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For all enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Emma Sullivan
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Date: 26th May 2021

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Dear Sir/Madam,

A digital meeting of **Council** will be held via Microsoft Teams on **Tuesday, 1st June, 2021 at 5.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

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

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.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

6 Council held on 13th April 2021. 1 - 8

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

Question to the Leader of Council from Councillor Adrian Hussey.

The vaccination programme has been a great success how had Caerphilly County Borough Council contributed to this effort?

8 To receive and to answer questions received under Rule of Procedure 10(4).

Question to the Cabinet Member for Customer, Performance and Property Services from Councillor Kevin Etheridge.

As no funding has been earmarked direct to the Council by Central Government in regard to the Community Renewal Fund can it clearly be defined what implications it will have on the Transformation Agenda and additional resources for the Council and Ratepayers of the County Borough?

To receive and consider the following reports: -

9 Notice of Motion - Questions to the Leader of Council. 9 - 12

10 Notice of Motion - Potential Booking System for Recycling Sites. 13 - 18

11 Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan Up To 2021: Review Report. 19 - 122

12 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan Up To 2035 - Delivery Agreement. 123 - 180

Circulation:

All Members And Appropriate Officers

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Agenda Item 6



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 13TH APRIL 2021 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

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

Councillors:

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

Together with:-

C. Harry (Chief Executive), R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services and Housing), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), M.S. Williams (Corporate Director Economy and Environment), R. Kyte (Head of Planning and Regeneration), R. Thomas (Planning Development Manager) and E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Also Present:

K. Bernie and F. Holmes (Cardiff Capital Region City Deal)

WEB-CASTING FILMING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Executive reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). She advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

IN MEMORIUM

It was with great sadness that the Mayor announced the recent passing of Councillor Carmen Bezzina's mother and joined with the rest of the Country in expressing her sadness at the passing of His Royal Highness, Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh. Council held a minute silence in memory and respect.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Bevan, C. Elsbury, J.E. Fussell, D. Hardacre, D. Harse, M. James and G. Oliver.

2. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to an online event for Abercarn Scouts, the event celebrated 5 Scouts who had received the Scouts Highest Award although unable to attend, the Mayor was able to provide a short video message to congratulate them on their outstanding achievement.

STATEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR L. BINDING

The Mayor confirmed that she had given approval for Councillor Lyndon Binding to make a short statement to Council.

Councillor Binding advised Council that due to an ongoing health issue he would be resigning as a County Borough Councillor at the end of month. He thanked Members and Officers for their friendship, help and support over the years, particularly to Democratic and Committee Services and the Social Services Corporate Management Team.

Ward Colleagues, Group Leaders and the Chief Executive expressed their fondest wishes for both Councillor Binding and his Husband and shared memories of the time they have spent with him as a friend and colleague as well as an experienced and professional Committee Chair and hardworking Elected Member for the Aber Valley.

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

Councillor Walter Williams presented a petition on behalf of Argoed Residents in objection to the proposed development of all year-round refuge and night shelter at the Argoed Baptist Chapel.

Councillor Andrew Farina-Childs presented a petition on behalf of Blackwood Residents requesting action against anti-social behaviour at Cefn Forest Welfare Park.

Councillor Kevin Etheridge presented a petition requesting action and resources in relation to a Tenancy Enforcement Issue.

The Mayor accepted the petitions which would be actioned in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

4. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Councillor Walter Williams introduced Mr Gerwyn Price, World Darts Champion to Council and outlined his many achievements in recent years, culminating in him winning the World Dart Championship. The Mayor welcomed Mr Price to the meeting and Council formally recognised Mr Price and congratulated him on his fantastic achievement.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor P. Marsden and Councillor S. Morgan declared a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 9 – Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, Connected, Competitive, Resilient -

Presentation in that they are Members of Cardiff Capital Regional Cabinet and Associated Boards.

Councillor A. Whitcombe also declared a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 9 – Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, Connected, Competitive, Resilient – Presentation as he is a Member of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Scrutiny Committee.

6.7.8 MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meetings held on the 24th February 2021, 2nd March 2021 and 18th March 2021 be approved as a correct record and by way of Microsoft Forms this was unanimously agreed.

In relation to the minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd March 2021, Councillor Sean Morgan referred to page 14 and asked if Councillor Fussell and Councillor Mann had the opportunity to review the recording of the meeting referred to in this section of the minutes.

Councillor Mann confirmed that Councillor Fussell was not present at the meeting, however he had reviewed the recording which confirmed Councillor Morgan's version of events and advised that he had spoken to Mr Tranter in this regard. Councillor Mann on behalf of the Plaid Cymry Group offered an apology to Councillor Morgan on this matter.

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved as correct records and signed by the Mayor.

- (1) Special Council held on 24th February 2021
- (2) Council held on 2nd March 2021
- (3) Special Council held on 18th March 2021

9. CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION CITY DEAL – CONNECTED, COMPETITIVE, RESILIENT – PRESENTATION

Councillor P. Marsden, S. Morgan and A. Whitcombe declared personal interest only as such there was no requirement for them to leave the meeting for the consideration of this item.

The Mayor welcomed Kellie Bernie and Frank Holmes from the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal to the meeting and Councillor Philippa Marsden introduced the presentation.

The presentation detailed the progress made by the Cardiff Capital Region over the last four years and its key priorities going forward. Members were advised that quality of life, opportunity and societal impact would be the drivers with economic ambitions matching progressive social policies that would lead the generalised prosperity. The investment and intervention framework and opportunities for collaboration were detailed and funding priorities explained as the region moved from start-up to scale-up.

Governance and partnership structures were outlined, and Members noted how working practices had been transformed speeding up decision making processes. The work of Regional Boards showed a strong balance of business and local leadership with a clear strategy that serves the region. The future investment funds and how they would be best utilised in shaping and creating new markets and opportunities were outlined. Joint venture opportunities and projects were noted, and the successes already achieved like CSC Foundry Ltd, Creo-Plasma Technology and Pharmedelligence were highlighted. Projects already in the pipeline were detailed and it was noted that the wider investment profile would include rural connectivity, digital clinical innovation and a cyber innovation hub. The wider impact of investment projects

like CSC Foundry Ltd were explained and Members were advised that 110 high value jobs had been created as a result, 95% within the Cardiff Capital Region. 545 jobs had been safeguarded and an estimated 956 indirect and induced jobs created.

In terms of the impact for Caerphilly, the Cardiff Capital Region were working with the Council on the Metro Plus Caerphilly Interchange, Valley's Regional Park Discovery Gateway and Housing Viability Gap Fund with 2 sites on the indicative list. The future for Caerphilly included industrial support A465 and M4 Corridor, investment in Med-Tech, Devices and Diagnostics, Housing Innovation, Energy and Carbon Neutrality, Strategy Rail Priorities with priorities for future growth in Research and Development and this was just getting started.

The role of the new Corporate Joint Committees was explained and would provide a new model of regional economic governance. Members reservations on the CJC footprint in terms of collaboration and communication were acknowledged but they had a pivotal role to play working on a different scale and at a regional level. Enabling the already maturing model to optimise structures, develop new funds and programmes and deliver a greater impact by removing barriers and blockages to growth.

In concluding the presentation Members were asked to note the 5 key areas for the next five years and the benefits that acting as a region brought in terms of economic growth and positive outcomes as the City Deal evolved into the City Region with a clear prospectus for change and evolution closing the gap between the least and most deprived communities.

The Chief Executive and the Leader of Council provided a summary of the Caerphilly focus and the approaches that would need to be taken to ensure progress. Members noted the solid footing that the borough already had in terms of manufacturing but there were real gains to be made in Research and Development, Food and Technology. The role that Masterplans such as the Heads of the Valley and Caerphilly Basin, already approved by Council, played in securing sustained funding opportunities was explained. The importance of innovative approaches to investment and development opportunities were outlined and the possible economic gains across the board were summarised. All these factors would ensure both local and regional competitiveness and make Caerphilly County Borough a great place to live, work and enjoy.

Members expressed their thanks for the presentation and clarification was sought in relation to the funds shown for the Metro proposal, which at £15m seemed to be a relatively small amount. It was confirmed that this amount related to the Metro Plus scheme to support local, sustainable transport schemes.

Proposal for electric and hydrogen vehicles were also noted and further information was sought in relation to this. Reference was made to the 'Riversimple' project and the strides being made in this area. It was noted that Siemens were supporting the project which did not look simply at vehicle or infrastructure but at a new model for mobility, furthermore the project provided a fantastic opportunity for Wales to take the lead. Members also noted the opportunities to transform the Council's own fleet of vehicles.

A Member expressed concern in what he perceived, as a lack of an audit trail in relation to European Structural Funding and was worried about accountability. Reassurances were given that the CCR investment framework was constantly scrutinised and reviewed through various avenues include test and challenge processes.

Members expressed their support for the CCR and how it was maturing and the impact that this would have on GVA and wellbeing improvements for the area.

Members noted the jobs created and sought clarification as to whether they were direct or indirect and it was confirmed that both has been secured, the emphasis would be on the quality of the

jobs created not just the quantity. In order to achieve wellbeing impacts then quality job creation would be key not simply a matter of generating job numbers.

Clarification was sought in relation to the role of the private sector and how their involvement would be policed. Assurances were given that extensive due diligence was undertaken, and clear processes were in place regarding regulation and declarations.

The presentation was noted.

10. REVIEW OF SERVICE LEVELS AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF THE PLANNING SERVICE

Consideration was given to the report which reviewed the service delivery and decision making process for the development management and enforcement functions of the Planning Service and sought approval from Council for amendments to the Scheme of Delegation and Member Protocols and size of the Planning Committee.

Members were advised that the report had been considered by Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and Planning Committee and were referred to section 10 of the Officer's report which detailed the comments and concerns raised by those Committee Members.

Reference was made to the number of Enforcement Officers employed by the Authority and what recruitment was being undertaken to improve this. The Member expressed concern that the protocol included 'inappropriate social contact with objectors' which he did not consider to be appropriate and expressed concern about the reference to an attendance of 2 at site meetings. He was also concerned about the proposed reduction in local ward members speaking at Planning Committee which he did not view as fair or reasonable.

The Member felt that the matter should be deferred for the establishment of a working group to consider both the policy and the process in greater detail, with a report coming back to Council in the Autumn.

It was noted that the report before Council had been through the scrutiny process and considered by the Planning Committee which had given the Member in question ample opportunity to make representations on the report and its proposals. In terms of the Enforcement Officers, the recruitment process was underway, and interviews will be held shortly and further to this a Community Infrastructure Levy Officer had been recently appointed. Officers agreed with Members that the right staffing levels were vital to the delivery of an effective planning service and these appointments would secure that.

Assurances were given that there was no change in relation to statutory consultees the proposals sought to manage public expectation and provide clarity on processes. It was noted that inappropriate social contact already formed part of the Council's constitution so there was no change there. The limit of 2 attendees referred to Officer site meetings and not Planning Committee formal site meetings, Local Ward Members would be encouraged to attend those along with Members of the Planning Committee. The proposals for Planning Committee speakers would help to eliminate repetition and did not impact on the ability of Members from the same ward with opposing views from addressing the committee.

