishments. However, an authorisation under the 2003 Act rather than the 1982 Act will continue to be required where:

- The premises are not licensed as a sex entertainment venue under the 1982 Act, and
- Relevant entertainment has been provided at those premises on no more than 11 occasions in any 12 month period, with none of those occasions lasting longer than 24 hours or taking place within a month of any such occasion.

Boxing or wrestling entertainment and conditions relating to combined fighting sports

An indoor boxing or wrestling entertainment cannot also be an indoor sporting event, and any contest, exhibition or display that combines boxing or wrestling with one or more martial arts ('combined fighting sports') is – whether indoors or not – a boxing or wrestling entertainment.

Where a premises licence or club premises certificate purports to authorise a boxing or wrestling entertainment or combined fighting sports as an 'indoor sporting event', the 2013 Order provides that the authorisation will be treated as having authorised those activities as a boxing or wrestling entertainment. Those activities will continue to be subject to any relevant conditions attached to that authorisation.

A contest, exhibition or display of Greco-Roman wrestling, or of freestyle wrestling, between two participants (regardless of their sex) does not require a licence provided that certain qualifying conditions are met. They are that:

- It takes place in the presence of no more than 1,000 spectators;
- It takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day; and
- It takes place wholly inside a building and the spectators present at that entertainment are accommodated wholly inside that building.

23.7 Conditions relating to other non-licensable activities

If appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives, and if there is a link to remaining licensable activities, conditions that relate to non-licensable activities can be added to or altered on that premises licence or club premises certificate at review following problems occurring at the premises. This has been a feature of licence conditions since the 2003 Act came into force. A relevant example could be the use of conditions relating to large screen broadcasts of certain sporting events which, combined with alcohol consumption, could create a genuine risk to the promotion of the licensing objectives. It is also not uncommon for licence conditions relating to the sale of alcohol to restrict access to outside areas, such as unlicensed beer gardens, after a certain time.

Similarly, while karaoke no longer needs licensing as the provision of entertainment facilities (and will generally be classed as a performance of live music) it might, for example, be possible on review to limit the use or volume of a microphone made available for customers on an 'open-mic' night (which encompasses more than just live music), if a problem had occurred because of customers purchasing alcohol for consumption on the premises becoming louder and less aware of causing noise nuisance later in the evening. Another example might be a condition restricting access to a dance floor at certain times, where the presence of customers in close proximity who had been consuming alcohol on the premises had led to serious disorder. In the first instance it is for the licensing authority to satisfy itself that a particular condition is appropriate and lawful in each case.

23.8 **Incidental music**

The performance of live music or playing of recorded music is not regulated entertainment under the 2003 Act if it is 'incidental' to another activity "which is not itself a description of entertainment falling within paragraph 2" of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act. 16.58 The incidental music exemption can apply to an indoor sporting event or a performance of a play or dance for which no licence is required, as it takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day and before an audience which does not exceed the relevant limit. This is because such an activity is no longer a description of entertainment within the meaning of paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act. This means that, while a performance of live music or the playing of recorded music cannot be incidental to a boxing or wrestling entertainment, such music may be within the scope of the incidental music exemption for an indoor sporting event or performance of a play or dance for which no licence is required.

Whether or not music is "incidental" to another activity will depend on the facts of each case. In considering whether or not live or recorded music is incidental, one relevant factor could be whether, against a background of the other activities already taking place, the addition of music will create the potential to undermine the promotion of one or more of the four licensing objectives of the 2003 Act. Other factors might include some or all of the following:

- Is the music the main, or one of the main, reasons for people attending the premises and being charged?
- Is the music advertised as the main attraction?
- Does the volume or the music disrupt or predominate over other activities, or could it be described as 'background' music.

Conversely, factors which would not normally be relevant in themselves include:

- The number of musicians, e.g. an orchestra providing incidental music at a large exhibition;
- Whether musicians are paid;
- Whether the performance is pre-arranged; and
- Whether a charge is made for admission to the premises.

In any disputed case, it will be for the licensing authority initially and, ultimately, for the courts to consider whether music is "incidental" in the individual circumstances of any case.

23.9 **Removing licence conditions**

On a review of a premises licence or club premises certificate, section 177A(3) of the 2003 Act permits a licensing authority to lift the suspension and give renewed effect to an existing condition relating to music. Similarly, under section 177A(4), a licensing authority may add a condition relating to music as if music were regulated entertainment, and as if that premises licence or club premises certificate licensed the music. In both instances the condition should include a statement that Section 177A does not apply to the condition.

An application for a review in relation to relevant premises can be made by a licensing authority, any responsible authority or any other person. Applications for review must still be relevant to one or more of the licensing objectives and meet a number of further requirements.

23.10 **Busking**

Busking or street performance is the practice of performing in public spaces for money. Performances are not limited to music or singing and can take the form of a wide range of activities that people find entertaining.

Busking is generally not licensable under the 2003 Act as

- It often occurs in a place that is not a premises made available (at least in part) for the purposes of providing entertainment.
- The entertainment is usually incidental to another activity, such as shopping or sightseeing, as there are few circumstances in which anyone would go out specifically to watch buskers; and
- Any unamplified live music is not licensable between 08.00 and 23.00.

23.11 **Incidental Film**

An exhibition of a film within the meaning of paragraph 15 of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act is not regulated entertainment if it is 'incidental' to another activity "which is not itself a description of entertainment falling within paragraph 2" of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act.

The incidental film exemption can apply to an indoor sporting event or a performance of a play or dance for which no licence is required as it takes place between 08.00 and 23.00 on the same day before an audience which does not exceed the relevant limit. Such activities would no longer be a description of entertainment within the meaning of paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act

This means that, while any exhibition of moving pictures cannot be incidental to a boxing or wrestling entertainment, such film displays may be within the scope of the incidental film exemption for an indoor sporting event or performance of a play or dance for which no licence is required.

Whether or not an exhibition of moving pictures is "incidental" to another activity will depend on the facts of each case. In considering whether or not film is incidental, one relevant factor could be whether, against a background of the other activities already taking place, the addition of an exhibition of moving images will create the potential to undermine the promotion of one or more of the four licensing objectives of the 2003 Act. This would mean that if the BBFC or the relevant licensing authority has given an age rating to a film, video, or music video, then to qualify for the "incidental film" licensing exemption, the admission of children to the premises will need to be restricted in accordance with the appropriate age rating. But that is one aspect of one relevant factor. Other factors to consider in assessing whether film is incidental might include some or all of the following:

- Is the film the main, or one of the main, reasons for people attending the premises and being charged?
- Is the film advertised as the main attraction?
- Does the screening of the film predominate over other activities, or could it be described as 'background' images?
- Does the appearance of moving pictures within another entertainment activity, for which no licence is required (e.g. a performance of a play or dance), undermine the promotion of the licensing objectives?

23.12 **Entertainment activity provided as part of childcare**

Entertainment activity that is provided as part of childcare will generally not be licensable. This includes entertainment activity in a nursery or private home. In addition, paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the 2003 Act includes a licensing exemption for an exhibition of a film where the main purpose is to provide education. Education will generally include all forms of pre-school child and day care. Furthermore, an exhibition of a film, or the playing of live or recorded music, will generally be incidental to the activity of childcare and so the incidental music and film exemption in paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 will also apply. This will generally be the case for any entertainment activity organised as part of wraparound childcare, including breakfast clubs, after school clubs or holiday clubs linked to the child's school or based in the local community.

23.13 **Child Performers**

Child performance legislation requires that a licence must be obtained from a child's home local authority before a child can take part in certain types of performance and activities. A licence may be required whether or not any payment is made for the child to perform. The deregulation of entertainment licensing does not alter the regulations on when children can take part in performances. For further information on the licence for Child Performers contact the Education Welfare Officer of the Council.

24. **Administration**

The council's licensing team administer all aspects of the Licensing Act 2003, including applications, representations and requests for assistance and advice. The council's website has detailed information on all of the services it offers for licensees, applicants, complainants and all other enquiries. Application information and forms can be downloaded from our website. The licensing teams can be contacted by any of the following means:-

Licensing Section
 Caerphilly County Borough Council
 Ty Penallta
 Tredomen Park,
 Ystrad Mynach

Hengoed
 CF82 7PG
 E-mail: licensing@caerphilly.gov.uk
 Tel: 01443 866750
 Web: www.Caerphilly.gov.uk/licensing

25. Application procedures

- 25.1 Prospective applicants are strongly recommended to seek pre-application advice. Advice on the application process will be given, but at no stage will the Licensing Authority complete the application form on behalf of an applicant. The council's website has detailed information on all of the services it offers for licensees, applicants, complainants and all other enquiries. In addition the website can be used to search pending applications and is available at [Click Here](#)
- 25.2 In accordance with the Provision of Services Regulations 2009, electronic application facilities for premises licences are available and may be found on GOV.UK or [Click Here](#). Electronic applications for other categories of licence and authorisations are also available on these sites. Applications made in electronic form or via GOV.UK will be sent to the responsible authorities by the licensing authority. If the applicant submits their application in writing, they will remain responsible for copying it to the responsible authorities.
- 25.3 Applications for all licences and authorisations available under the 2003 Act must be made on the relevant form prescribed under secondary regulations. Applications will not be progressed until the form has been completed in full and received, together with the relevant fee(s) and all other required information, by the Licensing Authority and the relevant responsible authorities.
- 25.4 Where electronic applications are made, the application will be taken to be 'given' when the applicant has submitted a complete application form and submitted the fee.
- 25.5 **The Responsible Authorities are:**

Responsible Authority	Contact details
Licensing Authority	Licensing Section Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Penallta, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG 01443 866750 licensing@caerphilly.gov.uk
Environmental Health (Statutory function for minimising or preventing the	Team Leader Pollution Control Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Penallta

Responsible Authority	Contact details
risk of pollution of the environment or of harm to human health.)	Tredomen Park Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7PG enviroservices@caerphilly.gov.uk
Environmental Health Authority (Enforcing Authority within the meaning given by section 18 of the Health and Safety etc Act 1974 for the area in which the premises are situated)	Senior Environmental Health Officer (Food and Health and Safety) Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Penallta Tredomen Park Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7PG foodhealthandsafety@caerphilly.gov.uk
Health and Safety Executive (for HSE enforced and Council owned properties only CCBC)	Health and Safety Executive Government Buildings Phase 1 Ty Glas Road Llanishen Cardiff CF14 5SH
Weights and Measures Authority (Function of Trading Standards)	Senior Trading Standards Officer (Community Protection Section) Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Penallta, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG tradingstandards@caerphilly.gov.uk
Child Protection (Body which represents those who are responsible for or interested in matters relating to the protection of children from harm and is competent to advise on such matters.)	Child Protection Co-ordinator, Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Penallta, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG 01443 864744
Planning Authority	Chief Planning Officer Planning Division Caerphilly County Borough Council Ty Dyffryn Dyffryn Industrial Estate Ystrad Mynach CF82 7FP E-mail: planning@caerphilly.gov.uk

Responsible Authority	Contact details
Heddlu Gwent Police	The Chief Officer of Police FAO The Licensing Officer Heddlu Gwent Police Divisional Headquarters Blackwood Police Station Blackwood Road Pontllanfraith Blackwood NP12 2XA Tel: 01633 838111 WestLPALicensingTeam@gwent.pnn.police.uk
South Wales Fire & Rescue Service	South Wales Fire & Rescue Service, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun CF72 8LX. 01443 232713 safety-east@southwales-fire.gov.uk
Public Health	Dr G Richardson, Executive Director of Public Health – Alcohol Licensing Lead Aneurin Bevan Gwent Public Health Team Victoria House 136-140 Corporation Road Newport NP19 0BH Email: publichealth.aneurinbevan@wales.nhs.uk
Home Office (Immigration Enforcement)	Home Office Alcohol Licensing Team, Lunar House, 40 Wellesley Road Croydon CR9 2BY. alcohol@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

25.6 The steps for consideration of licensing application, a licensing variation and a club premises certificate are:

- a) If no representations are made to an application, the Authority must grant it in full. Please see our website for further information www.caerphilly.gov.uk
- b) When an application is made, and relevant representation are made to the Authority it must hold a hearing of the Licensing Sub-Committee (unless those who have made representations agree in advance that this is unnecessary).

- c) The Licensing Sub-Committee will then consider the evidence provided by applicants and by those making representations, the legislation and accompanying Guidance, the Statement of Licensing Policy and any other relevant data.
- d) The Licensing Sub-Committee will determine the application and will take any steps it considers appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- e) Conditions on the licence, additional to those voluntarily offered by the applicant, may be considered. Appropriate conditions will focus on matters which are within the control of individual licensees and which also relate to the premises or places being used for licensable activities and the impact of those activities in the vicinity. If situations arise where the licensing objectives are compromised but cannot be dealt with by the use of appropriate conditions the Licensing Authority will consider whether it is appropriate for a licence to be issued or for the premises to continue in operation.

25.7 Conditions on a licence:

- Must be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- Must be precise and enforceable;
- Must be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve;
- Should not duplicate other statutory requirements or other duties or responsibilities placed on the employer by other legislation;
- Must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned;
- Should not be standardised and may be unlawful when it cannot be demonstrated that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives in an individual case;
- Should not replicate offences set out in the 2003 Act or other legislation;
- Should be proportionate, justifiable and capable of being met;
- Cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff, but may impact on the behaviour of customers in the immediate vicinity of the premises or as they enter or leave; and
- Should be written in a prescriptive format.

25.8 Individuals applying for a personal licence must be entitled to work in the UK. The Immigration Act 2016 amended the Licensing Act 2003 with effect from 6 April 2017 so that an application made on or after that date by someone who is not entitled to work in the UK must be rejected. Licences must not be issued to people who are illegally present in the UK, who are not permitted to work, or who are permitted to work but are subject to a condition that prohibits them from doing work relating to the carrying on of a licensable activity. In order to discharge this duty, the Authority must be satisfied that an applicant has the right to work in the UK, to demonstrate that the applicant has permission to be in the UK and that they are permitted to undertake work in a licensable activity. This also applies to individuals who apply for premises licences. The purpose of this is to prevent illegal working in the UK.

25.9 A person is also disqualified from holding a licence if they are subject to a condition on their permission to be in the UK preventing them from holding a licence, for example if they are subject to an immigration restriction that does not permit them to work.

26. Operating schedule

26.1 All new and variation applications should incorporate an 'operating schedule' which outlines how the premises will be operated. This should include details of how the applicant will promote the four licensing objectives and reduce any potential negative impact from the operation of their business on the local community, depending on the type of premises, location and profile of customers. The proposals contained in the operating schedule will form the main body of the conditions to be applied to the licence, together with any applicable mandatory conditions, any conditions agreed with responsible authorities during the application process and any conditions imposed by a licensing sub-committee where representations have been made.

26.2 In completing an operating schedule, applicants are expected to have regard to this statement of licensing policy and to demonstrate suitable knowledge of their local area when describing the steps that they propose to take in order to promote the Licensing Objectives.

26.3 The Licensing Authority will provide general advice on the drafting of operating schedules and applicants are strongly recommended to discuss their operating schedules with the Licensing Authority and other Responsible Authorities prior to submitting them.

26.4 The complexity and detail required in the operating schedule will depend upon the nature and use of the premises concerned. For premises such as a public house where regulated entertainment is not provided, only a relatively simple document may be required. However for an operating schedule accompanying an application for a major entertainment venue or event, it will be expected that issues such as public safety and the prevention of crime and disorder will be addressed in detail

26.5 The operating schedule must be set out on the prescribed form and include a statement of the following:-

- Full details of the licensable activities to be carried on at and the intended use of the premises;
- The times during which the licensable activities will take place;
- Any other times when the premises are to be open to the public;
- Where the licence is only required for a limited period, that period;
- Where the licensable activities include the supply of alcohol, the name and address of the individual to be specified as the designated premises supervisor;
- Whether alcohol will be supplied for consumption on or off the premises or both;
- The steps which the applicant proposes to promote the Licensing Objectives.

- 26.6 For some premises, it is possible that no measures will appropriate to promote one or more of the Licensing Objectives, for example, because they are adequately covered by other existing legislation. It is however important that all operating schedules should be:
- Precise and enforceable
 - Be unambiguous
 - Not to duplicate other statutory provisions
 - Be clear in what they intend to achieve, and
 - Be appropriate, proportionate and justifiable.
- 26.7 To assist applicants the authority has provided a Code of good practice / Model pool of conditions for licensed premises, the current code can be found in **Appendix A** of this policy. It should be noted the code does not form any part of this policy and the guidance and examples of control measures are simply given to assist applicants in preparing operating schedules and the on-going running of a licensed premises. The code is not exhaustive and is not to be regarded in any way as standard conditions or mandatory requirements.

27. Conditions

- 27.1 The Licensing Act 2003, as amended, imposes a number of mandatory conditions on licences. The council has the power to impose additional conditions if they consider that they are appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 27.2 Conditions attached to licences or certificates will be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the particular premises, activities and/or events provided at the premises. The policy does not provide for any standard, general or blanket conditions, and will not impose disproportionate and burdensome requirements.
- 27.3 Applicants may offer conditions in the operating schedule as part of their application; the council may remove or reword any of these conditions if they are considered to be unclear, ambiguous or unenforceable, with the agreement of the applicant. This will ensure that all parties fully understand their responsibilities to promote the licensing objectives.
- 27.4 The council recognise that they can only impose conditions were relevant representations are received and it is considered appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives. Where a responsible authority gives evidence that it is appropriate to impose specific conditions the request will be considered by the council who may suggest the wording of the condition to ensure that it is clear, relevant and enforceable.
- 27.5 When attaching conditions, the council will also be aware of the need to avoid measures that might deter live music, dancing or theatre by imposing costs of a substantial nature, that are not in proportion to the risks.

28. Applications where representations are received

- 28.1 When an application is made for the grant, variation or review of a premises licence or club premises certificate, representations about the application can be made by responsible authorities or other persons. However the Licensing Authority will usually give greater weight to representations that are made by people who can demonstrate that they would be directly affected by the carrying on of licensable activities at the premises concerned.
- 28.2 Representations must be made to the Licensing Authority within the statutory period of 28 days beginning on the day after the relevant application is received by the Licensing Authority. Representations must be made in writing.
- 28.3 Representations can be made either be in support of an application or to express objections to an application being granted. However the Licensing Authority can only accept “relevant representations.” A representation is “relevant” if it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the Licensing Objectives
- 28.4 An example of a representation that would not be relevant would be a representation from a local business person about the commercial damage that competition from a new licensed premise would do to their own business. On the other hand, a representation by a business person that nuisance caused by new premises would deter customers from entering the local area, and the steps proposed by the applicant to prevent that nuisance were inadequate, would be a relevant representation.
- 28.5 Representations should relate to the impact of licensable activities carried on from premises on the Licensing Objectives.
- 28.6 For representations in relation to variations to be relevant, they should be confined to the subject matter of the variation.
- 28.7 Whilst the Licensing Authority expects representations to be evidence based, there is no requirement for a Responsible Authority or other person to produce a recorded history of problems at premises to support their representations, and it is recognised that in fact this would not be possible for new premises.
- 28.8 Responsible authorities are a group of public bodies that must be fully notified of applications and that are entitled to make representations to the Licensing Authority in relation to the application for the grant, variation or review of a premises licence or club premises certificate. A full list of contact details for the responsible authorities is provided on the Licensing Authority’s website.
- 28.9 Whilst all responsible authorities may make representations regarding applications for licences and club premises certificates and full variation applications, it is the responsibility of each Responsible Authority to determine when they have appropriate grounds to do so.

- 28.10 The Licensing Authority recognises that every Responsible Authority can make representations relating to any of the four Licensing Objectives. However the Licensing Authority would normally expect representations about the promotion of individual Licensing Objectives to come from the most relevant Responsible Authority with expertise in that particular area. For example the Licensing Authority would expect representations about the prevention of crime and disorder to come primarily from the police and representations about the prevention of public nuisance to come primarily from environmental health.
- 28.11 The Licensing Authority recognises that the police should be its main source or advice on matters relating to the promotion of the crime and disorder licensing objective, but also may be able to make relevant representations with regards to the other Licensing Objectives if they have evidence to support such representations.
- 28.12 The Licensing Authority will accept all reasonable and proportionate representations made by the police unless it has evidence that do so would not be appropriate for the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. However the Licensing Authority will still expect any police representations to be evidence based and able to withstand scrutiny at a hearing.
- 28.13 The Licensing Authority recognises the input of Caerphilly County Borough Council Children's Services, Trading Standards and Local Health Board in relation to the licensing objective of the protection of children from harm.
- 28.14 The Licensing Authority recognises that, although public health is not a licensing objective, health bodies may hold information which other responsible authorities do not, but which would assist the Licensing Authority in exercising its functions.
- 28.15 For example, drunkenness can lead to accidents and injuries from violence, resulting in attendances at emergency departments and the use of ambulance services. Some of these incidents will be reported to the police, but many will not. Such information might be relevant to the public safety objective and in some cases the crime and disorder objective.
- 28.16 As a result of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Licensing Authority is also now a Responsible Authority and can therefore make representations if it deems it appropriate to do so.
- 28.17 However the Licensing Authority will not normally act as a Responsible Authority on behalf of other parties (for example, local residents, local councillors or community groups) although there are occasions where the authority may decide to do so.
- 28.18 Such parties can make relevant representations to the Licensing Authority in their own right, and the Licensing Authority expects them to make representations themselves where they are reasonably able to do so.
- 28.19 The Licensing Authority also expects that other responsible authorities should intervene where the basis for the intervention falls within the remit of that other Responsible Authority. Each Responsible Authority has equal standing under the

2003 Act and may act independently without waiting for representations from any other Responsible Authority.

- 28.20 In cases where a Licensing Authority is also acting as Responsible Authority in relation to the same process, the Licensing Authority will seek to achieve a separation of responsibilities within the authority to ensure procedural fairness and eliminate conflicts of interest. This will be achieved by allocating the different responsibilities to different licensing officers or other officers within the local authority to ensure a proper separation of responsibilities.
- 28.21 Relevant representations about applications can also be made by any other person, regardless of their geographical position in relation to the relevant premises. However the Licensing Authority will usually give greater weight to representations that are made by people who can demonstrate that they would be directly affected by the carrying on of licensable activities at the premises concerned.
- 28.22 The Licensing Authority will also reject as invalid, any representations from other persons that are deemed to be frivolous or vexatious. A representation might be considered to be vexatious if it appears to be intended to cause aggravation or annoyance, whether to a competitor or other person, without reasonable cause. Frivolous representations are essentially categorised by a lack of seriousness. Frivolous representations would concern issues which, at most, are minor and in relation to which no remedial steps would be warranted or proportionate.
- 28.23 Decisions as to the validity of representations will normally be made by officers of the Licensing Authority. In borderline cases, the benefit of the doubt about any aspect of a representation will be given to the person making that representation. The subsequent hearing would then provide an opportunity for the person or body making the representation to amplify and clarify it.
- 28.24 The Licensing Authority will accept petitions, but there are some important factors to consider before organising a petition:
- We ask that the organiser of the petition identify himself or herself as a central point of contact. We may need to make contact in order to verify certain matters if we are unable to do this it could invalidate the petition.
 - Each page of the petition should contain information as to the purpose of the petition so that all persons know what they are signing.
 - Full names and addresses must be supplied
 - All signatories must be made aware that a copy of the petition will be supplied to the applicant and a copy will be contained within the committee papers, so their personal details will become public knowledge.

We will not write to each signatory separately, but instead assume that the organiser will advise each signatory of the hearing date and the final outcome of the application. It is expected that the organiser will represent the signatories at the hearing and to speak for them. When making a decision, the Licensing Authority will give appropriate weight to a petition. Those wishing to make representations should appreciate that the quality of the representations we receive is an important consideration when making a decision.

- 28.25 Any person who is aggrieved by a rejection of their representations on either of these grounds may lodge a complaint through the authority's corporate complaints procedure. A person may also challenge such a decision by way of judicial review.
- 28.26 Where a notice of a hearing is given to an applicant, the Licensing Authority is required to provide the applicant with copies of the relevant representations that have been made.
- 28.27 The Licensing Authority will normally provide copies of the relevant representations to the applicant in full and without redaction. However in exceptional circumstances, where a person satisfies the Licensing Authority that they have genuine reasons to fear intimidation or violence if their personal details, such as name and address, are divulged to the applicant, the copies of the representations may be redacted accordingly.
- 28.28 In such circumstances the Licensing Authority will still provide some details to the applicant (such as street name or general location within a street), so that the applicant can fully prepare their response to any particular representation.
- 28.29 Alternatively persons may wish to contact the relevant Responsible Authority or their local Councillor with details of how they consider that the Licensing Objectives are being undermined so that the Responsible Authority can make representations on their behalf if appropriate and justified.
- 28.30 Further guidance on making representations is provided on the Licensing Authority's website.

29. Exercise and delegation of functions

- 29.1 The Licensing Act 2003 requires local authorities to act as the Licensing Authority and to set up a Licensing Committee to be responsible for all matters relating to the Licensing Act 2003. The Licensing Committee further delegate to Licensing Sub Committees (Panels), or by one or more officers acting under delegated authority.
- 29.2 It is considered that many of the functions will be largely administrative in nature with no perceived areas of contention. In the interests of efficiency and cost effectiveness these will, for the most part, be carried out by officers. The Licensing Authority, when acting as a Responsible Authority commenting on Licence applications, will have separate roles for officers. One member of staff will be required to administer the application and another member of staff will act as the Responsible Authority making comments on the application.
- 29.3 The Schedule below sets out the presumed delegation of functions and decisions. Notwithstanding this presumption of delegation, the Council reserves the right to refer any matter to the Licensing Committee or sub-committee.

29.4 **Schedule of delegation of licensing functions and decisions**

Matter to be dealt with	Licensing Committee	Licensing Sub-Committee (panels)	Officers
Application for personal licence		If a police objection	If no objection made
Application for a personal licence with unspent convictions		All cases	
Application for premises licence/club premises certificate		If a relevant representation made and not withdrawn	If no relevant representation made or representation withdrawn
Application for provisional statement		If a relevant representation made and not withdrawn	If no relevant representation made or representation withdrawn
Application to vary premises licence/club premises certificate		If a relevant representation made and not withdrawn	If no relevant representation made or representation withdrawn
Application to vary designated premises supervisor		If a police objection	All other cases
Application for a minor variation			All cases
Application to vary a licence on a community premises to include alternative licence condition		If police objection	All other cases
Request to be removed as designated premises supervisor			All cases
Application for transfer of premises licence		If a police objection	All other cases
Application for interim authorities		If a police objection	All other cases

Matter to be dealt with	Licensing Committee	Licensing Sub-Committee (panels)	Officers
Application to review premises licence/club premises certificate		All cases	
Decision on whether a complaint is irrelevant frivolous vexatious etc.			All cases
Determination of a police or environmental health objection to a temporary event notice		In all cases if not withdrawn.	
Suspension of licences following non-payment of annual fees			All Cases

30. Reviews of licences

30.1 The Council can only review a licence where it is alleged by a “responsible authority”, or other person that the licensing objectives are being breached. Responsible authorities will aim to give licence holders early warning of any concerns identified at the premises. Only responsible authorities or other persons (e.g. local residents, local organisations and councillors) can apply for the review of a licence; and determine its outcome at a hearing where an evidential basis for allegations made will be submitted. It views particularly seriously applications for the review of any premises licence which involves the:

- use of licensed premises for the sale and distribution of controlled drugs and the laundering of the proceeds of drugs crimes;
- use of licensed premises for the sale and distribution of illegal firearms;
- evasion of copyright in respect of pirated films and music;
- underage purchase and consumption of alcohol;
- use of licensed premises for prostitution or the sale of unlawful pornography;
- use of licensed premises for unlawful gaming;
- use of licensed premises as a base for organised criminal activity;
- use of licensed premises for the organisation of racist, homophobic or sexual abuse or attacks;
- use of licensed premises for the sale of smuggled tobacco or goods;
- use of licensed premises for the storage or sale of stolen goods;
- the police being frequently called to attend to incidents of disorder;
- prolonged and/or repeated instances of public nuisance;
- serious risk to public safety have been identified and the management is unable or unwilling to correct;

- Serious risk to children.

30.2 The Licensing Sub-committee will consider all evidence provided at the hearing and apply appropriate weight to that evidence when making their decision.

30.3 The licensing sub-committee will consider all of the sanctions available to it provided for in the Act and guidance, including taking no action if appropriate. In cases where a licensing objective is seriously undermined, that revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, will be considered where appropriate to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted.

30.4 In cases where a licensing objective is seriously undermined, the revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, will be seriously considered where appropriate to ensure the licensing objectives are promoted.

31. Cumulative Impact Assessment

31.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003, Licensing Authorities have the power to introduce a cumulative impact policy where there is evidence showing that a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area has led to an increase in; Crime and disorder, Public nuisance or to both. Where adopted, a Cumulative Impact Policy creates a rebuttable presumption that applications for new premises licences, or club premises certificates or variations, that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused.

31.2 The Statutory Guidance sets out the steps to be followed when considering whether to adopt a special policy within the Policy these include -

- a) Identify concern about crime and disorder; public safety; public nuisance; or protection of children from harm
- b) Consider whether there is good evidence that crime and disorder or nuisance are occurring, or whether there are activities which pose a threat to public safety or the protection of children from harm.
- c) If such problems are occurring, identify whether these problems are being caused by the customers of licensed premises, or that the risk of cumulative impact is imminent.
- d) Identify the boundaries of the area where problems are occurring
- e) Consult with those specified by Section 5(3) of the Licensing Act and subject to the outcome of that consultation, include and publish details of any special policy in the licensing policy statement.

31.3 In April 2018, Section 141 of the Policing and Crime Act 2018 introduced a new Section 5A to the Licensing Act 2003 relating to Cumulative Impact Assessments (CIA). Before an Impact assessment area can be introduced the Authority must give reasons why they are considering a CIA, what part(s) they are considering to be a CIA and whether it considers the CIA applies to all licences or those of a particular kind. As such, the Authority must conduct a thorough assessment and if a CIA is introduced it must be reviewed at least every 3 years.

- 31.4 There are currently no CIA areas within Caerphilly County Borough Council. If evidence was provided about a negative impact on the licensing objectives, the formulation of a special policy would be carefully considered have due regard to the guidance provided in Section 182 of the Act.
- 31.5 The licensing authority recognises there are a number of existing measures available that are relevant to tackling unlawful and anti-social behaviour associated with licensed premises, including:
- Planning controls
 - Positive measures to create a safe and clean environment in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other departments of the local authority
 - The provision of CCTV surveillance, taxi ranks, provision of public conveniences open late at night, street cleaning and litter patrols
 - Powers of local authorities to designate parts of the local authority area as places where alcohol may not be consumed publicly.
 - The confiscation of alcohol from adults and children in designated areas
 - Police enforcement of the general law concerning disorder and antisocial behaviour, including the issue of fixed penalty notices
 - Prosecution for the offence of selling alcohol to a person who is drunk (or allowing such a sale) – Police powers to close down instantly for up to 24 hours (extendable to 48 hours) any licensed premises or temporary event on grounds of disorder, the likelihood of disorder, or noise emanating from the premises causing a disturbance.
 - Robust conditions on the licence promoting the four licensing objectives.
 - The power of the police, or other responsible authorities or any person to seek a review of the licence or certificate.
 - Regular Responsible Authority meetings, for parties to comment on, and providing an action plan, when dealing with problematic premises and areas.