A Members sought clarification in relation to the recommendation from the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee that recommendation 3.1(d) be removed and if this was being considered now or had been disregarded. The Member was advised that when recommendation 3.1(d) was considered by the Planning Committee they had agreed that it should be retained but there was a need to ensure Members ability to call forward smaller applications that had ward importance therefore they proposed an alternative wording be added

to the scheme of delegation to ensure this and it was this rewording as detailed on page 37 of the agenda pack being presented for Council's approval.

The Member queried if this was the case should the comments of the Planning Committee been brought back to the Scrutiny Committee for them to reconsider. The Chair of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Member advised that they did not see any reason for this, Scrutiny Members concerns had been that the scheme before them would prevent local ward member bringing smaller applications to committee, this was now possible due to the rewording proposed so he did not see any difference with the outcome the Scrutiny Committee wanted to achieve.

Members debated committee membership and Independent Party representation; an Independent Member expressed his willingness to take up the seat on the Planning Committee currently prohibited by political balance rules. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that a report on the political balance would be presented to the Annual Meeting of Council.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained within the Officer's report be approved and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting there were 45 For, 8 Against and 3 Abstentions this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) The output driven service delivery model proposed for the development management and enforcement function, with a focus on the delivery of its statutory obligations, frontloading, further commercialisation and the delivery of major and strategically significant schemes underpinned by the introduction of a new Wellbeing local performance indicator be endorsed;
- b) Amendments to the Enforcement Charter be endorsed;
- c) Changes to the Planning Committee structure with a reduction from 20 to 16 Members be approved;
- d) Changes to the Scheme of Delegation to provide Planning Committee with a more strategic role and focus be approved;
- e) The Non-Planning Committee Member Protocol for Ward Members be approved.

11. WELSH GOVERNMENT RETAIL, LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY RATE RELIEF SCHEME 2021/22

The Mayor confirmed that the report was considered as an urgent item by Cabinet 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.

12. WELSH GOVERNMENT STRATEGY SITES PROGRAMME – OPPORTUNITES FOR NESS TAR, CAERPHILLY.

The Mayor confirmed that the report was considered as an urgent exempt item by Cabinet 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 requested an opportunity to ask questions on the report, due to the exempt nature of its content, the Monitoring Officer advised that the Public Interest Test would first need to be considered and approved to allow discussion to take place without the press and public being present.

EXEMPT MATTER

Members considered the public interest test certificate from the Proper Officer and concluded that on balance the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure to them of exempt information as identified in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members questions were taken, and points of clarification provided, following which the report was noted.

The meeting closed at 19:50pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 1st June 2021 they were signed by the Mayor.

MAYOR

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COUNCIL – 1ST JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER OF COUNCIL

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the report and make an appropriate recommendation.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor Kevin Etheridge and is supported by Councillors R. Gough, G. Simmonds, A. Farina-Childs and R. Owen and N. Dix.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure is referred to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee prior to its consideration by Council

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council are asked to consider the Notice of Motion as outlined in paragraph 5.1 and make an appropriate recommendation.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 Notice of Motion

Councillor Etheridge requests in his notice of motion that a definition of the appropriate rule where a question to the Leader at Full Council with a supplementary question on policy is refused by Officers and the Leader. And is then told it must be tabled to the Cabinet Member only without a supplementary question (reference to Rule 10, Council Procedural Rules).

10 (2) A member of the Council may ask the Leader any question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the area of the council or any part of it or the inhabitants of the area or any part of it if at least five clear working days' notice in writing of the question has been given to the Chief Executive.

We call on the Council to ensure in the future elected members are allowed to table questions to the Leader and ask a supplementary question without recourse to the Cabinet Member as defined in the above rule.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter and must be dealt with in accordance with Council's Constitution, no assumptions have been made.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This report does not require an Integrated Impact Assessment as it relates to a procedural matter under the Councils Constitution.
- 7.2 The procedural rules regarding a Notice of Motion are contained within Council's Constitution as adopted in May 2002. The Council's Constitution sets out the framework for the decision-making roles and responsibilities.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 The notice of motion will be considered by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 25th May 2021. Due to publication deadlines the views of the Scrutiny Committee will be reported verbally to Council.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Emma Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Appendices: Appendix 1 Signed copy of Notice of Motion.

NOTICE OF MOTION – QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER OF COUNCIL

To consider the undersigned Notice of Motion standing in the name of County Borough Councillor Kevin Etheridge and supported by the Members listed.

We the undersigned elected members request a definition of the appropriate rule where a question to the Leader at Full Council with a supplementary question on policy is refused by Officers and the Leader. And is then told it must be tabled to the Cabinet Member only without a supplementary question (reference to Rule 10 Council Procedural Rules).

(2) A member of the Council may ask the Leader any question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the area of the council or any part of it or the inhabitants of the area or any part of it if at least five clear working days' notice in writing of the question has been given to the Chief Executive.

We call on the Council to ensure in the future elected members are allowed to table questions to the Leader and ask a supplementary question without recourse to the Cabinet Member as defined in the above rule.

Signed:

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the councillor.

Cllr Kevin Etheridge

Confirmation of support sent by email: Cllr N. Dix, Robert Gough, Cllr Graham Simmonds, Cllr Andrew Farina Childs and Cllr Robert Owen.

March 1st 2021

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COUNCIL – 1ST JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – POTENTIAL BOOKING SYSTEM FOR RE-CYCLING SITES

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the report and make an appropriate recommendation. In accordance with Rule 11(3) of the Constitution.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor Kevin Etheridge and is supported by Councillors R. Gough, G. Simmonds, N. Dix, A. Farina-Childs, R. Owen and C. Mann.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure was referred to the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee prior to its consideration by Council.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council are asked to consider the notice of motion as outlined in paragraph 5.1 and make an appropriate recommendation

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5. THE REPORT

5.1 Notice of Motion

Councillor Etheridge requests that following the consultation and engagement exercise concerning a potential booking system for the re-cycling sites request the matter is brought before FULL Council for a discussion, debate and vote on the

merits of such a scheme with the relevant evidence from other authorities in a detailed report.

- 5.2 The decision on whether to adopt a booking system at the council's civic amenity sites would be an Officer Delegated Decision or for the Cabinet to make.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter and must be dealt with in accordance with Council's Constitution, no assumptions have been made.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 This report does not require an Integrated Impact Assessment as it relates to a procedural matter under the Councils Constitution.
- 7.2 The procedural rules regarding a Notice of Motion are contained within Council's Constitution as adopted in May 2002. The Council's Constitution sets out the framework for the decision-making roles and responsibilities.
- 7.3 However, the outcome of the Notice of Motion and any subsequent reports arising from it, may require an Integrated Impact Assessment.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 The notice of motion was considered by the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee and its meeting on the 18th May 2021.
- 10.2 Prior to the consideration of the formal notice of motion, a motion was moved and seconded that the forthcoming report on the proposed Booking System for Recycling Sites be added to the forward work programme for the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee to ensure that its Members have an opportunity to scrutinise the outcome of the consultation process and the proposed booking system prior to its consideration by Cabinet and by way of a roll call this was unanimously agreed.
- 10.2 Having considered the notice of motion the Scrutiny Committee agreed that the notice of motion now be considered by Council and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting there was 1 Against and 1 Abstention this was agreed by majority present.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Emma Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Appendices: Appendix 1 Signed copy of Notice of Motion.

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NOTICE OF MOTION – POTENTIAL BOOKING SYSTEM FOR RE-CYCLING CENTRES

To consider the undersigned Notice of Motion standing in the name of County Borough
Councillor Kevin Etheridge and supported by the Members listed.

We the undersigned elected members following the consultation and engagement exercise concerning a potential booking system for the re-cycling sites request the matter is brought before FULL Council for a discussion, debate and vote on the merits of such a scheme with the relevant evidence from other authorities in a detailed report.

Signed:

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Cllr Kevin Etheridge.

Cllr Kevin Etheridge

Confirmation of support sent by email: Cllr Robert Gough, Cllr Graham Simmonds, Cllr Andrew Farina Childs, Cllr Robert Owen, Cllr N. Dix and Cllr Colin Mann.

31st March 2021

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COUNCIL – 1ST JUNE 2021

SUBJECT: ADOPTED CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2021: REVIEW REPORT

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report to Council the outcome of the consultation on the Draft Review Report and to obtain Council endorsement of the amended Review Report and agreement to submit it to Welsh Government as the Council's formal Review Report.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council resolved to commence a full revision of the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted LDP) at the Council meeting held on 23 October 2019.
- 2.2 The LDP Regulations require that a Review Report be prepared by the Council that needs to consider:
- 1 How the plan strategy, aims and objectives are being delivered;
 - 2 Any significant changes in circumstances brought about by changes to the evidence base or contextual framework;
 - 3 How the policy framework and allocations in the plan are being delivered;
 - 4 The 6 Annual Monitoring Reports [AMR]; and
 - 5 Whether a revision of the plan is necessary and what options for the revision should be taken.
- 2.3 It is a requirement for the Council to consult their stakeholders in the preparation of the Review Report and therefore the Draft Review Report was the subject of a 3-week consultation process starting on the 24 February 2020 which concluded on 16 March 2020.
- 2.4 A total of 16 submissions were received that raised 50 substantive comments, 9 of which were in support. Amendments have been made to the Draft Review Report and this report seeks the Council's endorsement of the Final Review Report and agreement to submit it to Welsh Government in accordance with the LDP

Regulations.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Council endorses the amended Review Report and agrees for its submission to Welsh Government.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To comply with the requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Planning) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 As members will be aware the Council resolved to commence a full review of the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP) in October 2018. Regulation 41 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended) [LDP Regs] requires that a local planning authority [LPA] must prepare and approve a Review Report following a decision by the Council to commence a review of the LDP.

- 5.2 The purpose of the Review Report is to set out the reasons for taking the decision to review the plan and the justification for what form the review of the plan would take. In addition, the Review Report is required to consider:

- The plan strategy, its aims and objectives;
- Any significant changes in circumstances brought about by changes to the evidence base or contextual framework;
- The policy framework and allocations in the plan;
- The 6 Annual Monitoring Reports [AMR]; and
- The options for undertaking a revision to the plan.

- 5.3 It is a requirement for the Council to consult with stakeholders in the preparation of their Review Report, although there is no prescribed format or duration for the process. On 12 February 2020 the Council resolved to consult on the Draft Review Report for a three-week period from 24 February 2020 to 16 March 2020.

Public Consultation

- 5.4 The public Consultation was publicised on the following ways:
- Letters or emails were sent directly to the Specific and General Consultation Bodies (set out in the Delivery Agreement), which include Welsh Government, Natural Resources Wales, our PSB partners, Cadw the CCR authorities, local & neighbouring community and town councils and other stakeholders.
 - The consultation was placed on the LDP consultation web page and received 57 page views/hits

- The Council's Communications Team published a news story on the Council's website ("Land use blueprint under review") that received 666 page views/hits. Further to this links to the news story were placed on the CCBC Facebook page that reached 3589 followers.
 - The Council's Communications Team published a second news story on the Council's website ("Local Development Plan Consultation") that received 360 page views/hits. Further to this links to this news story were placed on the CCBC Facebook page that reached 5481 followers.
 - All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page.
- 5.5 Following the consultation on the Draft Review Report the first Covid lockdown was imposed and progress on the Review Report was stalled to reflect the situation. It was intended to run the Review Report and the Delivery Agreement processes together and submit them at the same time to Welsh Government as they are both part of the initial phase of the LDP preparation process. However, the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation had only just started when the Covid Lockdown was implemented and that meant the consultation on the Draft Delivery Agreement had to be abandoned. Due to the rapidly changes circumstance surrounding Covid, the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation was held in Abeyance until 25 January 2021.
- 5.7 As a result of the consultation 16 submissions were made in respect of the Draft Review Report. These submissions raised 50 substantive comments, 9 of which were in support. These comments are summarised in the Report of Consultation on the Draft Review Report which is attached as Appendix 1.
- 5.8 The Report of Consultation summarises the issues raised as part of the consultation, provides an officer response to the issues and recommends a course of action in respect of each of the issues. A large number of the issues related to the proposed policy content of the 2nd Replacement LDP. The Review Report is not the vehicle for considering the policy content of the emerging plan and, as such these issues did not give rise to any changes to the Draft Review Report.
- 5.9 Of those issues that addressed the content of the Review Report two amendments are proposed relating to the issue of Area Assessments in respect of Green Infrastructure. It should also be noted that, due to the legislative and background changes that took place since the consultation on the Draft Review Report, the report required changes to update the factual content to reflect the current position for the emerging LDP. A summary list of changes to the Draft Review Report are set out in Section 5 of the Report of Consultation (Appendix 1). The amended version of the Review Report is also attached to this report as Appendix 2.
- 5.10 Whilst not directly relating to the content of the Review Report, one of the main issues raised related to the commencement of the LDP review before work had commenced on the Strategic Development Plan. The reasons for undertaking the immediate review of the LDP are set out in the Council Report that was considered and agreed by Full Council in October 2019. There are 3 tiers to the complete development plan system in Wales, namely the National Development Framework at national level (Future Wales), the Strategic Development Plan at regional level and the LDP at local authority level. As part of their preparation a lower tier plan must be in general conformity with the tiers above it, so in this way the SDP needs to be in general conformity with Future Wales and the LDP needs to be in general conformity

with both the SDP and Future Wales.

- 5.11 As Future Wales was published in February 2021, the LDP will need to ensure it is in general conformity with it. Work has yet to commence on the SDP and it is highly unlikely that work on the SDP will be concluded before the emerging LDP is adopted. Consequently, conformity with the SDP is unlikely to be an issue for the emerging LDP. However, the emerging content of the SDP will be taken into account in the preparation of the LDP to ensure that the LDP is, as far as is possible, in conformity with the emerging SDP. In doing so it is hoped that the emerging LDP will be in general conformity with the SDP when it is adopted, and this will ensure that the LDP would not need to be reviewed immediately after the adoption of the SDP.
- 5.12 The Review Report, once agreed by Council, is required to be submitted to Welsh Government to satisfy the requirements of the LDP Regulations.

Conclusion

- 5.13 The Council resolved to commence a full review of the LDP in October 2019.
- 5.14 The Draft Review Report was prepared and was the subject of a 3-week consultation period from 24th February to 16th March 2020. As a result of the consultation 16 submissions raising 50 issues were received. The issues are addressed in the Report of Consultation on the Draft Review Report (Appendix 1)
- 5.15 Due to the impacts of the Covid lockdown and the cancellation of the initial consultation on the Draft Delivery Agreement, progress on the Review Report had been held in abeyance. Consultation on the Draft Delivery Agreement was commenced in January 2021 and progress on the Review Report was restarted.
- 5.16 Amendments have been made to the Draft Review Report as a result of the issues raised during consultation and to reflect changing circumstances since the Draft Review Report was prepared. The amended Review Report is included as Appendix 2 to the report and it is this document that the report seeks the members endorsement on. Following endorsement from Council the Review Report will be submitted to Welsh Government in accordance with the LDP Regulations.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 No assumptions have been made in respect of this report.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The Review Report is a factual document that sets out what a replacement plan will need to address as part of its preparation. The Review Report does not contain any actions, policies or proposals that could give rise to the potential for adverse impact on any of the IIA.
- 7.2 The Review Report references the relevant parts of the IIA as matters that the emerging LDP will need to take into account through its preparation, as well as identifying the requirement for the emerging plan to be the subject of an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA).
- 7.3 The Review Report was the subject of consultation and changes to the report have been made in respect of the submissions received. Documents were made available

on the website and as hard copy on request in both Welsh and English.

7.4 Overall the Review Report does not give rise to any issues in respect of the IIA.

Link to full Integrated Impact Assessment

https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyDocs/IIA/IIA_ReviewReportAdoption_Mar2021

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from the report.

8.2 The Council resolved in October 2019 that budgetary provision be made available where necessary to fund the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Local Development Plan.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 All responses from consultees have been incorporated into this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 require the Council to prepare, and keep under review, a development plan to act as a single framework for the control and use of land within its administrative boundary.

11.2 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Town and Country Planning (Local development Plan) (Wales) Regulations require the Council to prepare, consult on and submit Welsh Government a Review Report following the Council decision to commence a Review of the Adopted LDP.

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Consultees: Cllr Sean Morgan, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise
Cllr Roy Saralis, Chair of Planning Committee
Cllr Andrew Whitcombe, Chair of Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Christine Forehead, Vice-Chair of Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Christina Harrhy, Chief Executive
Mark S Williams, Corporate Director for Economy and Environment

Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning & Strategy
Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration and Planning
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property Services
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer
Kath Peters, Corporate Policy Manager
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer, Equalities, Welsh Language and Consultation
Ryan Thomas, Planning Services Manager
Dave Lucas, Team Leader, Strategic Planning

Background Papers:

None

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 – Draft Review Report – Report of Consultation
- Appendix 2 Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 – Review Report

Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan Up To 2021

Draft Review Report

Report of Consultation

March 2021

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Glossary of Terms

Adopted LDP	Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021
LDP Regs	The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended)
LPA.....	Local Planning Authority
2RLDP	2 nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035
RLDP	Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (Withdrawn)
SDP	Strategic Development Plan
NDF	National Development Framework
FW2040	Future Wales 2040
LDP.....	Local Development Plan
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
WWDC.....	Welsh Water Dŵr Cymru
PWA 2015.....	Planning Wales Act 2015

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 [Adopted LDP] was formally adopted on 23 November 2010. In October 2018 the Council resolved to commence the preparation of the second revision to the Adopted LDP. Regulation 41 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended) [LDP Regs] requires that a local planning authority [LPA] must prepare and approve a Review Report following a decision by the Council to commence a review of the Adopted LDP.
- 1.2 A Review Report will need to consider:
- The plan strategy, its aims and objectives;
 - Any significant changes in circumstances brought about by changes to the evidence base or contextual framework;
 - The policy framework and allocations in the plan;
 - The 6 Annual Monitoring Reports [AMR]; and
 - The options for undertaking a revision to the plan.
- 1.3 It is a requirement for the LPA to consult their stakeholders in the preparation of their Review Report, although there is no prescribed format or duration for that consultation. To comply with this requirement, at its meeting held on 12 February 2020 the Council resolved to publish the Draft Review Report for consultation. Given the exacting requirement to prepare an LDP within three and a half years and in order to programme the necessary work for the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 [2RLDP], taking account of local and national election periods, the decision was taken to undertake a 3-week consultation period on the Draft Review Report.

2. The Consultation

- 2.1 The Draft Review Report was published for comment on 24 February 2020. Due to the restrictions at that time the Review Report was the subject of a 3-week consultation period, which concluded on 16 March 2020.
- 2.2 Unfortunately, due to the restrictions applied due to the Covid pandemic, it was not possible to use the more usual forms of publicising such consultations, including holding exhibitions and using promotional posters and leaflets. Consequently, in order to publicise the consultation all specific and general consultees were formally consulted, and the Draft Review Report was publicised through the Council's website and social media channels.
- 2.3 As a result of the consultation a total of 16 submissions were received that raised a total of 50 substantive comments, 9 of which were in support. These comments are set out in Appendix 1 to this document along with the officer's view in respect of the comments and the proposed action in respect of each comment. A summary of the principal issues raised, and any changes proposed to be made to the Draft Review Report, are set out in Section 2 below.
- 2.4 Following the consultation on the Review Report the first Covid lockdown was imposed and progress on the Review Report was stalled to reflect the situation. It was intended to run the Review Report and the Delivery Agreement processes together and submit them at the same time to Welsh Government as they are both part of the initial phase of the LDP preparation process. However, the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation had only just

started when the Covid Lockdown was implemented and that meant the consultation of the Draft Delivery Agreement had to be abandoned. Due to the rapidly changes circumstance surrounding Covid, the Draft Delivery Agreement consultation was held in Abeyance until 25 January 2021. Following that consultation work on the final Review Report was recommenced.

- 2.5 The Review Report, as amended, along with the Report of Consultation will be reported to Council on June 1st 2021 for it's a resolution to approve the amended Review Report and its agreement to submit the agreed Review Report to Welsh Government in accordance with the LDP Regulations.

3. Recommended and Consequential Changes

- 3.1 Whilst the majority of comments raised as part of the consultation do not give rise to any changes in the Review Report, there are two changes that are being proposed to be made to the Review Report and these are set out below.

- 3.2 The first proposed change is to amend paragraph 2.16 to read as follows:

- “The Environment Act places a duty on Natural Resources Wales to prepare area statements for the whole of Wales that will facilitate the implementation of national natural resources policy. The area statement will comprise an important element of the evidence base that will underpin the revised LDP”.

- 3.3 The second proposed change is to amend paragraph 4.97 of the Review Report to read as follows:

- “The Environment Act sets out a biodiversity duty for local authorities that must be considered throughout the LDP. This will be underpinned by Area Statements that are required to be prepared by NRW.”

- 3.4 The Review Report also includes a number of changes that address factual updates that have been made as a result of changes to, or the introduction of new, legislation and guidance. Changes have also been made to reflect the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic restrictions on LDP preparation. Appendix 1 sets out the full list of Draft Review Report paragraphs that have been amended with a summary of the change.