32. Early morning restriction orders

- 32.1 An Early Morning Restriction Order (EMRO) restricts the time within which alcohol can be supplied. Alcohol supply can be prohibited between 0000-0600 and applies to Premises Licences, Club Premises Certificates and Temporary Event Notices. There are no exceptions save that which authorise supply of alcohol to residents with overnight accommodation via minibars and room service.
- 32.2 An EMRO is a powerful tool as it can prevent licensed premises in a specified area from supplying alcohol during the times at which the EMRO applies. Prior to any determination to recommend to full council that an EMRO is proposed, it should be satisfied that it has sufficient evidence that such a measure would be appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.
- 32.2 There are currently no EMRO's within Caerphilly County Borough Council. Any requests for an EMRO will be considered on the basis of evidence (guidance indicates

the types of evidence that may be relevant) however, the licensing authority will also consider evidence from local partners, responsible authorities, local Community Safety Partnerships or other party that they consider relevant in their determinations as to whether an EMRO would be an appropriate means of promoting the licensing objectives.

33. Hearings

- 33.1 Applications for licences and certificates will be determined following consultation with relevant responsible authorities. Where no representations are received, they will be issued administratively by the Licensing Team, however, contentious applications must be referred to the Council's Licensing Sub-Committee (panel) for determination, unless it is agreed by all parties that a hearing is not necessary.
- 33.2 The period of notice of a hearing that must be given to all relevant parties, and the information which may be disclosed, varies depending on the type of application, subject to regulations. A Licensing Sub-Committee (panel) of three Elected Members will determine a contentious application and will either grant a licence, grant a licence with amendments or refuse an application. Any party can appeal against the Council's decision to a Magistrates' Court
- 33.3 At any time during the period of a licence, any responsible authority or other person can ask for the review of a licence or certificate. All review applications will be determined by the Licensing Sub-Committee.

34. Appeals

- 34.1 Entitlements to appeal for parties aggrieved by decisions of the Council are set out in Schedule 5 of the Act. Other than in the case of personal licences, an appeal has to be made to the local Magistrates' Court. In the case of personal licences, the appeal must be made to the Magistrates' Court for the area in which the licensing authority which has considered the application (or any part of it) is situated.
- 34.2 An appeal has to be instigated by giving notice of the appeal by the appellant to
The Clerk to the Justices,
Newport Magistrates' Court
Usk Way
Newport
Gwent
NP20 2GE
01633 261300

Within a period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the appellant was notified by the Council of the decision appealed against.

34.3 On determining an appeal, the Court may:

- dismiss the appeal
- substitute any other decision which could have been made by the Council or
- remit the case to the Council to dispose of it in accordance with the direction of the Court.

The Court may make such order as to costs as it thinks fit.

34.4 In anticipation of such appeals, the Council will give comprehensive reasons for its decisions. On making findings of fact in its reasons, the Council will ensure that they address the standard of proof and the burden of proof that they have adopted. The Council will also address the extent to which decisions has been made with regard to its statement of licensing policy and the Guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182 Implementing the determination of the Magistrates' Courts

34.5 Where appropriate, the Licensing Authority will provide applicants and objectors etc. with information concerning their rights of appeal.

34.6 Where appropriate, the Licensing Authority will provide applicants and objectors etc. with information concerning their rights of appeal.

35. Implementing the determination of the Magistrates' Court

35.1 As soon as the determination of the Magistrates' Courts has been promulgated, the Council will not delay its implementation and necessary action will be taken forthwith unless ordered by a higher court to suspend such action [for example, as a result of an on-going Judicial Review]. The Act provides for no further appeal against the determination of the Magistrates' Courts.

36. Enforcement

36.1 The Licensing Authority has established joint enforcement protocols with the police and other enforcing authorities. These protocols will provide for the targeting of agreed problem and high-risk premises, but with a lighter touch being applied to low-risk premises, which are shown to be well run.

36.2 The Licensing Authority intends that enforcement visits will be made to licensed premises as appropriate, to ensure that any conditions imposed as part of the licence are being complied with. These visits may be either proactive planned inspections based on the risk presented by the premises, history of non-compliance etc., or reactive visits as a result of complaints.

36.3 In general, action will only be taken in accordance with agreed enforcement principles and in line with the Council's own enforcement policy. To this end the key principles

of consistency, transparency and proportionality will be maintained. For more information see the [Council's Public Protection Enforcement Policy](#).

36.4 In general, action will only be taken in accordance with agreed enforcement principles and in line with the Council's own enforcement policy. To this end the key principles of consistency, transparency and proportionality will be maintained.

37. Fees Generally

37.1 All fees are currently set by statute and the council is obliged to charge the fees as detailed in the Fees Regulations.

37.2 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2010 have provisions to give councils to set their fees locally, however at this time the relevant sections have not been commenced. When commenced the councils will calculate fees to recover the costs of the service and then consult on their implementation before asking the Licensing Committee to approve any change.

38. Annual Fees for Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates

38.1 The Licensing Act 2003 and regulations made under the Act set out requirements for annual fees and require that the fee is paid on the due date which is every year on the anniversary of the original grant of the licence. The fee is currently set by regulations, however amendments made by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2010 will when commenced give the council the ability to set fees locally to recover costs associated with the administration and compliance of the Act.

39. Licence suspension for non-payment of annual fee

39.1 Amendments made to the Licensing Act 2003 by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2010 give councils the power to suspend premises licences and club premises certificates where the annual fee required by regulations is not paid.

39.2 The council will suspend any licence or certificate where the required fee is not paid by the 'due date', which is annually on the anniversary of the date that the licence was first granted. The council will follow the below procedure:-

39.3 Upon notification/discovery that an annual fee is not paid, the council will give notice to the licence/certificate holder, in writing,

- that the licence/certificate will be suspended 14 days from the date of the notice.
- It will also state that the suspension will not become effective if the fee is paid prior to the suspension date.
- If an administration error is claimed, the suspension date may be 21 days from the due date; or the date of suspension on the 14 day notice, whichever is later.

- A copy of the notice will also be served on the designated premise supervisor/premises manager if they are not the premises licence holder.

39.4 If the fee is not paid by the date specified on the notice the licence/certificate will be deemed suspended. The licence/certificate holder and DPS/Manager will be immediately notified of the suspension becoming effective, and informed that the premises may no longer offer any licensable activities until such time as the fee is paid and the suspension lifted. When the full payment is made the council will immediately lift the suspension, and confirm this in writing.

39.5 Where a licence/certificate is suspended and licensable activities are provided the council will consider prosecuting the provider for offences under section 136 of the Licensing Act 2003.

40. Late night levies

40.1 A Late Night Levy (LNL) is an optional power, introduced by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act which allows Licensing Authorities (LAs) to raise a contribution towards the costs of policing the night time economy (NTE) by charging a levy to holders of Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates authorised to sell alcohol. A LNL must apply across the whole borough and also applies to all on- and off-licences. TENs are not included.

40.2 The levy is payable by the holders of any premises licence or club premises certificate which authorise the sale or supply of alcohol on any days during a specific period (referred to as the late night supply period) beginning at or after midnight and ending at or before 6am.

40.3 The licensing authority is expected to consider the need for a levy with the chief officer of police and the police and crime commissioner for the police area in which it is proposed the levy will be introduced. Local residents can use their existing rights to make representations and other channels of communication to call for the implementation of a levy in their area. The decision to introduce a Late Night Levy sits with the Council. The Authority will consider this approach if at any point it becomes appropriate and necessary and will conduct a full consultation before the provision is considered.

41. Further Information

Further information about the Licensing Act 2003 and the Council's licensing policy can be obtained from:

*The Licensing Section
Caerphilly County Borough Council
Ty Penallta,
Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach
Hengoed
CF82 7PG
Tel: 01443 866750*

E-mail licensing@caerphilly.gov.uk

Website: www.caerphilly.gov.uk

LICENSING ACT 2003 POOLS OF CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION

1. This pool of conditions covers a wide range of topics that may be of concern to applicants for premises licences and Responsible Authorities who may be considering making representations on applications. Other Persons and local residents or local businesses may also seek to propose conditions in respect of applications or as a means of addressing concern raised by the review process.
2. Applicants for club premise certificates may adapt any of the conditions listed but should replace any reference to premise licence or premises licence holder with club premise certificate.
3. Where a condition contains an instruction to insert any fact, the information must be supplied by the applicant.

AD ADVERTISING

AD01 The premises licence holder shall take all reasonable precautions and exercise all due diligence to ensure that no licensable activity shall be advertised in a manner which contravenes the general law or cause a nuisance to the general public.

AD02 In respect of promoted events, that is, any events involving the conduct of licensable activities at the premises that are organised by persons other than the premises licence holder or those under his direct control, the premises licence holder shall ensure that a register is maintained in a bound book kept for that purpose. The register shall be kept at the premises and shall be produced by the designated premises supervisor (or his nominated deputy in his absence) to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon request. The register shall record the following:

- (i) Date and time of event and brief description of it;
- (ii) Name of the promoter(s), that is, the person(s) responsible for organising the event;
- (iii) Where the promoter is a company, its registered number;
- (iv) The proper address of the promoter;
- (v) Contact telephone number for promoter

CA CAPACITY, CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF CUSTOMERS

CA01 The total capacity for the event shall be limited to *(insert number)* persons. This limit includes performers, guests, staff and officials.

CA02 There shall be no security passes for admission other than those issued to persons working on the site and to statutory authorities.

CA03 Measures must be put in place to ensure that the capacity is not exceeded at any time.

CA04 All documentation pertaining to the proposed figure must be kept on the premises and must be available immediately on request to any authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.

CA05 Admission shall be by ticket only. When presented for admission, the ticket shall be retained by the organisers.

CA06 Admission to the event shall be through the approved entrances. The entrances shall be manned by stewards who shall allow only persons with tickets or security passes into the concert area.

CA07 Documented procedures must be implemented to ensure overcrowding (such as that which may cause injury through crushing) does not occur in any part of the premises.

- CA08 The licence holder shall determine the occupant capacity of the premises on the basis of documented risk assessment(s).
- (i) The risk assessment(s) must take into account all relevant factors including space, means of access and egress, toilet provision, load-bearing capacity of floors, ventilation, etc and must be reviewed regularly, and if circumstances change;
 - (ii) Where necessary separate occupancy levels must be set for different parts of the premises;
 - (iii) The premises licence holder shall ensure that they consult the Public Health Services of Caerphilly County Council and any other relevant authority (for example the Fire Rescue Service regarding emergency evacuation limitations) as to the occupancy figure. Confirmation of the consultation and any outcomes shall form an integral part of the risk assessment on which the capacity figure is based;
 - (iv) The capacity figure proposed by the premises licence holder shall be notified to the Licensing Authority in writing prior to the commencement of the licence;
 - (v) Measures must be put in place to ensure that the capacity is not exceeded at any time;
 - (vi) All documentation pertaining to the proposed figure must be kept on the premises and must be available immediately on request to any authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable;
 - (vii) The premises licence holder shall regularly review, update and amend any risk assessments particularly following any changes to the layout or operation of the venue. Such reviews etc shall be fully documented and form an integral part of the risk assessment.
- CA09 Where necessary separate occupancy levels must be set for different parts of the premises. The proposed capacity figure must be notified to the Licensing Authority within (*insert period*) of the date of (*insert either date of hearing or date of issue of licence*).
- CA10 There shall be no entry or re-entry to the premises after (*insert terminal hour for entry*) hours. Appropriate signage shall be clearly displayed at each exit from the premises advising patrons that re-entry to the premises after (*insert terminal re-entry time*) hours on any morning is prohibited and that this prohibition also applies to people wishing to leave the premises to smoke.
- CA11 The occupancy shall be restricted to (*insert number*) persons in the premises. (*limits may also be appropriate for different rooms or floors of premises*). The occupancy figure includes staff, performers and public. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that there are appropriate management controls to ensure that the occupancy figure is not exceeded at any time. Appropriate controls shall be put in place to ensure that the occupancy of the premises/specified areas are not exceeded at any time.
- CA12 Manual and automatic electronic number control systems shall be installed, used and maintained at the premises at all times the premises is open to the public.

CA13 The premises licence holder shall support any taxi marshalling initiative that operates in the environs of the premises. This may include any fair and proportionate financial support from the premises licence holder.

CA14 The premises will operate in line with the (*insert name of policy e.g. Health and Safety, fire risk assessment and date submitted to the Licensing Authority*) or any amended version in operation from time to time. The premises licence holder shall give to the Licensing Authority not less than seven days notice of any proposed amendment to the aforesaid policy (including its deletion or its replacement) and shall provide to the Licensing Authority a copy of any amended policy prior to the change being implemented in the premises. A copy of the policy current at the time shall be provided to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon request.

CC CCTV

CC01 CCTV shall be in use at the premises.

- (i) Where a CCTV system is to be installed, extended or replaced, it shall be to an appropriate standard as agreed with the Licensing Authority in consultation with the Police. Where a CCTV system is to be installed, it shall be fully operational by (*insert date*). Where existing CCTV systems are to be replaced or extended the replacement or extension to the system shall be concluded by (*insert date*) and the system be fully operational on that date;
- (ii) The CCTV equipment shall be maintained in good working order and continually record when licensable activity takes place and for a period of two hours afterwards;
- (iii) The premises licence holder shall ensure images from the CCTV are retained for a period of 31 days. This image retention period may be reviewed as appropriate by the Licensing Authority;
- (iv) The correct time and date will be generated onto both the recording and the real time image screen;
- (v) If the CCTV equipment (including any mobile units in use at the premises) breaks down the Premises Licence Holder shall ensure the designated premises supervisor, or in his/her absence other responsible person, verbally informs the Licensing Authority and the Police as soon as is reasonably practicable. This information shall be contemporaneously recorded in the incident report register and shall include the time, date and means this was done and to whom the information was reported. Equipment failures shall be repaired or replaced as soon as is reasonably practicable and without undue delay. The Licensing Authority and the Police shall be informed when faults are rectified;
- (vi) The premise licence holder shall ensure that there are trained members of staff available during licensable hours to be able to reproduce and download CCTV images into a removable format at the request of any authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable;

(vii) There shall be clear signage indicating that CCTV equipment is in use and recording at the premises during *(insert hours)* hours.

CC02 A minimum of *(insert number)* head mounted mobile cameras (robocams) shall be in use at the premises from *(insert commencement hours)* hours until closing on each day that the premises are open to the public. One such camera shall be permanently located at the entrance and in each *(insert specified areas where appropriate)*.

CC03 The CCTV system shall include all external areas of the premises.

CC04 A plan of the premises shall be annotated to show the location of all CCTV cameras within the premises, such a plan to be submitted to the Licensing Authority by the *(insert date)*. Such a plan to be regularly updated in the event of any changes to the location of such cameras.

CC05 CCTV cameras shall monitor all areas used by premise patrons including any external smoking area to monitor numbers and prevent crime and disorder.

CC06 The CCTV covering any dedicated smoking area shall be fully installed and operational before the smoking area can be used.

CE CINEMATOGRAPHIC / FILM EXHIBITIONS

CE01 *Careful consideration should be given as the circumstances in which these conditions may be pertinent i.e. main use cinema or video juke boxes in pubs and clubs.*

No film shall be exhibited unless –

- (i) it has received a 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' or '18' certificate of the British Board of Film Classifications; or
- (ii) it is a current newsreel, which has not been submitted to the British Board of Film Classification;
- (iii) no film classified as R18 may be exhibited in these premises.