4. Consultation Responses

General Issues

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
1 This is not user friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	No details or examples or explanation of how the Draft Review Report has been put forward. Consequently, it is not possible to address any specific issues in this respect.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
2 Overall the report seems fair and reasonable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	No response required.	The support and comments are noted.
3 The LDP review should not take place until the SDP is in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can Caerphilly possibly ensure this second Replacement LDP will not conflict with the eventual SDP? There will be an overallocation of housing in the region as it is very likely that LAs in the SDP area will continue to compete for housing development, and the cumulative total will be more than the SDP area needs. Won't the 42,000 new housing units proposed in NW Cardiff cater for the SDP? Only executive houses will be built, not homes for the county boroughs younger people. 	<p>The Welsh planning system is based upon the principle of relevant and up-to-date development plans..</p> <p>It is essential that a review of the LDP is undertaken to prepare a replacement LDP that will be based on up-to-date evidence and will provide a robust basis for making development decisions. The reasons for this are set out in Paragraphs 5.2 to 5.11 of the Draft Review Report.</p> <p>A key consideration for the 2nd Replacement LDP will be to ensure that it is in general conformity with the emerging SDP once its preparation has commenced.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
4 Annual monitoring is accepted as a necessity, but its requirements are inadequate. The	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	It is a statutory requirement that all Adopted LDPs are reviewed every 4 years, so are subject to regular review. In addition to this, adopted plans are the subject of annual monitoring that considers whether the plan is	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
plans are too rigid and should be subject to regular review.		<p>being implemented appropriately and, if not, can recommend that a review is undertaken.</p> <p>The 2nd Replacement LDP will need to be sufficiently flexible to adapt to changing circumstances and an element of flexibility will need to be built in. However, the plan also needs to provide certainty for residents and developers so it cannot be too flexible so that it provides no certainty.</p>	
5 Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water have no specific comments to make on the Review Report but look forward to working with you as progress work on the LDP2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None given 	The Council welcomes the intention of WWDC to work with the council through the preparation of the revised LDP.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
6 Further Guidance on how the development management decisions between January 2022 and the adoption of the Replacement LDP is requested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To capture development and investment further guidance on how development management decisions will be made between January 2022 and Spring 2024 is required. 	<p>It is noted that this comment was submitted prior to the Welsh Government Letter dated 24 September 2020 that removed the drop-dead date for existing LDPs.</p> <p>The removal of the drop-dead date for the Adopted LDP means that the main policy framework, which the Annual Monitoring Frameworks found to be delivering, would remain in force after 2021 and so that forms the basis for decision making until the revised LDP is adopted.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
7 Sustainable Development should come forward prior to the adoption of the Replacement LDP.	The deletion of TAN 1 and the proposal to consider housing delivery against a trajectory will require proposals to be positively determined before the emerging Replacement LDP has been published.	It is acknowledged that sites will need to come forward to meet the needs of the county borough during the revised LDP preparation period. However, this is not a matter for the Review Report as it is a	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South Wales Metro proposals for Nelson, Crumlin, Blackwood and Ystrad Mynach will stimulate investment that can be captured upfront. • In the near future developments can be delivered that contribute to the enhancement of sustainable places (PPW10), that would not alter the thrust of the Replacement LDP at Maesycwmmmer, Wattsville, Oakdale and Croespenmaen. • Pre app consultation at Wattsville (CBC ref SPA/17/0076) and Penmaen, Oakdale (CBC ref SPA/18/0049) has been positive. • PPW 10 is clear that its primary Objectives are to ensure that the planning system contributes positively towards the delivery of sustainable development and improves the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. To do this PPW 10 is clear that this is done by taking action. • The NDF Spatial Strategy identifies growth in the South East Region should primarily be focussed in Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys. The Valleys includes Caerphilly County Borough. 	<p>detailed planning matter that will take place during the period of plan preparation rather than inform the content of the LDP.</p>	
<p>8 The overall aim must be to have a plan in place as soon as</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a commitment by the constituent authorities to complete an SDP for South East Wales. The timeframe for an SDP to 	<p>It is correct that the 10 south east Wales authorities were committed to progressing an SDP, to the point that 8 of the 10 authorities</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
possible after the current plan expires.	<p>be set in place prior to completing a replacement LDP is out of kilter with a well-functioning plan led system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint LDPs would add an unnecessary complication to the strategic and local planning hierarchy. Not all local authorities are undertaking LDP reviews and understandably authorities that are undertaking reviews are at different stages. 	<p>already had council approval to commit to it. This work will now be progressed under the auspices of the Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) when it is introduced via the Local Government and Elections Bill.</p> <p>Whilst this is accepted it is inappropriate to include this in the Review Report as it deals with the SDP rather than the revision of the LDP.</p>	
9 Whilst the Replacement LDP is being prepared sites at Maesycwmmmer can be brought forward to address the housing requirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowners were fully engaged in the first replacement LDP working in conjunction with Caerphilly Borough Council on the proposal for a mixed-use development at Maesycwmmmer known as Parc Gwernau. There are existing permissions on sites that can be delivered, and further sites can be brought forward. 	<p>There are no restrictions on developers bringing forward sites for planning permission at any time, including the period of preparation for the revised LDP.</p> <p>However, this is a detailed matter for the development management system and is not appropriate for inclusion in the Review Report.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
10 The next LDP should reflect provisions in, and dovetail with, the wider Strategic Development Plan (SDP) to which Caerphilly County Borough is party.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>It is a statutory requirement for the LDP to be in general conformity with the SDP when it is Adopted, as set out in paragraph 2.25.</p> <p>Once the SDP is Adopted all LDPs will need to be the subject of review to determine whether they need to be amended to be in general conformity with the SDP. If an Adopted LDP does need to be amended there is a short form procedure for the LDP revision (termed LDP Lite).</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
11 Await with interest the outcome of the Welsh Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This would have a significant effect on housing delivery in the replacement LDP, which must also align with the 	<p>Since this comment was submitted TAN 1 has now been rescinded in its totality. In addition, PPW has been amended to reflect</p>	The Review Report includes a number of changes that address

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
consultation to revoke TAN 1 and monitor housing delivery as opposed to housing land supply and would support its implementation if Welsh Government decides to proceed.	regionalisation agenda in terms of the Valleys Taskforce, Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, and the South East Wales Metro. We must have a more balanced and sustainable approach to housing and jobs in Caerphilly.	the new trajectory method of monitoring housing delivery. This was not set out in the Review Report as the changes happened since it was published for comment.	factual updates that have been made as a result of changes to, or the introduction of new, legislation and guidance. This issue is covered in these changes.
12 The fact that CCBC would not have an over-arching Strategy document does not mean that it cannot take individual decisions that are mindful of the over-arching principles behind all of the aforementioned legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>This comment has been made before the Welsh Government Ministers letter of 24th September 2020 that removed the drop-dead dates for existing LDPs.</p> <p>The commenter is correct that the Council should still make development decisions in the absence of an overarching policy framework based on national legislation and guidance.</p> <p>The Minister’s letter removed the drop-dead date for the LDP, which means that the Policy Framework, which the AMRs have found to generally be delivering well, remains in force to inform decision making.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Comments Relating to the Review Report

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
13 Support the 5th and 6th bullet points in AMR Recommendation R3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the uncertainties surrounding housebuilding, it is not contended that no new housing is necessary in Caerphilly, as there is a need for local 	No response required.	The support is noted.

	residents needing different accommodation.		
14 Fully support the 2019 AMR Recommendation 3 and first bullet point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	No response required.	The support be noted.
15 The Recommendation in Para 1.18 is not evidenced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wording in paragraph 1.17 is vague and does not support the conclusion. 	The 12 paragraphs preceding para 1.18 plainly set out the position in respect of the LDP, i.e. that following the withdrawal of the Replacement LDP, the Council focussed on the early preparation of the SDP. As that requirement has now been met the consistent recommendation set out in the AMRs since 2013 applies, that the LDP needs to be subject of a full review. As such the recommendation in paragraph 1.18 is clearly and logically evidenced.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
16 The Draft Review Report points out, the wider policy framework and legislative landscape has changed significantly since the adoption of the current LDP. Significant pieces of legislation such as the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 will improve our policies in the long-term and the next LDP should reflect this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	The purpose of the Review Report is to set out the broad requirements and actions that will need to be taken as part of the preparation of the LDP. The Review Report includes paragraphs relating to both the Planning Act and the Well-Being Act and it is considered that this issue is already adequately covered.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
17 Section 2.16 – With regard to the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 places a duty on NRW to prepare and 	Section 2 of the Review Report sets out the broad issues that will need to be considered	That a new paragraph be included after

<p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016, mention should also be made of Area Statements</p>	<p>publish area statements ‘...for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the national natural resources policy’. Area statements will help coordinate the work of NRW, Local Authorities and others (including the delivery of LDPs), to build the resilience of our ecosystems and enhance the benefits they provide including economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being outcomes for Wales.</p>	<p>as part of the LDP preparation process. It would be too onerous, and unnecessary, to set out every single issue that needs to be considered during plan preparation in the Review Report, as this would make the Report overly long and complicated.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the Area Statements would be an important element of the database and should be referenced in the Review Report.</p>	<p>paragraph 2.16 to read as follows:</p> <p>“The Environment Act places a duty on Natural Resources Wales to prepare area statements for the whole of Wales that will facilitate the implementation of national natural resources policy. The area statement will comprise an important element of the evidence base that will underpin the revised LDP”.</p>
<p>18 2.16 of the Review Report should fully quote the Section 6 Duty that the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 places on Public Bodies including Caerphilly CBC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem resilience must be considered as part of an LDP review, as it is integral to the utilisation of ecosystem services derived from the landscape. • Environmental considerations need to be considered more strongly in a long-term development plan and I would recommend stronger links with NRW in regard to their South East Wales Area Statement. 	<p>The purpose of the Review Report is to outline the relevant guidance, legislation and requirements that the revised LDP will need to consider as part of its preparation. It is not the purpose of the Review Report to duplicate the requirements from the legislation and guidance, as this would make the Review Report overly long and arduous to read. Consequently, it is appropriate for the Review Report to just identify where the requirements are set out.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>19 Welcome the sustainability and environmental protection provisions in these Acts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on greenfield areas cannot possibly be consistent with the wellbeing of future generations and biodiversity. 	<p>The contention that building on greenfield land is not consistent with the Well-being Act is not correct.</p> <p>The provision of jobs and houses for people to live in are also a major part of well-being</p>	<p>The support is noted</p>

		<p>and their provision is enshrined in the Well-being Act. To provide the jobs and housing that are central to a person’s well-being will require an element of greenfield development, because there is insufficient brownfield land to accommodate the requirement and all of the supporting services and infrastructure that accompanies them.</p> <p>The premise that greenfield land should not be developed but brownfield land should, is a flawed position. Notwithstanding that the need to deliver jobs, housing and many services that support these (such as doctor surgeries) will require an element of greenfield land development, this issue revolves around the sustainability of the land, rather than whether it has been built on previously. All local planning authorities are required to deliver sustainable development. It is often perceived that sustainable development is development that is most ecologically friendly. This is an incorrect position also. Sustainable Development is defined by the interaction of 4 equally weighted factors, namely ecological, economic, social and cultural. To judge the sustainability of development solely against ecological considerations is contrary to sustainable development, not in accordance with it. It is the interaction of the four factors that provide the overall improvement in well-being.</p> <p>From an ecological point of view the principle of protecting greenfield land and developing</p>	
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		<p>brownfield land is also flawed. Some brownfield sites within the county borough contain some of the best and most diverse habitats the county borough has to offer. The premise that greenfield land should not be developed would require that these brownfield sites would need to be developed, which could severely compromise the ecological value of the site. By contrast some greenfield land, such as improved grassland (which is often associated with agriculture) has little if any ecological value. To protect such land over valuable ecological habitat that brownfield sites provide, would not only be unsustainable, but would also be unacceptable from an ecological perspective.</p>		
20	<p>Pleased to see the significance of the legislative changes considered in 2.19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None given. 	<p>No response required</p>	<p>The support is noted</p>
21	<p>The review of the LDP should be considered as 'future action' as referred to in 2.19 and there needs to comply with all relevant legislation in existence at present. To suggest that new legislation cannot influence past plans and proposals in this way would be to make a mockery of new legislation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None given. 	<p>New legislation cannot be retrospectively applied to the Adopted LDP because it has been Adopted and cannot be changed other than going through a full review as it currently is. Consequently, new legislation cannot influence an Adopted plan.</p> <p>It is agreed that the new legislation and guidance will definitely influence the revised plan, as the plan will need to be prepped in accordance with it, and this is what the Review Report sets out.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
22	<p>Planning for Climate Change, 2010 and A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Resources Policy, 2017, calls for an increase in renewable energy 	<p>The commenter has misinterpreted paragraph 2.75. The paragraph states, "the</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>