CE02 No person apparently under the age of eighteen years shall be admitted to any exhibition at which there is to be shown any film, which has received, a '18' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification. In such circumstances a "Challenge 25" policy should be adhered to and valid proof of age required before admittance.

CE03 No person apparently under the age of fifteen years shall be admitted to any exhibition at which there is to be shown any film which has received a '15' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification.

CE04 No person apparently under the age of twelve years shall be admitted to any exhibition at which there is to be shown any film, which has received a '12A' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification unless accompanied by an adult.

CE05 A representation or written statement of the terms of any certificate given by the British Board of Film Classification shall be shown on the screen immediately before the showing of any film to which it relates and the representation or statement shall be shown for long enough and in a form large enough for it to be read from any seat in the auditorium.

CE06 There shall be prominently exhibited at each public entrance whenever the premises are open to the public a notice indicating in tabular form and in clear bold letters and figures –

- (i) The title of each film to be shown on that day, other than trailers and films of less than five minutes duration;
- (ii) The approximate times of commencement of each such film'
- (iii) Whether each such film has received a 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' or '18' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification, and
- (iii) The effect of such 'U', 'PG', '12A' or '18' certificates in relation to the admission of persons under the age of eighteen years.

CE07 The notice shall be not less than 36 inches in dimensions and shall be in the form specified hereunder, the distinguishing initial letters 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' and '18' being not less than 1½ inches in height.

CATEGORY 'U': Passed for universal exhibition

CATEGORY 'PG': Passed for universal exhibition but parents are advised that the film contains some scenes which may be unsuitable for young children.

CATEGORY '12A': Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of twelve years and over. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

CATEGORY '15': Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of fifteen years and over.

CATEGORY '18': Passed as suitable only for exhibition to adults. When a programme includes an '18' film no persons under eighteen years can be admitted.

CE08 The nature of any certificate received in respect of a film from the British Board of Film Classification shall be clearly indicated by the figure 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' or '18' in any advertisement of the film displayed at the premises.

CE09 No advertisement displayed at the premises of a film to be exhibited at the premises shall depict as a scene or incident in the film any scene or incident which is not included in the film as certified by the British Board of Film Classification or approved for exhibition by the Licensing Authority, as the case may be.

CE10 Where the Licensing Authority has given notice in writing to the licensee of the premises objecting to an advertisement on the ground that, if displayed, it would offend against good taste or decency or be likely to encourage or incite to crime or to lead to disorder or to be offensive to public feeling that advertisement shall not be displayed at the premises except with the consent in writing of the Licensing Authority.

- CE11 Where the Licensing Authority has given notice in writing to the licensee of the premises prohibiting the exhibition of a film on the ground that it contains matter which, if exhibited, would offend against good taste or decency or would be likely to encourage or incite to crime or to lead to disorder or to be offensive to public feeling, that film shall not be exhibited in the premises except with the consent in writing of the Licensing Authority.
- CE12 If the Licensing Authority request the licensee to exhibit to them any film shown or proposed to be shown by him, he shall do so at such time and to such persons as the Licensing Authority may direct.
- CE13 No persons shall be permitted to enter or continue within the licensed premises in a state of intoxication. All persons within the premises whose conduct is deemed by the licensee to be conducive to any breach of the peace, tumult or disorder shall be forthwith removed there from. The licensee shall be responsible for the maintenance of good order and decent behaviour in the licensed premises, and he shall by himself and his servants assist to the utmost in the capture and expulsion of any offender.
- CE14 There shall be fixed on each floor of the hall a special white signal light, to the approval of the Chief Constable, which shall be operated by a switch in the operator's box, and by a switch or switches fitted in an approved position in the hall. This light shall be used as a warning to attendants that an emergency exists and upon receiving the signal, attendants will take steps forthwith to control the movements of the audience and ensure the orderly and safe clearance of the hall.

Conditions to be complied with when showing 'RESTRICTED' (18) films

- CE15 No films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category may be exhibited except in a cinema operating as a club in accordance with the conditions set out below.
- CE16 No club showing films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category may operate in a multi-screen complex whilst persons under the age of 18 are being admitted to any performance given in that complex.
- CE17 An exception may be made to the above condition only if the cinema club and all facilities adjacent thereto, including foyers, lavatories and refreshment areas, are wholly segregated and accessible only through a separate entrance and box office.
- CE18 All registers of members and visitors books of their guests shall be available for immediate inspection by the Licensing Authority during any performance, or at any other reasonable time.
- CE19 Tickets shall in no circumstances be sold to persons other than members.

- CE20 Front of house advertising for films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category will specify the category in which the film has been passed for exhibition but will include no pictorial material or other information about the names of performers or the plot. Newspaper advertisements for an exhibition will be limited to the inclusion of the titles of such films in the film listings column together with the category in which the film has been passed for exhibition.
- CE21 No persons under 18 years of age shall be employed in any capacity at licensed premises which are operating as cinema clubs showing films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category.
- CE22 Except with the prior consent of the Licensing Authority in writing, no intoxicating drinks shall be consumed, supplied or sold on the premises.
- CE23 Membership rules for club cinemas shall include the following:
- (i) only members and their guests shall attend exhibitions of moving pictures classified in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category;
 - (ii) Membership shall be open to persons of both sexes of not less than 18 years of age. Applications for membership, including both name and address, shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, and if deemed necessary such applications shall provide satisfactory references and proof of age;
 - (iii) No person shall be admitted to membership until the expiration of at least 24 hours after such written application has been approved by the licensed proprietors;
 - (iv) Members shall be entitled on any one day to bring not more than one guest to accompany the member and the name of the guest shall be entered in the visitor's book and countersigned by the member;
 - (v) Tickets shall be sold only to members on the production of a membership card, and members shall, if required, sign an acknowledgement for the ticket or tickets issued;
 - (vi) Membership cards shall be personal to the member and shall not be transferable to any other person;
 - (vii) Neither membership tickets nor guest tickets shall be transferable; No member shall introduce as a guest any person under the age of 18 or any person whose application for membership has been refused;
 - (viii) Proof of identity, or of age, or of any particulars of any guest shall be produced by any member or guest if demanded by the proprietors;
 - (ix) An annual subscription shall be fixed for the club and shall run for 12 months from the date of registration;
 - (x) A subscription may not entitle the club member to attend other clubs under the same management unless the prior consent of the Licensing authority has been obtained.
 - (xi) On admission a member shall be bound by the rules of the club and by any byelaws and regulations made there-under.

CE24 For the purposes of these conditions 'film' means any exhibition of moving pictures produced otherwise than by the simultaneous reception and exhibition of television programmes broadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation or the Independent Broadcasting Authority or programmes included in a cable programme service which is, or does not require to be, licensed under Section 4 of the Cable and Broadcasting Act 1984.

CL CEILINGS

CL01 All ceilings and ornamental plasterwork in those parts of the premises to which the public are admitted shall be inspected at least once in every five years by a qualified person appointed by, or on behalf of the occupier of the premises free of expense to the Licensing Authority, and a certificate concerning the conditions of such ceilings and plasterwork shall, after each inspection, be forwarded to the Licensing Authority. Such inspections shall be made in the presence of an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority.

CL02 The certificate required to be submitted by the previous paragraph of these conditions shall be in the following form:-

"I/We hereby certify that the ceilings and ornamental plasterwork over all parts of the premises to which the public have access at (*insert name of premises*) have been inspected on (*insert date*) and these inspections indicate that such ceilings and plasterwork, so far as can be ascertained by visual or other examination, appear to be in a safe condition on this date".

Signed.....

Competent Technical Advisor(s) to the Licensee(s).

Date.....

I/We hereby certify that I/We were present at the inspection referred to in this certificate and that the inspection was thoroughly carried out.

Signed.....

Technical Advisor(s) to the Licensing Authority .

Date.....

CL03

It shall be competent for the Licensing Authority in any instance to require the provision of a certificate as the safe condition of the aforesaid ceilings and plasterwork at such lesser intervals than five years as the Licensing Authority deem necessary.

CV CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE PERSONS

CV01 All children shall vacate the premises by (*insert time*) hours.

CV02 No person under sixteen years of age shall be in the bar of the licensed premises during the permitted hours unless one of the following applies:

- (i) He is the child of the holder of the premises licence;
- (ii) He resides in the premises, but is not employed there;

- (iii) He is in the bar solely for the purpose of passing to or from some part of the premises, which is not a bar, and to or from which there is no other convenient means of access or egress;
- (iv) The bar is in railway refreshment rooms or other premises constructed, fitted and intended to be used bona fide for any purpose to which the holding of the licence is ancillary.
In this condition "bar" includes any place exclusively or mainly used for the consumption of intoxicating liquor. But an area is not a bar when it is usual for it to be, and it is, set apart for the service of table meals and intoxicating liquor is only sold or supplied to persons as an ancillary to their table meals;
- (v) He is in the bar in the company of a person who is aged 18 years or over.

CV03 All open fireplaces or stoves must be protected when in use so as to prevent injury to vulnerable members of the public such as children, such as by the use of suitable fireguards.

CV04 Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

CV05 Intoxicating liquor will only be sold and supplied to customers who are engaging in a sit down table meal, as an ancillary to that meal.

CV06 If the recipient of a delivery of alcohol or the collection or delivery of a takeaway meal which includes alcohol, appears under 25 years of age, recognised photographic identification will be requested before any intoxicating liquor is handed over. Acceptable proof of age shall include identification bearing the customers photograph, date of birth and integral holographic mark or security measure. Suitable means of identification would include PASS approved proof of age card, photo=card driving licence and passport.

CV07 The premises licence holder shall ensure that suitable policies are implemented to ensure the safety of vulnerable persons, such as disabled persons, on the premises whilst the licensable activity is taking place.

CV08 The premises licence holder shall ensure that suitable measures are implemented to ensure the safety if disabled persons. Regard should be made to any particular aspect of the premises layout or nature of activities that may pose particular hazards for disabled persons.

CV09 People with disabilities may be permitted, to sit in the auditorium in wheelchairs, other than petrol driven chairs, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) A section of the auditorium approved in writing by the Licensing Authority shall be set aside for the accommodation of wheelchairs;
- (ii) The section of the auditorium so set aside shall be easy and direct access to the open air through an exit door additional to any exit door provided for use by other members of the audience;

- (iii) Where a person with disabilities requires the assistance of a helper, that helper shall be seated close at hand and be able to push the wheelchair, with its occupant, out into the open air in case of emergency, without difficulty;
- (iv) Petrol driven wheelchairs shall not be permitted on the premises.

CV10 The premise licence holder shall ensure that all open fireplaces or stoves must be protected when in use so as to prevent injury to vulnerable members of the public such as children, such as by the use of suitable fireguards.

CV11 The premises shall not be permitted to be used for any adult entertainment or services, activities, other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children, which prohibited uses include, among other things, nudity or semi-nudity films for restricted age groups or any relevant entertainment (with the meaning of the third schedule to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 except where that is expressly permitted under a licence or waiver granted or given under that legislation.

CV12 There shall be no events for persons under 18 years of age

CV13 It shall be the responsibility of the premises licence holder, to ensure that an appointed person shall be in charge of the premises when regulated entertainment is taking place to ensure the safety of disabled persons on the premises.

CV14 A till prompt system shall be installed to assist staff by reminding them to challenge for ID when a sale is made.

CV15 Documented delegation of authorisations to sell alcohol shall be maintained at the premises and shall be available on request by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.

DA DRUG ACTION

DA01 Where there is reasonable suspicion that drugs, defined as Class A, B or C controlled substances under the Misuse of Drugs Act, or weapons are being carried, the premises licence holder shall ensure that the outer clothing, pockets and bags of those entering the premises are searched by door security personnel. In any event where controlled substances or weapons are found, the premises licence holder shall ensure that the designated premises supervisor or nominated person shall immediately inform the Police.

DA02 The premises licence holder shall ensure that a clearly visible notice will be placed on the premises advising those attending, that the Police will be informed if anyone is found in possession of controlled substances or weapons.

- DA03 The premises licence holder shall ensure that documented security arrangements are implemented at the premises to discourage the sale and consumption of controlled substances. Security arrangements shall include having a member of staff regularly check toilet areas, the date and times of all checks to be recorded in a bound book kept for that purpose and to be produced upon request to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable. Signage shall also be placed in the toilet areas advising patrons that checks are conducted regularly.
- DA04 The premises licence shall ensure that, with regard to controlled substances, harm reduction information is displayed within the venue and that there are suitably experienced members of staff, or outreach workers from a local drugs agency, dedicated to providing harm reduction information and to dealing with drug related incidents or emergencies appropriately.
- DA05 The premises licence shall ensure that rest facilities are provided when required, to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority, which are cooler, quieter and preferably separate from the main dance area(s). These 'chill out' areas should offer adequate seating.

DC DOOR CONTROL / STEWARDING

- DC01 Door supervisors who have been approved by the Security Industry Authority or any accreditation scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority, shall be used to vet customers and maintain public order. The vetting process must include implementation of the premises' proof of age policy. All door supervisors must ensure that identification bearing the customers photograph, date of birth and integral holographic mark or security measure is produced before allowing entry and where it is not, entry shall be refused. Suitable means of identification would include PASS approved proof of age card, photo-card driving licences and passports.
- DC02 There shall be a minimum of *(insert number)* door supervisors, who have been accredited by the Security Industry Authority or any accreditation scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority, on duty from *(insert hours)* hours on each trading day and who shall remain on duty until the premises closes.
- DC03 [A] The premises licence holder shall ensure that the following details for each door supervisor, are contemporaneously entered into a bound register kept for that purpose:
- (i) Full name;
 - (ii) SIA Certificate number and or badge number, or registration number of any accreditation scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority (including expiry date of that registration or accreditation);The time they began their duty;
 - (iii) The time they completed their duty.

- (iv) This register is to be kept at the premises at all times and shall be so maintained as to enable an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable to establish the particulars of all door stewards engaged at the premises during the period of not less than 31 days prior to the request and shall be open to inspection by authorised officers of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon request.

[B] The premises licence holder shall ensure that the following details for each door supervisor are entered into a bound register kept for that purpose to include the following details:

- (i) Name
- (ii) Date of birth
- (iii) Address
- (iv) Contact telephone numbers
- (v) SIA Certificate number, or registration number of any accreditation scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority
- (vi) The full details of any agency through which they have been allocated to work at the premises if appropriate

These details should be easily accessible to any authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.

DC04 The premise licence holder shall ensure that all door supervisors on duty at the premises wear a current identification badge, issued by the Security Industry Authority or any accreditation scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority, in a conspicuous position to the front of their upper body.

DC05 The premise licence holder shall require the Designated Premises Supervisor, or in his/her absence other responsible person, to keep an "Incident Report Register" in a bound book, in which full details of all incidents are recorded. This shall be completed as soon as possible and in any case no later than the close of business on the day of the incident. The time and date when the report was completed, and by whom, is to form part of the entry. The register is to be kept on the premises at all times and shall be produced to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable when required.

DC06 The premise licence holder shall require the designated premises supervisor, or in his/her absence other responsible person to identify by name, those persons performing duty as door security personnel to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.

DC07 The Door Stewards shall be responsible for preventing the admission and ensuring the departure from the premises of persons who are drunk and disorderly in such a manner as not to cause further disorder.

DC08 Door Stewards shall prevent access to the premises of any excluded individual (subject to Court bans or bans imposed by the licence holder).

DC09 Where queuing is allowed outside of a premises door steward(s) shall maintain an orderly queue of patrons.