<p>Low Carbon Revolution - The WAG Energy Policy Statement, 2010, are clearly also relevant (2.21) as is Planning Policy Wales, 2018 (paragraph 2.30).</p>	<p>and resource efficiency. If paragraph 2.74 means that the LDP going forward does not need to take account of the aforementioned legislation, then this would be not only us democratic but unlawful.</p>	<p>changes have not directly affected the <u>existing policy framework</u>” and this is the reason that a change is not required.</p> <p>The paragraph does not say that the new and revised legislation and guidance should not be considered as part of the preparation of the revised LDP. In fact, that is the purpose of the Review Report, to set out the key elements that will need to be considered in producing the revised LDP. The Review Report addresses the changes to legislation and guidance, so this issue is appropriately addressed.</p>	
<p>23 Section 2.34 – We advise further detail is added in respect of Area Statements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area Statements contribute to implementing the Natural Resources Policy in a local context, taking a place-based approach. The South East Area Statement (AS), which includes Caerphilly County Borough, will be available in April 2020. In accordance with the provisions of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the Deposit Plan must have regard to this AS. 	<p>Area statements are already referenced in this paragraph, although its specific actions are not set out. However, this is the same for many of the documents set out in the Review Report. The Review Report should set out the broad requirements for the LDP revision otherwise the Report will become unnecessarily long and onerous. As it stands it is considered that the reference to the Area Statements and their role is sufficient for the Review Report’s purposes.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>24 Most important for Caerphilly County Borough are the amendment to Technical Advice Note (TAN) 1, whereby Paragraph 6.2 has been dis-applied.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This means that less weight will not have to be attributed to the lack of a 5-year land supply in all planning applications (namely those for residential housing), and that the local planning authority itself can apply its own determination. 	<p>Since this comment was submitted TAN 1 has now been rescinded in its totality. In addition, PPW has been amended to reflect the new trajectory method of monitoring housing delivery. This was not set out in the Review Report as the changes happened since it was published for comment.</p>	<p>The Review Report includes a number of changes that address factual updates that have been made as a result of changes to, or the introduction of new, legislation and guidance. This issue is covered in these</p>

			changes.
25 2.75 - 2.77 The three conclusions seem to us to be slightly conflicted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two suggest no policy change necessary, the third indicates changes will be necessary in the future. This is not clear. 	<p>The recommendations are not conflicting.</p> <p>The first states that no changes are required arising directly from legislative changes.</p> <p>The second that no changes are required as a result of the introduction of the Well-being Act</p> <p>The third recommendation notes that, due to the significant changes in circumstances generally, including the LDP approaching the end of its plan period, that a review of the Adopted LDP is required.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
26 Challenge the conclusion in 2.76.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LDP can set the arena for true sustainable management of resources and landscapes that enables human health and well-being. 	<p>There is nothing incorrect in the conclusion at paragraph 2.76. It is accepted that the revision to the LDP will need to take account of the Well-being act and its provisions. However, the conclusion states that the Act does not apply to the content of the Adopted LDP, i.e. it is not retrospective, and this is also correct.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
27 I would just question whether para 3.9, which states that the Council does not have the <u>required</u> 5-year supply of housing land is a little misleading in the light of para 2.40 and 2.41 on changes in guidance from Welsh Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>Paragraph 3.9 is part of a summary of the 2019 Annual Monitoring Report, which monitors how the adopted LDP is being implemented. It is not a commentary on the current position.</p> <p>The paragraphs 2.40 and 2.41 set out the current position and as such the two statements may appear to be misleading, but they are taken from different timeframes and perspectives, and both are correct.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
28 Fully support as per Para 4.6 that the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure places remain sustainable and jobs are filled homes for 	No response required.	The support is noted.

<p>Replacement LDP must be based on all sources of evidence rather than relying solely on the latest Welsh Government projections to determine household formation and therefore the number of homes required.</p>	<p>economically active persons with children aged 15 and under are required. If homes to accommodate economically active aren't delivered there will be a significant decrease in the working age population.</p>		
<p>29 the text in section 4.48 is amended, to confirm that the status and quality of the European and national sites will also be considered as part of the plan review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rationale for concluding in this section that 'Both the European and national sites...have no evidence base implications for the plan review' is not clear. We would have expected to see a similar conclusion here as that given in the following paragraph regarding SINCS i.e. 'A review of the status and quality of sites will need to be undertaken to inform any review of the plan.' 	<p>The issue here is that European and national nature conservation designations are designated and modified by other legislation and procedures. Therefore, reviewing European and national designations is beyond the scope of the local development plan, and as such cannot be reviewed as part of the LDP process. As a result, the statement in this paragraph is correct because it sets out what needs to be reviewed as part of the evidence base for the plan.</p> <p>It should be noted that the LDP itself will need to take account of these sites in setting out its context and policy framework.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>30 Fully support the comments in 4.49 – 4.53 – retention of Special Landscape Areas and Visually Important Local Landscapes, Green Infrastructure and Geology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>No response required.</p>	<p>The support is noted.</p>
<p>31 Fully support the comments in 4.67 – 4.69</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>No response required.</p>	<p>The support is noted.</p>

Renewable Energy			
32 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 also needs to be included in the list of considerations in section 4.97 (What Changes Are Required to the LDP?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In consideration of the issue raised in respect of area statements and the biodiversity duty that is already recognised in the text in section 2.16, a change should be made to section 4.97. 	It is agreed that the Biodiversity duty now placed on local authorities is a significant change in circumstances from those at the time of the Adoption of the LDP and as such should be reflected in this paragraph.	<p>That a new bullet point be inserted in paragraph 4.97 to read as follows:</p> <p>“The Environment Act sets out a biodiversity duty for local authorities that must be considered throughout the LDP. This will be underpinned by Area Statements that are required to be prepared by NRW.”</p>
33 With regards to the biodiversity duty, we suggest mention should be made of the Heads of Planning letter from Welsh Government dated 23/10/19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is directly relevant to the biodiversity duty on local authorities. 	<p>The WG letter sets out how the issue of biodiversity enhancement would be considered as part of the consideration process for development proposals. As such this is advice on implementing the Biodiversity in respect of development proposals.</p> <p>Whilst this letter relates to the Biodiversity Duty, it does not impart any significant policy change that the LDP would need to address – the LDP already needs to address the issue of the Biodiversity Duty itself – it is considered that, for the purposes of the Review Report, this issue is already covered by the Biodiversity Duty. Consequently, no further change is required in this respect.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
34 Agree that the LDP needs to be reviewed (paragraph 5.11).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the changes to, and the implementation of, relevant legislation including the Energy Act 2013, 	No response required.	The support is noted.

	<p>Prosperity for all: A Low Carbon Wales 2019, Well-being of Future Generations Act, 2015 (2.13) and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. (2.4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCBC must meets its statutory obligations to decarbonise and address climate change. 		
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Comments Relating to the Content of the 2nd Replacement LDP

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
<p>35 LDP should avoid or severely limit greenfield development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenfield development is unsustainable. • It is a finite quantity which is crucial for fighting global warming and Climate Change and retaining biodiversity. 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p> <p>The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.</p> <p>The contention that building on greenfield land is unsustainable is not correct.</p> <p>The provision of jobs and houses for people to live in are also a major part of sustainability and well-being and their provision is enshrined in the Well-being Act. To provide the jobs and housing that are central to a</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
		<p>person’s well-being will require an element of greenfield development, because there is insufficient brownfield land to accommodate the whole requirement and all of the supporting services and infrastructure that accompanies them.</p> <p>The premise that greenfield land should not be developed but brownfield land should, is a flawed position. Notwithstanding that the need to deliver jobs, housing and many services that support these (such as doctor surgeries) will require an element of greenfield land development, this issue revolves around the sustainability of the land, rather than whether it has been built on previously. All local planning authorities are required to deliver sustainable development. It is often perceived that sustainable development is development that is most ecologically friendly. This is an incorrect position also. Sustainable Development is defined by the interaction of 4 equally weighted factors, namely ecological, economic, social and cultural. To judge the sustainability of development solely against ecological considerations is contrary to sustainable development, not in accordance with it. It is the interaction of the four factors that provide the overall improvement in sustainability and well-being.</p> <p>From an ecological point of view the principle of protecting greenfield land and developing brownfield land is also flawed. Some</p>	

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
		<p>brownfield sites within the county borough contain some of the best and most diverse habitats the county borough has to offer. The premise that greenfield land should not be developed would require that these brownfield sites would need to be developed, which could severely compromise the ecological value of these sites. By contrast some greenfield land, such as improved grassland (which is often associated with agriculture) has little if any ecological value. To protect such land over valuable ecological habitat that brownfield sites provide, would not only be unsustainable, but would also be unacceptable from an ecological perspective.</p>	
<p>36 Hope that the 2nd Replacement LDP will be similar to the Adopted LDP and not advocate medium or high growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the AMR identifies that substantial progress has been made in delivering the LDP the replacement plan should be similar. The new Caerphilly LDP should be very careful not to target high growth in, for instance, non-affordable high-price housing, in a mistaken (in our view) policy of economic 'growth', which usually ignores the many disbenefits this brings (for instance – traffic congestion, public transport, utilities provision, health facilities, social service provision, schools & FE, and more). 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p> <p>The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>37 The Second LDP must have considerable built-in flexibility, with minimal allocated development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is as yet no SDP, and no implemented NDF and the Planning Act requires LAs to review adopted plans when NDF and SDPs are 	<p>The welsh planning system is a development plan-based system and as such up-to-date development plans are the cornerstone of the system.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
identified	finalised. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So that residents, developers and others will not be misled into assuming, for instance, that areas zoned for development will not be changed if regional policies demand it. 	Since 2013 every AMR has concluded that the Adopted LDP should be reviewed. It would be a pointless exercise to review the LDP on the principle of not allocating land to meet the needs of the county borough just to wait for an SDP to be prepared and adopted, which could take 6 years to complete. The LDP is required to plan for the future needs of the county borough and not allocating sufficient housing or employment land would undoubtedly lead to the plan being found unsound.	
38 The NDF and its policies should not be included in the replacement LDP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In respect of 2.8, CPRW is very critical of the draft NDF's flawed energy proposals. We would remind Caerphilly that there is no revised NDF, the current proposals are still draft. 	It is a statutory requirement that any LDP be in general conformity with any adopted SDP and the NDF, as stated in paragraph 2.25. As such every LDP must take account of the policies and provisions of both the NDF and SDP.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
39 Support better standards in new housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing developments by national house builders should supply radically better floor area, layout, insulation, solar panels and other renewable energy provision or district heating, fibre broadband, adequate parking space, gardens, etc. 	This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base. The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
40 The 2 nd Replacement LDP cannot be expansionist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.49 et sec – the uncertainty over population numbers in Caerphilly must be particularly concerning to LDP planners. 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p> <p>The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
41 The 2 nd Caerphilly Replacement LDP should State up front that the new LDP will be changed if required by changed national requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>It is a requirement that all LDPs are in general conformity with the NDF, as stated in paragraph 2.25. It should be noted that the final draft of the NDF has been placed before the Senydd and it is likely that the NDF will be adopted and published before the LDP has been adopted. As such the LDP will need to take account of the NDF during its preparation.</p> <p>Even if this is not the case, legislation sets out that LDPs will need to be reviewed once the NDF s adopted to ensure their conformity and revised if changes are required, although this will be via a short form process.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
42 The 2 nd Caerphilly Replacement LDP should resist demands from developers for more greenfield sites; insist brownfield sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
are utilised.		The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.	
43 The 2 nd Caerphilly Replacement LDP should find a way to build housing units that Caerphilly residents and communities need, not houses to attract immigrants and profits for developers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None given. 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p> <p>The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation process.</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.
44 LDP Reviews that are implemented do not include anywhere near enough of the consequences on communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic congestion, pollution, flooding, public transport, utilities provision, health facilities, social service provision, schools & FE, biodiversity, tourism, probably other effects, should be regularly assessed, as well as the usual housing, jobs, etc. 	<p>This is a policy issue that is appropriately considered through the LDP preparation process, where it can be considered in conjunction with the up-to-date evidence base.</p> <p>The purpose of the Review Report is to consider the progress that has been made in implementing the LDP and the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised. It would be inappropriate for the Review Report to set out detailed policy in advance of the LDP preparation</p>	No change be made in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
<p>45 There are nine national grid assets in the county borough that will need to be considered during plan preparation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a general requirement for easements for grid assets, 15 metres either side of an electricity asset and 12 m either side of a gas asset. 	<p>process.</p> <p>It is accepted that there are national grid assets that will need to be considered during the preparation of the revised LDP.</p> <p>This would be a detailed part of the content of the LDP and as such would be inappropriate to include in the Review Report as it is not the purpose of the Review Report to consider the detailed content of the LDP, which will be based on a rigorous and robust evidence base.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>46 The completion of the missing section of the mid valleys link road at Maesycwmmmer is an integral component of improved cross valley transport infrastructure improvements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>It is accepted that the Maesycwmmmer pinch point has been identified as an issue of strategic transport importance since the 1990s.</p> <p>However, this is a detailed policy issue that is more appropriately considered through the revision of the LDP, rather than in the Review Report.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>47 In accordance with the National Development Framework Spatial Strategy, growth in the South East Region should primarily be focussed in Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys. The Valleys includes Caerphilly County Borough.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>It is accepted that the revised LDP will need to be in general conformity with the SDP as set out on Paragraph 2.25. This is a statutory requirement so does not require to be set out in the Review Report.</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>
<p>48 The next LDP should reflect provisions made for future generations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None given. 	<p>The purpose of the Review Report is to set out the principal considerations for the preparation of a revised LDP. The Review</p>	<p>No change be made in respect of this issue.</p>

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
and the environment set out in recent legislation.		Report addresses the Well-being and Environment acts and as such has covered this issue appropriately.	
49 The replacement LDP should reflect changes to Planning Policy Wales (PPW) made since 2010, most of which were done so as to align with new legislation and lock in sustainable development as the over-arching principle of planning policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None given. 	The purpose of the Review Report is to set out the principal considerations for the preparation of a revised LDP. The Review Report addresses the principal changes to PPW (paragraph 2.30 refers) and as such has covered this issue appropriately.	No change be made in respect of this issue.
50 National Guidance was not fully considered in preparing the Adopted LDP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of issues that should be considered in an LDP such as whether or not a local list of historic assets should be compiled. The lack of a condition would also prevent the adoption of a local SPG on heritage • The plan says there is no need for a policy on the Historic Environment because of National Policy, however, there is a policy for the Natural Environment which also has substantial National Policy. • This position poses a risk that the principles behind PPW will not be met by the LDP as you will not be able to demonstrate that you have formulated development plan strategies and policies to look to the long term protection and enhancement of the 	<p>The comments relate to the fact that the Adopted LDP does not include policies that related to the historic environment. The issue of historic environment policy was considered as part of the preparation of the Adopted LDP. These considerations are set out in Chapter 5 of Background paper 3 – Historic Environment (Oct 2008), a background paper submitted to the examination of the Adopted LDP. In essence this document identifies the extent of historic environment policy set out in national policy and guidance and concluded that there were no locally distinctive policy matters that would require a policy to be included into the Adopted LDP.</p> <p>It should be noted that, at the time of preparing the Adopted LDP the situation for the natural environment was significantly different to that for the historic environment</p>	No change be made to the review Report in respect of this issue.

Issue Raised	Grounds for Comment	Officer Response	Action
	<p>special characteristics and intrinsic qualities of places.</p>	<p>as there was locally distinctive policies that were required to be included, e.g. policies CW4 and NH3 which identify and provide policy protection for SINC's, which can only be established through an LDP.</p> <p>Since the Adoption of the LDP the legislative and guidance framework in Wales has changed significantly and it will be necessary to revisit the Adopted LDP position and consider what historic environment policies should be included in the 2nd Replacement LDP. This will take account of recent guidance and legislation changes, particularly in respect of The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, which is referenced in paragraph 2.17 in the Review Report.</p>	

5. Draft Review Report – Amendments

Paragraph	Summary of Change
1.11	Update position in respect of the SDP
1.13	Update position in respect of the SDP
1.14	Update position in respect of drop-dead dates for adopted LDPs
1.17	New paragraph in respect of the suspension of the need to submit an AMR for 2020
1.19	Update to reflect that the Adopted LDP is in the last year of its plan period
2.8	Updated to reflect the publication of Future Wales 2040 and PPW11
2.17	Amendments as a result of comments from NRW
2.25 & 2.26	Original paragraphs deleted and replaced with two paragraphs addressing the publication of Future Wales 2040
2.30	Amendments to reflect the publication of PPW11 and new bullet point to set out that PPW11 incorporates changes as a result of Future Wales 2040 and the revocation of TAN1
2.31	New paragraph relating to the Socio-Economic Duty in Wales
2.39 – 2.41	Three paragraphs deleted and two new paragraphs inserted to address the revocation of TAN1
2.55	3 new paragraphs added after 2.55 to address the impact of the 2021 census
2.71 – 2.74	Four paragraphs deleted and 2 new paragraphs inserted to address the Local Government and Elections Act and the setting up of Corporate Joint Committees
3.3	Amendments to paragraph and addition of a new paragraph to address the removal of the requirement to submit an AMR for 2020
4.96	Paragraph added after para 4.96 to address implications arising from Covid 19 and Brexit
4.98	New bullet point added as a result of comments from NRW
5.9	New paragraph added to address the issue of Local Government and Elections Act and CJs
5.12	Paragraph amended to reflect the changes in respect of drop-dead dates for development plans.
5.17	Part of paragraph deleted to reflect the changes in timetable that have occurred.
5.19	The paragraph is amended to reflect the opposition regarding drop-dead dates for development plans
5.23 & 5.24	Changes reflecting the changing position in respect of where authorities are in plan preparation.
Table 2	Changes to update position on plan preparation positions in other authorities
5.25	Deleted and replaced with 2 paragraphs to update position on potential to prepare

	joint plans with other local authorities
5.27	Amended to update position in respect of collaborative working
6.1 and 6.1	Deleted and replaced with a single paragraph outlining the next steps from this point.
Appendix 1	A note added to advise that the table reflected the results of the 2019 AMR as the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020 had been waived.
Appendix 2	A note added to advise that the table reflected the results of the 2019 AMR as the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020 had been waived.
Appendix 3	A note added to advise that the table reflected the results of the 2019 AMR as the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020 had been waived.

Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021

Review Report

June 2021

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Glossary of Terms

AMR.....	Annual Monitoring Report
AVHA.....	Affordable Housing Viability Assessment
CCR.....	Cardiff Capital Region
Commission.....	Growth and Competitiveness Commission
CPA Act.....	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
DAS.....	Design and Access Statement
Environment Act.....	Environment (Wales) Act 2016
Green Paper.....	Green Paper Consultation Document - Strengthening Local Government: Delivering People.
GTAA.....	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
HE Act.....	Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
JHLAS.....	Joint Housing Land Availability Study
Joint Cabinet.....	Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Joint Cabinet
LDP.....	Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021
LDP Review.....	Replacement Local Development Plan 2016 to 2031
Metro.....	South Wales Metro
MYE.....	ONS Mid-Year Population Estimate
NDF.....	National Development Framework
NIC.....	National Infrastructure Commission
ONS.....	Office of National Statistics
Planning Act.....	Planning (Wales) Act 2015
PPW.....	Planning Policy Wales
PSB.....	Caerphilly Public Service Board
Regulations.....	Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005: Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015
rWFD.....	Revised EU Waste Framework Directive SDP Strategic Development Plan (for the Cardiff Capital Region)
SAC.....	Special Area for Conservation
SEA Directive.....	Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment
SEA/SA.....	Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal
SEWSPG.....	South East Wales Strategic Planning Group
SINC.....	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SSSI.....	Site of Special Scientific Interest
TAN.....	Technical Advice Note
Taskforce.....	Valleys Taskforce

Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan – Review Report

Well-being Act..... Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

WLGA..... Welsh Local Government Association

1 Introduction

1.1 This document is the Review Report for the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 [LDP]. This report considers the progress being made in implementing the LDP and discusses and considers the issues that inform the decision on whether the LDP needs to be revised and then makes recommendations in respect of the appropriate course of action. This Report considers:

- The plan strategy, its aims and objectives;
- Any significant changes in circumstances brought about by changes to the evidence base or contextual framework;
- The policy framework and allocations in the plan; and
- The 8 Annual Monitoring Reports [AMR].

1.2 This Report is structured as follows:

Section 1: Introduction - Sets out the requirements for the review of the LDP and the position in respect of the Adopted LDP.

Section 2: External Issues and Monitoring - Considers the implications of changes in legislation and national guidance and the findings of the Annual Monitoring Reports in respect of the LDP.

Section 3: The LDP – Considers how the plan is being implemented and identifies issues arising that need to be addressed. In particular it considers the Vision, the Aims, the Objectives, Policy Framework and Allocations of the LDP. In addition to this it also considers the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal and its Monitoring over the plan period.

Section 4: Evidence Base – Sets out where updating or new evidence is required for a revision of the plan.

Section 5: Options and Conclusions – Considers the options for moving forward and recommends the preferred course of action.

Section 6: Next Steps and Arrangements – Outlines the next stages in the review process and any procedural arrangements that could be pursued.

The Need to Review

1.3 Section 69 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 [CPA Act] requires local planning authorities to carry out a review of their local development plan at times prescribed by the Welsh Government [WG]. Regulation 41 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 [Regulations] requires that a review of the LDP should commence “every four years from the date of its initial adoption”.

1.4 It should be noted that a review of the plan is an assessment of whether the plan is being implemented in line with the strategy. This is different from a revision of a plan, which is the formal process for producing a new or revised version of the plan. The Regulations require local planning authorities to undertake a review of their adopted development plan at least every 4 years. However, this does not mean that the plan will be revised every 4 years, as the review will consider whether a revision of the plan is necessary. If the review finds no grounds for the plan to be revised then no change will be made.

- 1.5 The Regulations require that the review must be submitted to WG in the form of a report, after it has been reported to and agreed by the Council.