- DC10 Where there is provided in any building regulated entertainment for children, or regulated entertainment at which the majority of the persons attending are children, then, if the number of children attending the regulated entertainment exceeds one hundred, it shall be the duty of the person providing the entertainment to station and keep stationed, wherever necessary, a sufficient number of adult attendants, properly instructed as to their duties, to prevent more children or other persons being admitted to the premises, or any part thereof, than the premises or part can properly accommodate, and to control the movement of the children and other persons admitted while entering and leaving the building or any part thereof, and to take all reasonable precautions for the safety of the children.
- DC11 In pursuit of the proper co-ordination of stewarding of the site and provision of the required level of assistance in the event of an emergency situation arising, the premises licence holder shall ensure that a suitably competent person from amongst the door supervisors/security staff is attached to the emergency services team at all appropriate times as a liaison point for stewards and security staff.
- DC12 The minimum number of door supervisors provided at venues, holding regulated entertainment for less than 500 persons, shall be based on a risk assessment.
- DC13 The minimum number of door supervisors provided at venues, holding regulated entertainment for more than 500 persons, shall be based on a risk assessment. The risk assessment shall follow the recommendations as laid out in the Health and Safety Executive's Event Safety Guide or any other similar guidance recognised by the Licensing Authority.
- DC14 The premise licence holder shall ensure that appropriate measures are employed at the premises to verify the ages of customers obtaining alcohol. Any measures that are to be used shall be approved by the Licensing Authority in consultation with the Police.
- DC15 *Please note that this condition is directed specifically at problem premises.* Door supervisors shall be provided at the premises to a ratio of 1:85 patrons. Where the premises incorporates a dedicated smoking area within its cartilage a minimum of *(insert number)* door supervisors shall permanently monitor the smoking area during *(insert appropriate hours)*.
- DC16 A minimum of *(insert number)* door supervisors shall be permanently stationed at each entrance/exit [excluding fire exits] to the premises.
- DC17 Door Supervisors shall be on duty at the premises on each trading day from *(insert commencement hours)* until *(insert terminal hours)*.

DC18 All door supervisors shall be capable of communicating instantly with one another by way of radio or other simultaneous system of communication.

DC19 *Please note that this condition is directed specifically at problem premises.* All door supervisors shall wear distinctive clothing or insignia to clearly identify them as door supervisors. Door supervisors on duty at the front door shall wear some form of 'high visibility' clothing (such as a jacket or waistcoat).

DC20 When licensable activities occur on a Sunday before a Bank Holiday, SIA registered door staff shall be employed during all trading hours.

EL ELECTRICAL FITINGS AND INSTALLATIONS

EL01 Temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall not be provided without notification to the Licensing Authority at least 10 days before the commencement of works and a prior inspection by a suitably qualified electrician. A record shall be kept by the premises holder.

EL02 The fixed electrical wiring installation and any portable electrical appliances should be inspected and tested by a competent person at the appropriate frequency specified in the Regulations for the Electrical Equipment of Buildings issued by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (BS 7671 or any British Standard replacing or amending the same) for that type of premises and equipment. Records of this inspection shall be maintained by the licence holder and made available at the premises for inspection by any authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.

EL03 All temporary electrical wiring and distribution systems shall comply with the recommendations of British Standard No. 7671 or where applicable British Standard No. 7909 or any British Standard replacing or amending the same.

EL04 The premise licence holder shall ensure that a Residual Current Device protection, sensitive to tripping currents of not more than 30 milli-amps, are fitted to all power circuits supplying sockets that may be used by entertainers / members of the public for plugging in electrical equipment. These should be regularly tested to ensure they are still functioning as required.

EL05 With regard to premises with outdoor areas, a Residual Current Device protection sensitive to tripping currents of not more than 30 milli-amps, must be fitted to power circuits supplying outdoor sockets and also indoor sockets that might be expected, with the use of plug-in extension leads, to power outdoor circuits.

EL06 Proper means of access for maintenance of all electrical fittings or apparatus shall be provided.

- EL07 Electrical installation in areas used by members of the public shall be subject to the following:
- (i) Any alterations made to electrical installations, including the use of temporary wiring and distribution systems, shall comply with the relevant edition of the Regulations for the Electrical Equipment of Buildings issued by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (BS 7671 or any British Standard replacing or amending the same).
 - (ii) All electrical equipment and installations shall be subject to regular visual checks to ensure that they are safe and in good working order, as well as formal routine tests by a competent person as advised in the aforementioned BS 7671 guidance.
 - (iii) A Residual Current Device protection sensitive to tripping currents of not more than 30 milli-amperes, must be fitted to power circuits supplying outdoor sockets and also indoor sockets that might be expected, with the use of plug-in extension leads, to power outdoor circuits.

EX EXTERNAL AREAS

- EX01 The (*insert name of area i.e. beer garden, upper patio, etc*) shall only be open to customers (*insert days*) from (*insert commencement time*) until 22:00 hours. Adequate notices shall be displayed in appropriate locations to ensure that this information is brought to the attention of patrons.
- EX02 All outside areas must be closed and cleared of customers by 22:00 hours. Adequate notices shall be displayed to inform patrons of this requirement.
- EX03 The premises licence holder shall investigate and propose measures to enclose the garden area to a sufficient height to prevent patrons or members of the public accessing or egressing the garden areas over the existing boundary within 3 months of the date of the hearing (i.e. *insert date*). Such proposals to be implemented subject to the applicants' best endeavours to obtain planning permission. It is anticipated that the works to be completed within one year of the date of the hearing (i.e. by (*insert date*)).
- EX04 A risk assessment shall be conducted and regularly reviewed to assess the numbers of persons that the outside area can safely accommodate. The premises licence holder shall ensure that there are measures in place to monitor the external area to ensure that a safe occupancy figure is not exceeded.

FA FIRST AID

- FA01 For events where it is anticipated that more than 100 persons will be in attendance or where an activity is taking place that is likely to give rise to personal injury (e.g. indoor sporting events/use of special effects/etc.), the premises licence holder shall ensure that first aid

provision is available at all times that licensable activity is taking place and shall have a suitably qualified first-aider on the premises during that period.

FA02 The minimum standard of first aid provision for events of more than 500 persons shall be in accordance with a risk assessment. The risk assessment shall take into account the recommendations of the Health and Safety Executive's Event Safety Guide or any other guidance recognised by the Licensing Authority.

FA03 The premises licence holder shall provide medical facilities, which are adequate for the purpose by the Ambulance Service. Details of the organisation of these services shall be provided to the Licensing Authority not less than 14 days prior to an event. The medical facilities shall include:

- (i) Sufficient means of communication between the first aid post(s) and the main control point on the site and/or stewards, and an adequate standby point for ambulances;
- (ii) Adequate medical facilities within the pit area/backstage area;
- (iii) A facility within the concert area serving as the main medical facility provided by the approved contractor for medical facilities.

Persons wearing distinctive dress shall staff the first aid post(s), and the first aiders on site shall be available to offer assistance through the whole site.

FA04 Individual toilet units, not available for general public use shall be sited adjacent to the first aid post(s).

FA05 The premises licence holder shall notify the Great Western Ambulance NHS Trust (or equivalent) of the first-aid operating on site, prior to the event and of the on site telephone contact point for the said agency. The Great Western Ambulance NHS Trust shall certify to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority that adequate arrangements have been made with the first-aid agency operating on the site to deal with emergencies.

FA06 Adequate medical facilities shall be available on site from the time when it is first occupied by the public to the time when it is vacated. The level of provision shall be as advised by the Ambulance Service and the time at which the provision ceases shall be subject to the agreement of the Licensing Authority.

FE FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Please note that there are no conditions in this section as potential conditions have been superseded by the Regulatory Reform Order relating to Fire Safety.

GS GENERAL SAFETY AND EVACUATION

GS01 All doors and fastenings shall at all times be kept in proper working order.

- GS02 Any door not usable by the public to be marked "PRIVATE", notices bearing the words "NO EXIT" or "NO WAY OUT" shall not be used.
- GS03 A door or gate shall not open immediately upon a step or steps. A landing having a width of not less than 900 mm shall be provided between the door and gate and the step or steps.
- GS04 Barriers for checking or controlling admission shall not be used without permission of the Licensing Authority.
- GS05 Temporary barriers, other than rope barriers of a type approved by the Licensing Authority, shall not be provided. Rope barriers approved by the Licensing Authority shall be fitted with automatic catches or slip connections and shall be arranged so as not to trail on the floor when parted, and the fittings shall not project into the gangway or exit way.
- GS06 Curtains shall not be hung across gangways or over staircases; where hung over doorways or across corridors they shall draw easily from the centre and slide freely and shall be clear of the floor. All hangings, curtains and temporary decorations shall be maintained in a flame retardant condition.
- GS07 All curtains, hangings and temporary decorations are arranged so as not to cause any obstruction.
- GS08 Any temporary decorations are not used without prior notification to the Licensing Authority.
- GS09 Stairways, corridors or gangways shall not be used as cloakrooms and no pegs for hanging hats, cloaks or other articles shall be fitted therein. All escape routes shall be kept free of any obstruction. Where cloakrooms are provided, they shall be so situated that the persons using them shall not interfere with the free use of any exit route.
- GS10 The public shall be permitted to leave by all exit and entrance doors after each performance, entrances being considered and treated as exits for all purposes, provided that they are not revolving doors or fitted with turnstiles.
- GS11 Adequate means of escape shall be provided from all dressing rooms.
- GS12 Gangways shall be of adequate width for the number of persons served, and in no case shall be less than 1.1 m wide.
- GS13 There shall be no projection, which would diminish the clear width of the gangway.
- GS14 No person shall be permitted to sit or stand in any gangway, unless by express permission of the Licensing Authority who shall stipulate the space allowed for standing and the number of persons permitted to stand.

- GS15 Emergency exits will be kept clear of obstructions at any time when licensable activities are taking place.
- GS16 A continuous handrail shall be securely fixed on each side of all staircases, steps and landings at a height of not less than 840 mm nor more than 1 metre, measured vertically from the pitch line, except that only one such handrail need be provided to such staircases, flights of steps or landings which are less than 1 m wide. Where a staircase is 1.8 metres or more in width, a central handrail shall, in addition, be provided, properly supported and secured to the steps.
- GS17 The premises licence holder shall provide training for all staff to ensure that they are familiar with all means of ingress and egress and the appropriate procedures in case of any emergencies that require an immediate evacuation of the premises. A record of the training shall be maintained and shall be available upon request by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.
- GS18 Paper decorations, not being decorations the whole surface of which is directly affixed to walls or ceilings, shall not be permitted.
- GS19 Predetermined arrangements shall be made for alerting staff in the event of any emergency. These arrangements shall be of such a nature not to alarm the public.
- GS20 All employees or persons involved in the organisation and control of events shall have allotted to them specified duties to be performed in the event of fire, panic or other emergency. Such duties shall aim at the avoidance of panic and the safe evacuation of the premises where necessary rather than the extinction of fire.
- GS21 All exit doors shall be easily opened without the use of key, card, code or similar means.
- GS22 Doors of such exits are to be regularly checked to ensure that the doors function satisfactorily and a record of the check is kept in a log book for that purpose.
- GS23 Arrangements must be in place to ensure that all parts of the premises that members of the public may use, whether this be regularly or only in case of emergency are suitably illuminated during times of use (this includes internal and external areas, for example such as corridors, lobbies, emergency exits, car parks etc.)
- GS24 Where the premises is part of a shared property and members of the public may require access through areas not under the direct control of the premises licence holder (such as escape routes), the premises licence holder must ensure that he has liaised with the appropriate persons and has in place such arrangements as are necessary to ensure that the safety of members of the public is not compromised by the use

of these shared areas and that none of the other licensing conditions may be breached.

GS25 Where the premises, or parts of the premises may be hired out by third parties or be used by events promoters, the premises licence holder must ensure that there are appropriate arrangements in place that will ensure that as far as is possible, the third party is aware of the licensing conditions and has in place their own arrangements which will ensure that the licensing objectives are not compromised.

GS26 All traffic routes used by members of the public (including entrance ways, gangways, lobbies, corridors, passages and exit routes and all steps and stairways) should have:

- (i) Nosings of the treads of steps in a contrasting colour to the remainder of the tread. The nosings shall show up clearly under emergency lighting conditions;
- (ii) Any changes in level clearly visible to members of the public, such as by using contrasting colours or additional lighting;
- (iii) Mats more than 1 cm thick sunk to floor level unless of rubber with wide bevelled edges.

A continuous handrail securely fixed on each side of all staircases, steps and landings which are less than 1 m wide. Where a staircase is 1.8 metres or more in width, a central handrail shall, in addition, be provided, properly supported and secured to the steps.

GS27 Heavy Fittings. Heavy fittings such as projectors, stage lights, etc., must have not less than two independent means of suspension e.g. clamp and chain.

GS28 Smoking Area. If patrons are to be allowed to use the area for smoking then the following conditions must apply:

- (i) The area must be adequately monitored by door staff and CCTV to ensure that patrons do not cause a nuisance, patrons do not obstruct access to adjoining premises and risk of crime and disorder in this area is adequately controlled;
- (ii) If there is a risk that patrons may acquire illegal items such as drugs or weapons whilst in this area then they must be searched before being allowed to re-enter the premises;
- (iii) Patrons must not be allowed to take drinks to the smoking area;
- (iv) The area must be provided with suitable ashtrays/bins, the use of which is monitored by door staff;
The area must be regularly swept to remove cigarette ends;
- (v) Adequate arrangements must be made to prevent overcrowding or disorder on the *(insert location)*, particularly if patrons exiting towards the smoking area whilst others are queuing for entrance in/on the *(insert location)*.

GS29 All gangways, passages, staircases and exit ways must at all times be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions and from any article of substance which may cause a person to slip, trip or fall.

GS30 Barriers for checking or controlling admission shall not be used save in accordance with a documented policy that includes the following:

- (i) Risk assessments;
- (ii) Details of type to include design, construction materials, size – e.g. height
- (iii) Precise location of all elements of the barrier

Said document having been provided to the Licensing Authority, to be kept with the licence records.

GS31 The floors of all gangways, lobbies, corridors, passages and other exit routes and the tread of all steps and stairways shall be non-slippery and flat. The nosings of the treads of steps, changes of level and stairways shall be of a contrasting colour to the remainder of the tread. The nosings shall show up clearly under emergency lighting conditions. (premises may be exempt from this requirement where the premises is a listed building or similar).

GB GLASS / BOTTLES

GB01 The Licensee shall ensure that any bottles or glasses are removed from persons leaving the premises.

GB02 No bottles containing beverages of any kind whether opened or sealed shall be given to customers on the premises for consumption by those persons on the premises whether at the bar or by staff service away from the bar.

GB03 The contents of any bottled beverage shall be decanted into a plastic / PTE / glass before service to any customer.

GB04 The premises licence holder shall ensure that all drinking glasses used within the premises are of toughened or safety glass to the appropriate safety standard, in that they shall not produce sharp shards when broken.

GB05 No customer carrying open or sealed beverage containers shall be admitted to the premises at such times as they are open to the public.

GB06 Bottles containing wine may only be sold in connection with a table meal to customers who are seated in an area of the consumption of food that is away from the main bar.

GB07 Items of glass-wear (such as glasses, bottles, etc) shall not be permitted in the outdoor area/dance-floor area ~~as appropriate~~.

GB08 Glazing. Windows and mirrors must be of safety glass or adequately protected from breakage, particularly when they are in safety critical locations. They must also be marked to make their presence obvious.

GB09 All beverages (including alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks) shall only be dispensed in polycarbonate, plastic or non-glass containers.

GB10 The contents of all glass bottles shall be decanted by bar staff into polycarbonate, plastic or non-glass containers. All glass bottles are to be retained behind the bar for safe disposal.