Current Position - The Adopted LDP

- 1.6 The LDP was formally adopted on 23 November 2010. The LDP sets out the Council's landuse strategy for the fifteen years of the plan period, i.e. 2006 – 2021. It sets out the vision for the future and the aims and objectives that would deliver the vision. Most importantly the LDP sets out the policy framework to control and guide development for the plan period.
- 1.7 As the Council's primary landuse strategy it is important that it is kept up to date. It is a statutory requirement that all Adopted LDPs be subject to annual monitoring, to monitor whether the strategy is being implemented and every 4 years, or earlier if the annual monitoring indicates so, be subject of a review.
- 1.8 The LDP has been the subject of 8 Annual Monitoring Reports since its Adoption in 2010, the first Report being prepared and published in 2012. The second AMR Report, covering the period of 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, concluded that the Adopted LDP should be revised for two reasons:
- To allocate additional housing land to meet affordable housing and housing needs of the county borough, and
 - To make appropriate allocations to facilitate the 21st century schools programme.
- 1.9 A Review Report was prepared as part of this process in November 2014. This Report, however, was prepared in advance of the publication of the Regulations.
- 1.10 The revision of the LDP commenced in 2013 and was progressed through to Deposit Stage in 2016. However, following the Deposit Consultation Period the Council resolved to withdraw the replacement plan, with a recommendation of pursuing the early preparation of a Strategic Development Plan [SDP] for the Cardiff Capital Region. The LDP remains the development plan for Caerphilly County Borough.
- 1.11 The South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG) held two workshops with the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal Leaders, Chief Executives and Planning Directors to discuss issues relating to the governance and content of the SDP. In January 2018 the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet agreed the principle of preparing the SDP for the region and in June 2019 the Cabinet endorsed a report recommending the commencement of the SDP, which was to be presented to each of the 10 constituent local authorities for their agreement to commence the process. To date 8 of the authorities have presented the report to their respective Councils and all 8 have accepted the recommendations.
- 1.12 The decision to withdraw the Replacement LDP in 2016 included four recommendations, namely:
- To consider the content of the report and in particular the implications associated with the alternative options for progressing work on the development plan for Caerphilly County Borough.
 - To work with all local planning authorities across the Cardiff City Capital Region to prepare a Strategic Development Plan in line with the signed City Deal Agreement at the earliest possible time.
 - Subject to Ministerial Approval, formally withdraw the Deposit Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2031.

- Seek an urgent meeting with the WG Minister to advise on the intention to withdraw the Deposit Replacement LDP and seek support for the preparation of the SDP as a matter of urgency.
- 1.13 As can be seen the recommendations clearly seek the early preparation of the SDP before commencing any further revision of the LDP. The Council considered a report on the SDP at its meeting on 23 October 2019 and agreed to commence the preparation of the SDP for the Cardiff Capital Region. As a result the recommendation seeking the early commencement of the SDP has been achieved. Consequently, this recommendation no longer provides a reason to delay the revision of the LDP.
- 1.14 As part of a review of the planning process Welsh Government proposed introducing Corporate Joint Committees (CJC) for regions identified in Wales, one of whose responsibilities would be to prepare the Strategic Development Plan for the region. The provisions for establishing the CJs are set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act which was enacted on 20 January 2021. As the CJC will be responsible for delivering the SDP for the Cardiff Capital Region collective work on progressing the SDP was halted toward the end of 2019.
- 1.15 All of the AMRs, since 2013, have reached the same conclusion in respect of the implementation of the Adopted LDP, i.e. that the plan should be reviewed to address the housing provision position and also other matters relevant at the time of the preparation of each AMR, including the needs of the 21st Century Schools programme and the availability of land for economic development. The 2019 AMR, which was approved at the Full Council Meeting on 23 October 2019, also reached the same conclusion. On 7th July 2020 the **Minister** for Housing and Local **Government** issues a letter setting out a number of Covid-19 responses and actions, one of which was to remove the need for local planning authorities to prepare an AMR for 2020, although an AMR covering both years would subsequently be required in 2021. In response to this letter the Council has not prepared an AMR for 2020. However, in order to address the key issue of housing land the Council agreed
- 1.16 Notably the 2017 and 2018 AMRs have taken account of the Council recommendations in withdrawing the Replacement LDP, i.e. to seek the early preparation of the SDP, consequently neither of these AMRs recommended that a revision of the Adopted LDP should be commenced, as this would prejudice the early preparation of the SDP. Given that this requirement has now been met, the 2019 AMR recommended:
- R1 The 8th Annual Monitoring Plan has indicated that substantial progress has been made in implementing the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021.**
- R2 In recognition of the need to identify more land for employment and housing to support local need and regional aspirations the 8th Annual Monitoring Report recommends that a review of the Adopted LDP be commenced.**
- R3 In the period up to the adoption of a new Replacement LDP, the Council will continue to address the shortfall in the 5-year housing land supply through proactive action, including:**
- Considering proposals for new residential development on their relative planning merits on a site-by-site basis and have due regard for the need to increase the housing land supply in line with national planning policy and guidance;
 - Lobbying Welsh Government to establish funding mechanisms to incentivise sites in low viability areas and promote remediation of suitable brownfield sites for development;
 - Utilising the innovative funding model to bring forward Council owned sites with viability issues;

- The identification of schemes through the Regeneration Project Board where funding opportunities could be exploited to deliver regeneration projects, including for housing and employment.
- Prioritise affordable and new build Council housing on brownfield sites to help preserve our natural environment
- Work to ensure new housing complies with high environmental standards to help address the climate emergency

1.17 On 7th July 2020 the **Minister** for Housing and Local **Government** issues a letter setting out a number of Covid-19 responses and actions, one of which was to remove the need for local planning authorities to prepare an AMR for 2020, although an AMR covering both years would subsequently be required in 2021. In response to this letter the Council has not prepared an AMR for 2020. However, in order to address the key issue of housing land the Council considered and agreed a Housing Delivery Paper, which set out a proposed housing delivery trajectory for the next 5 years and also made the same recommendations in respect of the LDP that had been made in previous AMRs

Should the Adopted LDP be Revised?

1.18 As outlined above all of the AMRs since 2013 have concluded that a review of the LDP was required. However, the withdrawal of the Replacement LDP at its Deposit stage modified the position to one that sought early preparation of a SDP. This condition has now been met by virtue of the Council resolution of the 23 October 2019. With these requirements having been met, there are no other factors that would modify the findings of the Council AMRs.

1.19 Whilst previous AMRs have consistently identified the need to address housing delivery and to make provision for the 21st Century schools programme, recent AMRs have realised increasing numbers of the strategic policies reaching their trigger points for consideration through the AMR. Given that the LDP is in its last year of the plan period, it is only expected that policies will reach their trigger points, as things will have changed markedly since their drafting and Adoption. As a result the need for review extends beyond the two issues set out in the Council resolution withdrawing the Replacement LDP.

1.20 **Therefore, it is the conclusion of the Review Report that a full revision of the Adopted LDP should be commenced as a matter of priority.**

1. External Issues

External Issues (Legislative Change and other Matters)

- 2.1 Legislation and national planning guidance play an important part in the planning system. When a LDP is adopted it conforms to the latest legislation and guidance at that time. However, once the LDP is adopted it cannot be changed further and any subsequent changes to legislation or guidance cannot be accommodated within it. As a result when an adopted plan is reviewed a key consideration will be whether legislation or guidance has changed so significantly that it would necessitate a revision of the plan.
- 2.2 As a result the Review Report will need to consider the changes in legislation, guidance and any other material change in circumstances, to determine whether the context for the plan has changed so significantly that a revision to the plan is necessary.

Legislation

- 2.3 The period since the adoption of the LDP has seen significant changes in legislation, with new legislation being enacted, and existing legislation being expanded or amended. The principal changes are listed below in chronological order:

Energy Act 2013 and Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales (2019)

- 2.4 The Energy Act 2013 (Energy Act) was introduced with two primary aims, namely introducing the provision for government to set decarbonisation targets and to provide the framework for the reform and control of the energy market.
- 2.5 The key impacts upon the development plan arising from this legislation relate to renewable energy and decarbonisation targets that are set by WG. In 2017 the WG Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs set out the ambition to achieve a carbon neutral public sector in Wales by 2030 and set a target of 70% of Wales' energy consumption to be generated from renewable resources.
- 2.6 In 2019 Welsh Government published Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales, which is Wales' commitment to tackling climate change. This sets out 100 policies and proposals that will directly reduce emissions and support the growth of the low carbon economy, and sets the foundations for the transition to a low carbon society in Wales.
- 2.7 In addition to this in December 2019 Welsh Government published Prosperity For All: A Climate Conscious Wales, which is Wales' plan to address climate change adaptation. It assesses climate change risk, identifying areas that require more robust evidence to consider the risk, and sets out actions in relation to climate change that:
- Have already been taken,
 - Are required in the short term, or
 - Are required to be taken in the medium term.

- 2.8 Both Future Wales – the National Plan 2040 [Future Wales 2040] and Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 [PPW] form part of the policy framework for tackling climate change and the Revision of the LDP will need to actively promote sustainable development and address climate change.

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

- 2.9 One of the aims of the Housing Act was to assist in improving the supply, quality and standard of new housing in Wales. It also requires local authorities to undertake an assessment of the accommodation needs for Gypsies and travellers, through the

preparation of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments [GTAA], which would consider the need for new permanent and transit provision.

The Planning Wales Act 2015 [Planning Act]

- 2.10 The Planning Act was enacted following a review of the planning system in Wales and sought to build on and enhance the existing system rather than setting out a new system. The Act sought to deliver reform to ensure that the system was fair, resilient and enabled development and strengthened the plan-led approach. The Act introduced a number of changes to the former system, including the following key changes:
- The Act makes provision for the preparation and revision of a National Development Framework for Wales [NDF].
 - The Act makes provision for Welsh Ministers to designate areas of Wales as strategic planning areas within which a SDP will be prepared.
 - The Act requires local planning authorities to consider a review of their Adopted Plans upon the publication of the NDF or the SDP for the area.
- 2.11 The Planning Act establishes the basis for the regionalisation of planning and transport, through its provisions for Strategic Development Plans and joint working. The Cardiff Capital Region requires a strategic level of planning to deliver its aims and objectives and the provisions within the Planning Act allow joint working between the local authorities to achieve this.
- 2.12 In June 2019 the Cardiff Capital Region Joint Cabinet (Joint Cabinet) endorsed a committee report recommending the commencement of the SDP, which was to be presented to all 10 local authorities in the region. To date the report has been reported to 8 of the 10 local authorities, all of whom have agreed the recommendation to commence the SDP. The remaining 2 authorities are expecting to take the report to their Councils early in the new year.