GB11 The premises licence holder shall ensure that any bottles or glasses are removed from persons leaving the premises.

HF LATE NIGHT REFRESHMENT [HOT FOOD]

HF01 It shall not be lawful to make any charge for or in connection with the entertainment of persons in the refreshment house during the hours of late opening, whether for the supply of food or drink, for admission, for service of any description or for any other matter, except any reasonable charge for use of cloakroom or toilet facilities unless:

- (i) A tariff or charges made in the refreshment house is during those hours kept displayed in such position and in such manner that it can be conveniently read by person frequenting the refreshment house and can be so ready by any such person before entering; and
- (ii) The charge is specified for the matter in question in the tariff; and
- (iii) The charge is no more than that stated in the tariff

HF02 It shall not be lawful to seek to obtain custom for the refreshment house by means of personal solicitation outside or in the vicinity of the refreshment house.

NP NOISE PRECAUTIONS

NP01 *Whilst it is recognised that short-term exposure is unlikely to cause long term hearing damage, it is recognised that it may cause short-term health problems such as tinnitus, acoustic trauma or temporary threshold shift if the noise levels are excessive.*

The premises licence holder shall ensure that:

- (i) The speakers are not placed in positions where members of the public can stand within close proximity to them.
- (ii) Consumer-friendly signs that give advice about hearing protection shall be appropriately displayed. Earplugs are either available free of charge or that they are available for purchase by patrons.

NP02 Amplified music shall not be played at a level that will cause unreasonable disturbance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity.

NP03 Except for access and egress all doors and windows shall be kept closed during periods of entertainment associated with the Premises Licence.

- NP04 No speakers for amplification of music shall be placed on the outside of the premises or on the outside of any building forming a part of the premises.
- NP05 Alarms shall be fitted to (Specify location of external windows/fire doors) to alert staff when (they are) (it is) opened without authorisation.
- NP06 No music or speech shall be relayed via external speakers other than for events where the prior approval of the licensing authority has been obtained.
- NP07 The specification, location and orientation of all permanently fixed speakers shall be agreed with an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority.
- NP08 No repositioning or replacement of speakers or any amplification equipment shall be carried out without consultation with and the agreement of an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority.
- NP09 Noise from music and associated sources shall not be audible in noise sensitive premises (*between the hours of 23.00 and 07.00 the next day*) (*at any time*).
- NP10 In order to improve the sound attenuation of the premises the (*doors(s)*) (*window(s)*) at (*specify*) shall be fitted with (*double*) (*secondary*) glazing to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority by (*insert date*).
- NP11 (*Doors*) (*Windows*) (*Openings*) (*Ventilators*) (*Airbricks* (*fans*)) in the external fabric of the premises shall be acoustically (*sealed*) (*treated*) to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority by (*insert date*).
- NP12 A (sound trap lobby/acoustic door/automatic door closer) shall be installed at (describe the location) to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority by (insert date).
- NP13 Noise limiting devices
If officers of the Caerphilly County Borough Council witness noise at a level that causes unreasonable disturbance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity then a noise-limiting device shall be used in relation to all sound amplification equipment used in conjunction with the premises.
- NP14 A noise limiting device shall be used in relation to all sound amplification equipment used in conjunction with the premises licence.
- NP15 The noise limiting device shall be installed and set at a level approved by the Licensing Authority (*in consultation with the Pollution Control Section of the Caerphilly County Borough Council*) within 1 month of notification, for its requirement, from either the Licensing Authority or the Pollution Control Section of the Caerphilly County Borough Council.

- NP16 The noise limiting device can only be reset with the authority of an officer of the Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- NP17 The noise limiting device shall be reset by an officer of the Caerphilly County Borough Council, if deemed necessary.
- NP18 The noise limiting device shall be properly secured so that it can not be tampered with.
- NP19 Monitoring
The manager, licence holder or other competent person shall carry out observations in the vicinity of the properties at *(insert location)*, on at least *(insert time period e.g. hourly)* intervals between *(insert start time)* and *(insert finish time)* whilst the Premises Licence is being exercised in order to establish whether there is a noise breakout from the premises. If the observation reveals noise breakout at a level likely to cause disturbance to the occupants of properties in the vicinity then the volume of music shall be reduced to a level that does not cause disturbance. A record of such observations shall be kept in a book for that purpose, such a book shall be completed immediately after the observation detailing the time, location and duration of the observation, the level of noise breakout and any action taken to reduce noise breakout. Such book to be made available at all times upon request to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.
- NP20 Sound Insulation Works
A detailed scheme of sound insulation works shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Licensing Authority. The approved details shall be implemented in full prior to the commencement of the premises licence.
- NP21 A report shall be submitted detailing and recommending a scheme of sound insulation works for the separating structure between the licensed premises and the *(adjacent)* residential use *(above)*. The report shall consider: the potential for noise breakout from the building and the volume and nature of the music likely to be desired by the premises. The report shall be approved in writing by Caerphilly County Borough Council. All recommended works shall be completed prior to the commencement of the premises licence.
- NP22 A report shall be submitted detailing the potential for noise from *(specify) (amplified music) (refrigeration) (ventilation) (air conditioning plant) (other)* at the premises from affecting neighbouring noise sensitive properties at *(insert address)*. If the assessment indicates that noise from the premises is likely to affect neighbouring noise sensitive properties then the report shall include a detailed scheme of noise mitigation to show that nuisance will not be caused to the occupiers of neighbouring noise sensitive properties from the licensed premises.
- NP23 The report shall be approved in writing by Caerphilly County Borough Council and all recommended works completed prior to the commencement of the premises licence.

- NP24 All entrances are lobbied with 2 separate self-closing doors.
- NP25 All internal speakers are attached to independent wall linings and not to the ceiling.
- NP26 All speakers are mounted on speaker brackets that incorporate isolating rubber mounts.
- NP27 Any bass bins are installed within acoustic enclosures that isolate the speaker from the building structure.
- NP28 The premises licence holder shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that patrons using any outside areas (*such as terraces and beer gardens*) do so in a quiet and orderly fashion.
- NP29 Noise from premises shall not result in exceedances of the following noise levels expressed as [*x minute LAeq*] at [*stated location*].

Frequency Range	From a hours to b hours	From y hours to z hours
(Whole range)	x dBA	y dBA
(63Hz octave band)	x dB	y dB
(125 Hz octave band)	x dB	y dB

- NP30 Sound Insulation Works
A detailed scheme of sound insulation works shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team. The approved works shall be provided in full prior to commencement of any regulated entertainment should the Premises Licence be granted.
- NP31 A report shall be submitted detailing and recommending a scheme of sound insulation works for the partition between the licensed premises and adjacent residential usage. The report shall also consider the noise leakage from the building and also consider the volume and nature of the music likely to be desired by the premises. The report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team and all recommended works carried out in full prior to the commencement of any regulated entertainment should the Premises Licence be granted.

Guidance

The noise assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant/engineer and shall take into account the provisions of PPG 24 Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and Noise, BS4142: 1997. 'Method of rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas' and BS 8233: 1999 'Sound Insulation and Noise Insulation for Buildings – Code of Practice'.

The recommended design criteria for dwellings are as follows:

Daytime (07.00 – 23.00) LAeq (16 hours) 35 dB & Noise Rating Curve NR35 in all rooms. Nighttime (23.00 – 07.00) LAeq (8 hours) 30 dB & Noise Rating Curve NR20 to NR25 in bedrooms.

- (i) NP32 A report shall be submitted detailing the potential for noise from *(insert – amplified music, refrigeration, heating, ventilation and air conditioning plant etc)* at the premises from affecting neighbouring noise sensitive properties at *(insert)*.
- (ii) If the assessment indicates that noise from the premises is likely to affect neighbouring noise sensitive properties then it shall include a detailed scheme of noise mitigation measures to show that nuisance will not be caused to the occupiers of neighbouring noise sensitive properties by noise from the licensed premises.
- (iii) The report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team and all recommended works carried out in full prior to the commencement of any regulated entertainment should the Premises Licence be granted.

Guidance

The noise assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified acoustic consultant/engineer and shall take into account the provisions of PPG 24 Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and Noise, BS4142: 1997. ‘Method of rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas’ and BS 8233: 1999 ‘Sound Insulation and Noise Insulation for Buildings – Code of Practice’.

The recommended design criteria for dwellings are as follows:

Daytime (07.00 – 23.00) LAeq (16 hours) 35 dB & Noise Rating Curve NR35 in all rooms. Nighttime (23.00 – 07.00) LAeq (8 hours) 30 dB & Noise Rating Curve NR20 to NR25 in bedrooms.

NP33 In order to improve the sound attenuation of the premises the *[doors/windows]* at *[specify]* shall be fitted with *[double/secondary]* glazing to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.

NP34 *[Openings/specify]* in the external fabric of the premises must be acoustically sealed to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.

NP35 A *[sound trap lobby / acoustic door / automatic door closer]* shall be installed at *[describe the location]* to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.

NP36 Noise Limiting Device

Limiters required from commencement of Premises Licence – this condition may be required where representations are submitted or if the licence is being reviewed.

- (i) A noise limiting device shall be used in relation to all sound amplification equipment used in conjunction with the Premises Licence.

- (ii) The noise limiting device shall be installed and set at a level approved by the council through its authorised environmental health officer prior to the opening of the premises in conjunction with the premises licence.
- (iii) The noise limiting device shall be properly secured so that it can not be tampered with.
- (iv) The noise limiting device shall only be reset with the authority of the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.

If deemed necessary, the noise limiting device shall be reset to a level approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team within 14 days of notification.

NP37 (*Condition regarding limiter only triggered if nuisance witnessed*)

- (i) If officers of the council witness noise at a level that causes unreasonable disturbance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity then a noise limiting device shall be used in relation to all sound amplification equipment used in conjunction with the Premises Licence.
- (ii) The noise limiting device shall be installed and set at a level approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team within 1 month of notification, for its requirement, from the Licensing Authority.
- (iii) The noise limiting device shall be properly secured so that it can not be tampered with.
- (iv) The noise limiting device shall only be reset with the authority of the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.
- (v) If deemed necessary, the noise limiting device shall be reset to a level approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team within 14 days of notification.

NP38 (*Limiter already set*)

- (i) A noise limiting device shall be used in relation to all sound amplification equipment used in conjunction with the Premises Licence.
- (ii) The noise limiting device shall be kept at the settings approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team on (*Date*).
- (iii) The noise limiting device shall be properly secured so that it can not be tampered with.
- (iv) The noise limiting device shall only be reset with the authority of the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team.
- (v) If deemed necessary, the noise limiting device shall be reset to a level approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team within 14 days of notification.

NP39 Monitoring

- (i) The manager, licensee or other competent person shall carry out observations in the vicinity of the properties at [insert], on at least [insert] intervals between [insert] and [insert] whilst live music, karaoke or DJ's playing recorded music is taking place to establish whether there is a noise breakout from the premises.
- (ii) If the observation reveals noise breakout at a level likely to cause disturbance to the occupants of properties in the vicinity then the volume of music shall be reduced to a level that does not cause disturbance.

NP40 A record of such observations shall be kept in a book for that purpose, such a book shall be completed immediately after the observation detailing the time, location and duration of the observation, the level of noise breakout and any action taken to reduce noise breakout.

- (i) Such book to be made available at all times upon request to a police officer or an officer of the local authority.

NP41 One off Events

The organiser shall appoint a suitably qualified and experienced noise control consultant approved by the council through an authorised officer of the Pollution Control Team no later than (insert) weeks prior to the event. The noise control consultant shall liaise between all parties including the promoter and sound engineer and the Licensing Authority etc on all matters relating to noise control prior to and during the event. The consultant must be experienced in noise propagation and control, particularly from music events.

NP42 The control limits set at the mixer position shall be adequate to ensure that Music Noise Level (MNL) shall not exceed LAeq (15 mins) of (insert) over a 15 minute period at the nearest noise sensitive premises throughout the duration of the event.

NP43 A noise propagation test shall be undertaken at a time to be agreed prior to the start of the event in order to set appropriate control limits at the sound mixer position. The sound system shall be configured and operated in a similar manner as intended for the event.

NP44 The organiser shall ensure that the promoter, sound supplier and all individual sound engineers are informed of the sound control limits.

NP45 A logging noise level meter shall remain at the mixing desk so that the noise consultant and sound engineers can ensure that the predetermined noise levels are not exceeded. The results of the monitoring shall be provided to the Licensing Authority within 10 working days following the event.

- NP46 During the events the noise consultant shall monitor noise levels at (insert) and at any other sites deemed necessary by the council during the event.
- NP47 The consultant shall be able to contact the mixer desk and advise the sound engineer accordingly to ensure that the Licensing Authority can contact the consultant and sound engineer throughout the events and during the sound checks. The results of the monitoring shall be provided to the Licensing Authority within 10 working days following the event.
- NP48 The exact times of all sound checks and performances shall be submitted to, and approved by the Licensing Authority no later than 10 working days before the events. (In order to prevent disturbance to the occupiers of (insert) no sound checks shall be carried out before (insert hours).
- NP49 Details of the time, date and duration of set up and dismantling of the stage and other associated noise generating activities (refuse disposal, provision and emptying of toilets, generators, etc.) outside the times of the performances shall be submitted to, and approved by the Licensing Authority no later than 10 working days before the events.
- NP50 All local residents likely to be affected by noise from the event shall be informed in writing as to:
- (i) The exact times of all performances and sound checks.
 - (ii) A contact name and telephone number should they wish to make a complaint of noise.
- NP51 The occupiers of premises, detailed below, shall be informed in writing, no later than 10 days before the event of the exact times that the event will operate and a contact name and telephone number should they wish to make a complaint of noise (insert addresses).
- NP52 Whilst the event is being held, the licensee, event organiser or other competent person shall carry out observations in the immediate area around the event, to assess the level of noise. Should such observations confirm that noise is disturbing to the occupiers of premises in the vicinity, then appropriate steps shall be taken to control noise levels in order to prevent disturbance to local residents.
- NP53 Orientation of speakers be such that all sound is directed away from residential properties and towards (insert).
- NP54 Customer Noise
Except for access and egress all doors and windows shall be kept closed after (insert) hours.
- NP55 Clear notices displayed at all points where customers leave the building must instruct them to respect the needs of local residents and leave the premises and the area quietly.

- NP56 The (garden/patio) must not be used by customers after the hours of (insert).
- NP57 The car park must be securely locked to prevent access to customers cars between (insert) and (insert) providing the locking of the car park does not effect any means of escape or any evacuation plan.
- NP58 There shall be no consumption of beverages purchased from the premises outside of the premises.
- NP59 There shall be no consumption of beverages in any outside areas/specific after (insert) hours.
- NP60 Any outdoor areas to (the front/rear of) the premises must not be used by customers or staff after 22.00 hours.
- NP61 The premises supervisor, manager or other competent person shall manage any outdoor area to ensure that customers do not behave in a noisy, rowdy or offensive manner.
- NP62 Clear notices must be displayed at prominent points in all outdoor areas (informing them as to the requirements of points (insert and insert i.e. no drinks, hours of use, above and) requesting that they respect the needs of local residents and behave in a quiet and orderly manner.
- NP63 A clear notice shall be displayed at any exit to the premises to instruct customers to respect the needs of local residents and leave the premises and the area quietly.
- NP64 There shall be no consumption of beverages purchased from the premises in open containers outside at the front of the premises.
- NP65 No inflatable play equipment shall be used without the agreement of the Licensing Authority with respect to its hours of use and other conditions as may be appropriate.
- NP66 Noise from plant and equipment
Noise from any ventilation, refrigeration or air conditioning plant or equipment shall not cause nuisance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity.

Recommendation:

- a) The rating level of any noise from any fixed plant shall not exceed the background noise level by more than 0dB at the nearest noise sensitive property as determined by BS 4142: 1997 Method of rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas at any time.
- b) Anti vibration mounts should be used to isolate plant from fixed structures and a flexible connector used to connect the flue to the fan if there is a potential to transmit vibration to any noise sensitive property. Any systems will also need regular maintenance so as to reduce mechanical noise.

Guidance on the above can be gained at 'Guidance on the Control of Odour & Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust System' published electronically by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Product Code PB10527.

NP67 Signage. Signs shall be prominently displayed at the premises requesting that patrons respect local residents and leave the premises quietly.

OA OPEN AIR REGULATED ENTERTAINMENT

Unique conditions will be attached to an open air event to meet the specific requirements of the Licensing Authority or its Responsible Authorities dependent on the site, the type of entertainment to be held and the anticipated audience.

PP PERFORMANCE OF PLAYS – ONLY APPLICABLE IF AUDIENCE IN EXCESS OF 500 PEOPLE

PP01 All scenery which expression includes all cloths, draperies, gauze cloths, hangings, curtains, fabric decorations and all floral decorations, and all properties of whatsoever kind on the stage shall be non-flammable and shall be available for test by officers of the Fire Authority.

PP02 Scenery (except that in use for the current production) shall only be kept in an appropriate scene and property store.

PP03 Ropes attached to counterweights shall be tested by a competent person appointed by the premises licence holder at such intervals as may be necessary to guard against failure, and in any event not less than once every twelve months.

PP04 Where smoking is essential to the action of the performance, such additional precautions as may be required by the Licensing Authority shall be strictly observed.

PP05 The safety curtain to the proscenium opening shall be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience.

PP06 In the event of the safety curtain being out of order, the licensee shall immediately notify the Chief Fire Officer.

PP07 Whenever the safety curtain is lowered, sufficient lights shall be immediately lighted to give good general illumination of the auditorium.

PP08 No scenery or apparatus of whatsoever kind shall at any time during the performance cross the plane of descent of the safety curtain, or in any circumstances interfere with its descent.

PP09 Except with the consent of the Licensing Authority scenery or properties shall not be placed on the auditorium side of the safety curtain.

PS PREMISES – SECURITY

PS01 Outdoor lighting shall be positioned, so far as is reasonably practicable, so as to limit its intrusion into residential accommodation in the vicinity of the licensed premises whilst maintaining an adequate level of lighting for the safe access and egress of customers and persons employed at the premises.

PS02 The premises licence holder shall ensure that the car park of the premises shall be illuminated at all appropriate times but that outdoor lighting shall be positioned, so far as is reasonably practicable, so as to limit its intrusion into residential accommodation in the vicinity of the licensed premises whilst maintaining an adequate level of lighting for the safe access and egress of customers and persons employed at the premises.

PS03 The premises licence holder shall ensure that the barrier to the car park shall be properly secured at all appropriate times, providing that securing of the barrier does not effect any means of escape or any evacuation plan.

PS04 The premises holder shall ensure that the burglar alarm shall be maintained and implemented at the premises.

PS05 The premises holder shall ensure that the premises are a member of any locally operating Pub Watch Scheme.

PS06 The premises licence holder shall ensure that signage is appropriately displayed in the premises advising all customers not to leave any belongings unattended.

PS07 The premises licence holder shall ensure that a documented search policy is implemented at the premises. Any searches shall only be conducted by same sex. Staff training is to be given in the correct procedures and records are to be kept in a bound book. All documentation shall be produced to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon request.

PS08 Drugs and weapons seized will be placed in a locked receptacle set aside for this purpose. The means for securing or unlocking the receptacle will be retained by the premises licence holder or the designated premises supervisor or in their absence any other responsible person. A record shall be made of the seizure, the time, date and by whom, and to whom the items were handed on to in a bound book specifically kept for that purpose. Such a book to be produced to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon

request. The premises licence holder shall make suitable arrangements with the Police for the collection of any seized items.

PS09 *This condition is aimed at problematic premises*

Hand held metal detecting scanners shall be in use at the premises during all trading hours, other metal detecting scanners may be used such as fixed metal detectors at all entrances. Detectors shall be operated by door supervisors or by suitably trained staff when no door supervisors are on duty, and such detectors shall be operative when any licensable activity is taking place. Fixed detectors shall be installed to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority and the Police.

PS10 An incident report logbook shall be held at the premises at all times and shall be produced to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable immediately upon request. It shall contain the details of persons involved, incident description, time and date, actions taken and final outcome of the situation.

PS11 Spirits shall be located (insert location), and all other alcoholic beverages to be located on display in such a position that it is not obscured from the constant view of the cashier / staff by other fixtures. (If this is reasonably practical because of refrigeration or other limitations, the Licensing Authority shall be consulted regarding other suitable locations in the premises).

PS12 The requirement for the presence of a security officer shall be subject to consultation and review with the Licensing Authority and the Police. On those occasions when security staff are deemed to be required they shall be at the premises between the hours of (insert hours) hours daily.

PS13 The need for security guards shall be assessed by the licence holder / designated premises supervisor on a regular basis and security guards shall be employed when and where the assessment requires. However, as a minimum, one dedicated SIA registered (or other accredited scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority) security guard shall be employed at the premises.

PS14 The premises licence holder shall provide contact details for any security personnel employed at the premises to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable upon request.

PW POLICE LISASON, PUB WATCH OR SIMILAR SCHEMES

PW01 The premises licence holder shall ensure participation in any Pub Watch or similar scheme operating in the locality of the licensed premises.

PW02 Subject to reasonable notice being given which save in an emergency shall be not less than seven days, the premises licence holder shall ensure attendance at any meeting convened by the Police to discuss any matters relating to the premises.

RL RADIO LINKS

- RL01 The premises shall be incorporated into Storennet, or Pub Watch, or similar scheme operating within Caerphilly County Borough Council
- RL02 The radio equipment shall be kept in working order at all times.
- RL03 The radio equipment shall be made available to and be monitored by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff at all times that the premises are open to the public.
- RL04 Any Police instruction / direction received via the radio scheme shall be complied with whenever given.
- RL05 All instances of crime or disorder are reported via the radio equipment by the designated premises supervisor or a responsible member of staff to an agreed Police contact point.

SA CONTROLS FOR SALE OF ALCOHOL

- SA01 All staff to be trained in the prevention of underage sales to a level commensurate with their duties. All such training to be updated as necessary, for instances when legislation changes, and should include training on how to deal with difficult customers. The training should be clearly documented and signed and dated by both the trainer and the member of staff receiving it. The documentation shall be available for inspection on request by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable.
- SA02 (a) An approved proof of age scheme shall be adopted, implemented and advertised within the premise such as 'Challenge 25' whereby an accepted form of photographic identification shall be requested before any alcohol is sold to any person who appears to be under 25 years of age. Acceptable proof of age shall include identification bearing the customers photograph, date of birth and integral holographic mark or security measure. Suitable means of identification would include PASS approved proof of age card, photo-card driving licence and passport.
- (b) Publicity materials notifying customers of the operation of the Challenge 25 scheme shall be displayed at the premises, including a Challenge 25 sign of at least A5 size at the entrance to the premises and where practicable at each point of sale.
- SA03 The premises licence holder shall required the designated premises supervisor, or in his / her absence other responsible person, to keep an 'incident / refusals' logbook in a bound book in which full details of all incidents are recorded. This shall include details of any refused sales and shall give details of the persons involved, incident description, time and date, actions taken and final outcome of the situation. This shall be completed as soon as possible and in any case no later than the

close of business on the day of the incident. The time and date when the report was completed, and by whom, is to form part of the entry. The logbook is to be kept on the premises at all times and shall be produced to an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a constable when required.

- SA04 The premises shall be cleared of customers within 30 minutes of the last supply of alcohol on any day.
- SA05 Intoxicating liquor will only be sold and supplied to customers who are engaging in a sit down table meal, as an ancillary to that meal.
- SA06 All staff with a responsibility for supplying or selling alcohol shall be vigilant in preventing adults buying alcohol on behalf of persons who are under 18 and will refuse such sales where they suspect that this may be about to occur.
- SA07 All staff with a responsibility for supplying or selling alcohol shall be vigilant in preventing adults buying alcohol on behalf of persons who are under 18 and will refuse such sales where they suspect that this may be about to occur, subject to the exemptions under Section 149 (5) of the Licensing Act 2003 which allows beer, cider or wine to be purchased for an individual aged 16 or 17, providing the beer, cider or wine is for consumption with a table meal and that a person aged 18 or over is accompanying the individual.

SE PROVISIONS RELATING TO ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

- SE01 Striptease or adult types of entertainment will only take place in designated areas approved by the Licensing Authority. Arrangements for access to the dressing room shall be approved by the Licensing Authority and shall be maintained at all times whilst striptease is taking place and immediately thereafter.
- SE02 Whilst striptease entertainment is taking place, no person aged under the age of 18 will be allowed on that part of the licensed premises where the striptease entertainment is taking place and such part must not be visible from other parts of the premises. A clear notice shall be displayed at each entrance to the premises in a prominent position so that it can be easily read by persons entering the premises on the following terms:- 'No person under 18 years will be admitted'.
- SE03 Dancers not performing must not be in a stated of undress in any area in which the public have access.
- SE04 Dancers shall only perform on the stage area or to seated customers.
- SE05 Performers shall be aged not less than 18 years.

- SE06 The premises licence holder must not permit the display outside of the premises of photographs or other images which indicate and suggest that striptease or similar dancing takes place on the premises.
- SE07 There shall be at least (insert number) registered door supervisor(s) on the premises when the striptease entertainment is taking place.
- SE08 There shall be no physical contact between customer and the performer before, during or after the performance other than the placing of money or tokens into the hands of the dancer, or by the placing of notes by the customer in a garter worn by the performer for that purpose.
- SE09 The premises licence holder, performer and any person concerned in the organisation or management of the entertainment shall not encourage, or permit encouragement of the audience to throw money at or otherwise give gratuities to the performers (other than in accordance with SE08 above).
- SE10 The performer shall at all times wear, for females, a g-string and males appropriate clothing to cover their genitalia adequately and the clothing shall not be transparent or removed.
- SE11 No performer shall at any time reveal any part of their genitalia or anus.
- SE12 No sex act shall take place.
- SE13 The area proposed for striptease shall:
- (a) Be in a position where the performance cannot be seen from the street.
 - (b) Be in a designated area of the premises with segregation from the audience.
 - (c) Be in a position where the performers will have direct access to the dressing room without passing through or in close proximity of the audience.
- SE14 The entertainment shall be given only by performers / entertainers and the audience shall not be permitted to participate.
- SE15 Persons appearing on stage shall go directly between the dressing room and designated performance area without passing through or in close proximity to the audience.
- SE16 Striptease / exotic / adult entertainment dancers (including table side / lap / pole dancers) must immediately dress at the conclusion of each performance.
- SE17 Entertainment provided by topless (only) dancers to customers seated at tables may only take part in those parts of the premises approved by the Licensing Authority. No audience participation shall be permitted.
- SE18 Should a customer attempt to touch a dancer, the dancer must withdraw and report the matter to her / his manager / supervisor.

- SE19 No telephone number, address or information leading to any further meeting may be passed from customer to dancer or vice versa.
- SE20 No dancer may perform if they are intoxicated.
- SE21 No member of the public shall be admitted or allowed to remain in the dance area if they appear to be intoxicated.
- SE22 All members of the public shall remain seated in the dance area other than when they arrive, depart, visit the toilet or go to the bar.
- SE23 Signs must be displayed at the entrance to the dance area stating:
'Any customer attempting to make physical contact with a dancer will be asked to leave',
Signs must be sufficient in size, legible and positioned so as to be read by all customers entering the dance area.
- SE24 No dancer shall perform any sexually explicit or lewd act.
- SE25 Whilst dancing takes place not less than (insert agreed number) of Door Supervisors registered Security Industry Authority or other accredited scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority shall be employed in the part of the premises used for dancing unless alternative arrangements are approved by the Licensing Authority.
- SE26 CCTV shall be installed to cover all areas where dancing will take place. All cameras shall continually record whilst the premises are open to the public.
- SE27 Striptease entertainment or any exotic entertainment involving full nudity shall not be permitted at the premises.
- SE28 The premises shall not be permitted to be used for any adult entertainment or services, activities, other entertainment or matters ancillary to the use of the premises that may give rise to concern in respect of children which prohibited uses include, among other things, nudity or semi-nudity, films for restricted age groups or any relevant entertainment (with the meaning of the third schedule to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982) except where that is expressly permitted under a licence or waiver granted or given under that legislation.

Conditions to be complied with when showing 'RESTRICTED (18)' Films

No films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category may be exhibited in a cinema operating as a club in accordance with conditions CE16 – CE25

SF SANITARY FACILITIES

- SF01 Adequate sanitary accommodation shall be provided at the premises in accordance with either the District Surveyors Technical Standards for

places of entertainment or the BS6465 standard for sanitary provisions or any British Standard replacing or amending the same.

SF02 In respect of temporary sanitary facilities the premises licence holder shall ensure that the servicing of sanitary accommodation takes place on a continuous basis throughout the event to ensure the sanitary accommodation is kept in a usable condition at all times when the public require it to be available.

SF03 In respect of temporary sanitary facilities the premises licence holder shall ensure that the removal of sewage takes place hygienically and appropriately at the conclusion of the event or as required.

ST SEATING

ST01 In any part of the premises which is regularly used for a closely-seated audience all seats shall be securely fastened to the floor. In premises not so regularly used chairs, if provided, shall be securely fastened together in lengths of not less than four nor more than twelve chairs whenever more than 200 persons are to be accommodated. There shall be a space of not less than twelve inches between the back of one seat and the front of the one behind, measured in perpendiculars, provided that in premises erected before 4 October 1948; the space shall be not less than may be allowed by the Licensing Authority. Except with the consent of the Licensing Authority, no seat shall be more than 4 metres from a gangway. Any upholstered seating and furniture which is either purchased, provided or replaced during the period of the licence shall meet the current British Standard. All upholstered seating and furniture shall be properly maintained and be in good condition.

SM SMOKING AREAS

SM01 Dedicated smoking areas within the curtilage of premises.
The smoking area shall be permanently monitored by a minimum of (insert number) SIA or other accredited scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority registered door staff during (insert hours) hours. The amount of people in this area will not exceed (insert occupancy number) persons; this shall be monitored with (insert method of monitoring occupancy number) from a position (insert positions from which monitoring is to take place). The numbers and location shall be permanently monitored by a SIA or other accredited scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority registered (or other accredited scheme recognised by the Licensing Authority) door staff located at (insert location from which door staff can conduct this duty).

SM02 *This condition is aimed at problematic premises where there are external smoking areas which may be viewed as areas of potential concern*
Where smoking areas within curtilages of premises abut areas to which the public have access then the following condition will be deemed as appropriate.

- (a) A safety netting, mesh or screen (of a gauge that satisfies the requirements for the 50% rule for enclosed space walling under smoking legislation), shall be fitted and maintained in order to prevent objects being passed from the outside into the smoking area.
- (b) Intoxicating liquor shall not be permitted into the access walkways leading to and within the smoking area.
- (c) Any bottle or bin stores located near an external smoking facility shall be enclosed and secured.
- (d) There shall be no furniture in the outside areas, with the exception of the appropriate wall mounted receptacles for tobacco waste materials.
- (e) Public access areas outside of the smoking area shall have PIR lights operated and maintained in order to draw attention to persons moving around outside the smoking area.
- (f) Calculations regarding the smoking area shall be deemed as forming a part of the premises licence:
- (g) The smoking area shall be thoroughly cleaned, provided with adequate lighting and painted so as to clearly designate this area as the smoking area.
- (h) The floor of the smoking area shall be level.
- (i) An adequate number of wall-mounted ashtrays shall be provided in the smoking area.
- (j) Staff shall be instructed to clean the smoking area and adjacent pavements of smoking-related litter before and after each period of use.

SX SPECIAL EFFECTS, NOVEL AND ONE OFF PROMOTIONS

- SX01 (a) All special effects, equipment and mechanical installations shall be selected, arranged, stored and used so as to minimise any risk to the safety of the audience, performance and staff. This must be on the basis of a written risk assessment.
- (b) 'Special effects' include:
Dry ice machines, cryogenic fog machines, smoke machines and any other type of fog generators, pyrotechnics including fireworks, explosives and other highly flammable substances, real flame, firearms, motor vehicles, strobe lighting, lasers, foam, any other unusual or novel effect.
- (b) Furthermore written permission must be sought from the licensing authority before using any of the above – for the first time and after any significant changes have been made to the venue, usage of the effect or the equipment itself.

SX02 No outdoor fireworks or other pyrotechnics shall be used other than with the prior consent of an officer of the Pollution Control Team.

SX03 A documented risk assessment of promotional or one-off 'entertainment' events shall be conducted by the management of the venue and such risk assessment shall be available upon request by an authorised officer of the council or the Police. Promotional or one-off events shall be

notified to the Licensing Authority and the Police at least one month prior to the proposed event.

- SX04 Use of premises by third parties. Where the premises, or parts of the premises may be hired out by third parties or be used by events promoters, the premises licence holder must ensure that there are appropriate procedures in place that will ensure that as far as possible, the third party is aware of the licensing conditions and has in place their own procedures / arrangements which will ensure that the licensing objectives are not compromised.
- SX05 Except where expressly permitted no lasers, smoke producing effects, light shows (strobe lights) or pyrotechnics shall be used at any time when licensable activity is taking place.
- SX06 Except where expressly permitted, explosives or highly flammable substances shall not be brought on to or used in the premises at any time when any licensable activity is taking place.
- SX07 Acts and performances. No act or performance where there may be a risk of injury from fire; falling objects or people; impact; moving equipment; animals or any other source should take place within the venue unless it is done safely and without risk to the public. Control measures must be decided on the basis of a written risk assessment, which must be submitted to the Licensing Authority at least 14 days before the event. Written permission of the Licensing Authority must be given before the act or performance can go ahead.
- SX08 Unless the express consent of the Licensing Authority is obtained and subject to any conditions attached to such consent, no person shall give at the premises (otherwise than as provided by Section 5 of the Hypnotism Act 1952) any exhibition, demonstration or performance of hypnotism, mesmerism or any similar act or process which produces or is intended to produce in any person any form of induced sleep or trance in which the susceptibility of the mind of that person to suggestion or direction is increased or intended to be increased.

TL TELEPHONE

- TL01 The premises licence holder shall ensure the designated premises supervisor, or nominated deputy in their absence, provides unhampered use of a telephone on the premises for use in an emergency, while licensable activity entertainment is taking place, in premises that do not have the benefit of a permanent phone installation then a mobile phone must be available.

TR TRAINING

- TR01 The premises licence holder shall provide training for all staff to ensure that they are familiar with all means of ingress and egress and the appropriate procedures in case of any emergencies that require an immediate evacuation of the premises. A record of the training shall be maintained and shall be available upon request by authorised members of the Licensing Authority or a constable.
- TR02 All staff are to be trained with respect to underage sales, such training to be updated as necessary when legislation changes and should include training in how to refuse sales to difficult customers.
- TR03 A record of all staff training shall be maintained at the premises and made immediately available upon request to an authorised office of the council or the Police. The documentation relating to training should extend back to a period of three years and should specify the time, date and details of the persons both providing the training and receiving the training.

VN VENTILATION

- VN01 All parts of the licensed premises used by members of the public shall be effectively and suitably ventilated by a sufficient quantity of fresh or purified air. The air within the premises shall be maintained at a reasonable and comfortable temperature immediately before and during their use by patrons. Guidance on this should be sought from Guide B 'Heating, Ventilation, Air conditioning and Refrigeration' issued by the CIBSE (Chartered Institute for Building Services Engineers) or any document replacing the same.

WM WASTE MANAGEMENT / ODOURS

- WM01 No accumulation of combustible rubbish, dirt, surplus material or stored goods shall be permitted to remain in any part of the premises except in an appropriate place and of such quantities so as not to cause a nuisance, obstruction or other safety hazard.
- WM02 The premises licence holder shall ensure that adequate measures are in place to prevent the escape of odours from the premises. This includes odour from food preparation and refuse storage.
- WM03 The licence holder shall ensure that adequate measures are in place to remove litter or waste arising from their customers and to prevent such litter from accumulating in the immediate vicinity of their premises. In particular, where necessary the premises licence holder shall ensure that adequate measures are in place to provide customers with sufficient receptacles for the depositing of waste materials such as food wrappings, drinks containers, smoking related litter, etc.

WM04 The premises licence holder shall ensure that a sufficient number of suitable receptacles are located in appropriate locations for the depositing of waste materials such as food wrappings, drinks containers, smoking related litter, etc. by customers.

WM05 The premises licence holder, premises supervisor or event manager, shall ensure that measures shall be put in place to remove litter or waste arising from customers and to prevent such litter from accumulating in the immediate vicinity of the premises or neighbouring premises.

WM06 An adequate number of waste receptacles for use by patrons shall be provided in positions agreed with the Licensing Authority and it shall be the responsibility of the licensee to empty and dispose of the collected refuse at a frequency to be agreed with the Licensing Authority.

WM07 Activities relating to the on site disposal (including placing into external receptacles) and collection of refuse, bottles and recyclable materials shall only take place between (insert hours and days as necessary).

WM08 The collection of refuse, bottles and recyclable materials shall only take place (insert hours and days as necessary).

WM09 Activities relating to deliveries shall only take place between (insert hours and days as necessary).

WM10 Odour from any flue used for the dispersal of cooking smells serving the building shall not cause nuisance to the occupants of any properties in the vicinity.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that any flues for the dispersal of cooking smells shall either:

- (a) Terminates at least 1 metre above the ridge height of any building in the vicinity, with no obstruction of upward movement of air or;
- (b) Have a method of odour control such as activated carbon filters, electrostatic precipitation or inline oxidation.

Guidance on the above can be gained at 'Guidance on the Control of Odour & Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust System' Published electronically by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Product Code PB10527.

[Link to DEFRA guidance](#)

WM11 The premises licence holder shall ensure that all packaging provided with takeaway food is marked in some way as to show its point of origin.

WM12 Foul water arising from the operation of the premises shall be disposed of in an appropriate manner.

WM13 Where a premises i.e. mobile unit is regularly removed from site the premises licence holder shall ensure that site is properly cleaned and that any accumulations of surface grease are properly cleansed and removed from the site.



COUNCIL – 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF BOROUGH – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. The report sought a decision on whether the Cabinet wishes to recommend that Council admit as Honorary Freemen of the Borough the Royal British Legion in recognition of their 100 Year Anniversary on 15th May 2021 and to honour the charitable work of the organisation supporting ex-service men and women and their families.
2. It was noted that under Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972 a Borough Council can grant the Freedom of the Borough to "persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough". In order to grant the Freedom of the Borough, a resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose.
3. Cabinet noted the considerable work undertaken by the Royal British Legion to support Service and ex-Service personnel and their families and drew particular attention to the current pandemic and its restrictions, and the alternative fundraising suggestions and activities being undertaken by the Royal British Legion on respect of the Poppy Appeal.
4. The recommendation of the attached report was considered and Cabinet unanimously recommend to Council that.
 - (i) In pursuance of Section 249 (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council confers upon the Royal British Legion in 2021, the Freedom of the County Borough of Caerphilly.

Author: Charlotte Evans, Committee Services Officer – evansca1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Appendices: Report to Cabinet 28th October 2020 – Agenda Item 6.

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CABINET – 28TH OCTOBER 2020

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF BOROUGH – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is to seek a decision on whether the Cabinet wishes to recommend that Council admit as Honorary Freeman of the Borough the Royal British Legion in recognition of their 100th Year Anniversary on 15th May 2021 and to honour the charitable work of the organisation supporting ex-service men and women and their families.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 a Borough Council can grant the Freedom of the Borough to "persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the Borough". In order to grant the Freedom of the Borough, a resolution must be passed by not less than two thirds of the members voting at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Cabinet are asked to recommend to Council the following:
- 3.2 In pursuance of Section 249 (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council confers upon the Royal British Legion in 2021, the Freedom of the County Borough of Caerphilly.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To give public recognition to the recipient as an expression of the high esteem in which they are held by Caerphilly County Borough Council and the people of the County Borough on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Royal British Legion.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The tradition of Boroughs conferring the Freedom goes back to ancient times when

the Royal Charter Boroughs were almost, if not entirely, self governing. Originally, such conferment conveyed special privileges of various kinds upon the recipient that could involve the right to vote, property and local taxation benefits.

- 5.2 Over the years, and especially since the passing of the Reform Act 1983 and the Municipal Corporations Act 1835, successive Acts of Parliament have sought amongst other things severely to curtail the extent of the privileges so that, today, the conferment is purely honorary. Today's Freemen have no special rights.
- 5.3 However, the tradition is maintained as a means whereby public recognition may be given to the recipients as an expression of the high esteem in which, they are held by the Council and people of the Borough.
- 5.4 Council agreed at the meeting dated 29th January 2008 to award Freedom of the Borough and Cabinet subsequently agreed the nomination criteria at the meeting dated 3rd March 2009. These criteria are set out below:

Nomination criteria

(a) Nominations must show that the nominee is a 'person/s of distinction and/or a person/s who has rendered eminent services to the County Borough'.

(b) In keeping with special nature of the award conferment should be strictly limited to those who have made a very significant contribution to the locality either on the national or international scene. It should be noted that the Council already has an annual award scheme for the Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards, (which also encompasses the Mayoral Civic Awards) to recognise those who have made an important contribution to the local community especially in a voluntary capacity.

Nomination procedure

(a) Nominations may be received from councillors, officers, MPs, outside organisations in the borough, and members of the public who are on the Electoral Register;

(b) Nominations must be made using the Nomination for Honorary Freedom of the County Borough form (appendix 1) and they must set out the reason why the Honour should be conferred;

(c) Nominations must be submitted to the Cabinet via the Chief Executive, who will consult the leaders of the opposition groups to ensure there is sufficient support before, any nomination can be considered by the Cabinet. All discussions with the leaders of the opposition groups and potential recipients are to remain confidential at all times;

(d) Cabinet will make a recommendation to the council if it considers that the Honorary Freeman of the County Borough would be an appropriate honour to confer;

(e) The Full Council then has to make a separate decision at a specially convened council meeting to confer the Honorary Freedom of the County Borough;

(f) The actual ceremony itself will take place at a later date, with the mutual agreement of the recipients, when invited guests as well as the council members will be present;

(g) The award will take the form of the presentation of a suitably worded scroll and casket and a declaration by the honoured person will be made followed by a reception.

5.5 Councillor Andrew Whitcombe the former Armed Forces Champion submitted the attached nomination form (appendix 1), which has been endorsed by the current Armed Forces Champion Councillor Alan Higgs. The nomination specifically outlines the reasons for consideration of the Royal British Legion on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary which will be achieved on 21st May 2021.

5.6 **Conclusion**

Cabinet are asked to consider the nomination against the criteria outlined in this report as set out in 5.4 and make a recommendation to Council.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 The recommendation as set out in this report assumes that Members will wish to recognise and support conferring the Freedom of the Borough upon the Royal British Legion upon the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

7. **LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES**

7.1 Council has previously agreed the procedure and criteria for nominations for Freedom of the Borough which is a Civic and Ceremonial function.

7.2 **Corporate Plan 2018-2023.**

The procedure and criteria for nominations for Freedom of the Borough which is a Civic and Ceremonial function.

8. **WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

8.1 By conferring the Freedom of the Borough, Caerphilly County Borough Council gives an opportunity to recognise the achievements and work of individuals and organisations within its community. The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act asks public bodies to work towards achieving a Wales of cohesive communities. Therefore, by recognising the charitable work of the Royal British Legion the Council can publicly thank the RBL and also the wide range of people in the county borough who raise funds every year to support the RBL.

9. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no equalities implications in this report.

10. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 provides that the Authority may spend such reasonable sum as they think fit for the purpose of presenting an address or a casket containing an address to any person admitted to be an honorary freeman.

10.2 The ceremonial presentation and reception for each nominee shall be funded from the Mayoral office funds in consultation with the Chief Executive and Leader of the

Council.

11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no personnel implications.

12. CONSULTATIONS

12.1 There are no consultation responses not included within this report.

13. STATUTORY POWER

13.1 The Local Government Act 1972, (as amended) and The Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980.

Author: Catherine Forbes-Thompson, Scrutiny Manager, forbecl@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Christina Harrhy Chief Executive,
Richard Edmunds, Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services,
Robert Tranter Head of legal and Monitoring Officer
Lisa Lane Deputy Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic Services
Cllr P Marsden, Council Leader
Cllr C Mann, Plaid Cymru Group Leader
Cllr G Simmonds, Independents Group Leader

Background Papers:

Council report 29th January 2008.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Nomination Form Freedom of the Borough, Royal British Legion



NOMINATION FORM FOR FREEDOM OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH

Please send the following information to the email or post to the address at the bottom of the page:

About the person you wish to nominate

Name of person suggested by you:

Royal British Legion (To be received by Anthony Metcalfe Area Manager RBL in Wales)

Their address (please include postcode):

The Royal British Legion, 18/19 High Street, Cardiff, CF10 1PT

Please tell us why you think they should receive recognition, giving as much details as possible, but keeping the statement to a maximum of 250 words:

I formally request that, on behalf of the people of Caerphilly County Borough and elected members of the council, we proceed to recognise and acknowledge the incredible work of the Royal British Legion on the 100th anniversary of its formation. Formed on 15 May 1921, bringing together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves after the First World War:

Over six million men had served in the war. Of those who came back, 1.75 million had suffered some kind of disability and half of these were permanently disabled. Then there were those who depended on those who had gone to war – the wives and children, widows, and orphans, as well as the parents who had lost sons in the war, on whom they were often financially dependent.

The Legion was established to care for those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War. And they have been helping the Armed Forces community and their families ever since.

The Legion provide lifelong support to serving members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families. Their wide ranging activities include support through debt and emergency situations, employment, dementia care and supporting the towns and villages of the borough for remembrance parades and services.

The Royal British Legion have continued to support the people of Caerphilly Borough and has been an active member of the Armed Forces Forum and are at the forefront of the care offered to the Armed Forces Community.

Do they do this activity as part of an organisation or charity?

YES

If yes, what is the name of this organisation or charity?

Royal British Legion

If yes, when did they begin this work?

This will be the 100 year anniversary.

Your name (please print):

Councillor Andrew Whitcombe, Former Armed Forces Champion
Councillor Alan Higgs, Armed Forces Champion

Your address (please print)

C/o Regional Armed Forces Covenant Liaison Officer, Policy Unit, Ty Penalta, Tredomen,
CF82 7PG

Your email address:

AndrewWhitcombe@caerphilly.gov.uk
AlanHiggs@caerphilly.gov.uk

What connection do you have with this person?

Former Armed Forces Champion & Current Armed Forces Champion

Signature _____

Date _____

Please return to:

Christina Harray
Chief Executive
Caerphilly County Borough Council
Penallta House,
Tredomen Park,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed,
CF82 7PG