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- 2.13 The aim of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 [Well-being Act] is to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by changing the way local authorities and public bodies think, act and make decisions. It sought to ensure that sustainable development is at the heart of government and public bodies. The overall objective is to create a Wales where we want to live in, both now and in the future.
- 2.14 The Act sets out 7 goals that establish a shared vision for Wales. All public bodies, including local authorities are required to work towards achieving all 7 goals. The Act also seeks to ensure that public bodies apply the sustainable development principle by ensuring they have considered the five ways of working based on 5 elements.
- 2.15 The Act requires that public bodies work together in a more holistic fashion and also requires them to prepare statements or Well-Being plans, which sets out their collective action for the future.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016

- 2.16 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 [Environment Act] sets out legislation in respect of the environment and climate change, and makes provision for a range of actions to deliver effective protection of the environment and to tackle climate change. The principal issue for development plans is the requirement for local authorities to maintain and enhance biodiversity.
- 2.17 The Environment Act places a duty on Natural Resources Wales to prepare area statements for the whole of Wales that will facilitate the implementation of national natural

resources policy. The area statement will comprise an important element of the evidence base that will underpin the revised LDP

Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016

2.18 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 [HE Act] amends two existing pieces of legislation, namely the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Act sets out a wide range of provisions that seek to deliver its three aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

2.19 The key issue for development plans is the requirement to provide more effective protection for Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

Equality Act 2010 – The Socio-Economic Duty

2.20 The Socio-economic Duty was introduced in Wales on 31 March 2011, under powers given to Welsh Minister under the Equalities Act 2010. The aim of the duty is to deliver better outcomes for those who experience socio disadvantage, by requiring decision makers to:

- take account of evidence and potential impact of their decisions
- take decisions through consultation and engagement
- understand the views and needs of those impacted by the decision, particularly those who suffer socio-economic disadvantage
- welcome challenge and scrutiny
- drive a change in the way that decisions are made and the way that decision makers operate

The Significance of the Legislative Changes

2.21 All of the legislation makes provisions for future actions, but do not make any of their provisions applicable to existing documents. As a result they do not have a direct implication for the LDP. However, the legislation brings in changes to both policy and procedure that need to be addressed as part of the planning process. Whilst there are no direct impacts, changes in procedure and policy may require the LDP Policy framework to be considered slightly differently than previously and this may give rise to confusion or conflict. The particular provisions within the legislation that could give rise to these issues and the key areas are:

- The Council has undertaken its GTAA, as required by the Housing Act and, whilst the findings for this assessment are similar to those used to inform the LDP, there is no guarantee that this position will not have changed when the GTAA is reviewed. This could easily result in additional requirements that the LDP has not made provision for.
- The Planning Act has introduced new documents that will impact upon the national policy framework. The NDF at Welsh level and SDPs at regional level will include both policy and strategy provisions that could be in conflict with the LDP.
- Similarly the Well-Being Act requires that a Well-Being Plan be prepared. Whilst this may not be a primary landuse document, development plans need to reflect the content of these plans. The LDP was drafted in conformity with the Council's Community Plan. However since then Community Plans have been superseded by Single Integrated Plans and now by Well-Being Plans. Given that development

plans need to be in conformity with these plans when they are prepared, potential inconsistencies between a newly prepared Well-Being Plan and the LDP could undermine the policy framework.

- In addition to the above, the Well-Being Act also introduces the 7 goals and 5 elements of decision making that need to be integrated into the development plan. Whilst the LDP meets all of these requirements, it is not demonstrated within the document itself. Given that the 5 elements of decision making are intended to be fundamental to the delivery of sustainable development, concern could be raised in respect of whether the LDP is delivering sustainable development in accordance with the Well-being Act.
- The Biodiversity Duty for local authorities, in conjunction with the policy drivers for decarbonisation that cut across legislation, increases the importance of environmental functionality that will require increased ecosystem services management. This will need to be reflected within any revision of the LDP.
- Both the Environment Act and the Historic Environment Act seek to provide effective protection of the natural and built environment. Whilst the protection and enhancement of the natural environment is included in the LDP, the plan does not include specific historic environment policies on the basis that national policy sets out the policy for addressing the historic environment and repetition of national guidance in development plans should be resisted.

2.22 Whilst legislative changes do require different approaches in the preparation of LDPs, there are no specific changes that would directly require a review of the LDP be undertaken.

National Policy & Guidance

Planning for Climate Change (2010)

2.23 The Climate Change Strategy sets out the overarching principles for WG to realise a low carbon economy, limit greenhouse gas emissions and adjust to changes in our climate. The principal implication for the LDP relates to the aim of maximising renewable and low carbon energy generation. There are no direct implications for the LDP.

A Low Carbon Revolution – The Welsh Assembly Government Energy Policy Statement (2010)

2.24 The statement sets out what WG will do, and the contribution and actions that others will need to make, to realise the national targets for low carbon energy. The document expands on UK Targets for renewable energy generation and provides challenging targets for the Wales context. The document also considers each area of renewable generation, assessing its capacity to contribute toward the overall target. There are no direct implications for the LDP.

Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan (2012) and Project Pipeline Update 2019

2.25 The Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan 2012 committed the Welsh Government to improving the transparency and visibility of project funding through regular reporting on the pipeline of infrastructure projects. To date there have been 8 Pipeline Reports that have outlined progress and have set future aspirations, with the latest of the Pipeline Reports being published in 2019.

2.26 The 2019 Pipeline Report sets out large scale funding projects and smaller scale projects for each local authority area. The principal projects identified for Caerphilly County Borough are:

- Caerphilly 21st Century Schools;
- Coleg Y Cymoedd;

- Social Housing Grant;
- Highways Improvements;
- Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS);
- Corporate Buildings;
- Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant;
- Home Repair Grant – vulnerable persons (Private housing);
- Corporate Projects;
- Salix Street lighting Programme;
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – Ty Du;
- ERDF – Lawns Industrial Estate – units.

Future Wales 2040, February 2021

2.27 Future Wales 2040, the final version of the national development framework was published in February 2021. The document sets out the national perspective on planning issues across Wales and sets out:

- 11 outcomes for Future Wales 2040
- 7 questions to monitor Future Wales 2040 at the first review
- A National Growth area for Cardiff Newport and the valleys
- Strategic Policies on Placemaking, Public Sector Leadership, Rural communities and the rural economy, Town centres, affordable homes, Flooding, resilient ecological networks, connectivity (international, national and regional), digital infrastructure, renewable energy and heat networks, and a national forest.
- The role and remit of regional bodies overseen by Corporate Joint Committees.
- Policies for the south east region including National growth areas, Green Belts, the Valleys Regional Park and the South East Metro.

2.28 It is a statutory requirement for the R2LDP to be in general conformity with Future Wales 2040 and as such the new plan will need to take account of the policy framework in it in preparing the plan.

Local Development Plan Manual: Edition 3, August 2015

2.29 The LDP Manual was amended to take account of the changes to the LDP preparation process, which were set out in the Planning Act. The LDP Manual is the process guide to preparing Local Development Plans in Wales and is not a policy document. As such the Manual specifically applies to emerging plans, rather than adopted ones and as such the changes in the document would need to be taken into account in any review of the LDP.

2.30 It should be noted that the Draft Development Plans Manual is in the process of being rewritten to reflect changes in legislation, and was the subject of a public consultation exercise which ended 30 August 2019.

Planning Policy Wales [PPW]: Edition 11 (2021)

2.31 PPW has undergone 7 sets of changes since the LDP was adopted in 2010. When the LDP was adopted PPW Edition 3 had just been published and had incorporated changes in respect of amendments to Rural Planning Policy. These changes were reflected in the LDP. The changes that have been made to PPW since the adoption of the LDP are:

- Edition 4 Feb (2011)
 - Include references to the Climate Change Strategy for Wales.

- Reflect Version 3 of code for sustainable homes.
- Policy changes following consultation on renewable and low carbon energy.
- Edition 5 (Oct 2012)
 - Include the presumption in favour of sustainable development.
 - Changes to economic development policy to reflect WG research.
- Edition 6 (Feb 2014)
 - Reflect changes due to revised Waste Framework Directive.
 - Updated to reflect newly published TAN23 Economic Development.
- Edition 7 (July 2014)
 - Changes resulting from amendments to Part L of the Building Regulations.
- Edition 8 (Jan 2016)
 - Changes to LDP process as a result of the review in to the planning system.
 - Sustainability section amended to reflect the Well-Being Act requirements.
 - New minerals chapter included incorporating previous MPPW (2008).
- Edition 9 (Nov 2016)
 - Wider ranging changes to reflect the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 [Planning Act].
- Edition 10 (December 2018)
 - Restructured to reflect The Well-being of Future Generations Act.
- Edition 11 (February 2021)
 - Revised to take account of Future Wales 2040
 - Revised to take account of the revocation of TAN 1, setting out the requirement for housing delivery trajectories in development plans and monitoring housing delivery against the trajectories as the means of monitoring housing delivery across Wales.

2.32 Whilst there have been significant changes to PPW since the adoption of the LDP, the changes have not compromised the policy framework within the LDP or its implementation. As a result the changes to PPW do not require a review of the LDP.

Good Practice Guidance for the Historic Environment

2.33 This is a suite of nine documents that have been published as part of the revisions brought in by the Historic Environment Act 2016. The documents set out good practice guidance on historic environment matters. This guidance is at a more detailed level than the policy framework in the LDP, providing good practice guidance on day to day process of managing the historic environment. As a result they do not impact on the LDP Policy Framework.

Natural Resources Policy 2017

2.34 Published in accordance with the Environment Act with a focus on the sustainable management of Wales' natural resources, maximising their contribution towards achieving well-being goals. The NRP sets out three National Priorities:

- delivering nature-based solutions;
- increasing renewable energy and resource efficiency; and
- taking a place-based approach.

2.35 The NRP also sets the context for Area Statements, which must be taken into account in development plan preparation. Natural Resources Wales is currently in the process of preparing the Area Statements, which are not yet complete, and any revised LDP will need to take these into account

- 2.36 Overall, whilst introducing significant procedural changes, the changes to National Policy and Guidance are not of such significance as to warrant a review of the plan.

Technical Advice Notes [TANs]

Technical Advice Note 21: Waste (February 2014)

- 2.37 This revision introduced 4 main changes:

- Revocation of Regional Waste Plans;
- Requirement to annual monitor waste activity;
- Introducing minimum levels of landfill capacity;
- Introduction of Waste Planning Assessments.

- 2.38 The changes to TAN 21 relate to the background information used to prepare developments plans rather than impacting directly upon the policy framework.

Technical Advice Note 23: Economic Development (February 2014)

- 2.39 This TAN was published for the first time in February 2014. The main issues in the TAN are:

- Requires robust evidence to inform plan preparation;
- Local Authorities should group together to prepare regional/sub-regional assessments of the commercial and industrial markets;
- Sets out stakeholders to include in the preparation of assessments and plans;
- Local authorities required to assess economic benefit of allocations and planning applications for economic development;
- Establishes tests for applications that cause harm to social or environmental objectives;
- Requires site allocations that will deliver economic development, whilst existing sites that are unlikely to deliver economic development should not be allocated.

Technical Advice Note 1 – Joint Housing Land Availability Studies

- 2.40 On 26 March 2020 the Minister for Housing and Local Government issued a letter to Local Planning Authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and the Home Builders Federation that advised that TAN 1 had been revoked in its entirety and changes to PPW had been made to reflect the new requirement for development plans to set out clear housing delivery trajectories and that housing delivery would be monitored against those trajectories. The revocation of TAN 1 removed the 5-year land supply policy and requirement. The emerging plan will need to address the new requirements including setting out a housing delivery trajectory in the emerging plan for the delivery of housing throughout the plan period.

Technical Advice Note 12: Design (March 2016)

- 2.41 The Planning Act removed the requirement to submit Design and Access Statements [DAS] as part of a planning application. TAN 12 has been revised to include the requirement to submit a DAS as part of a planning application to ensure this requirement is maintained in Wales. This change affects development management rather than planning policy and so has no impact on the LDP.

Technical Advice Note 4: Retail and Commercial Development (November 2016)

- 2.42 This revision provides further detailed guidance on a range of retail issues including:
- Strategies and hierarchies;
 - Sequential and needs tests;

- Retail impact assessment, including the requirement to submit one as part of a planning application for retail developments;
- Changes of use;
- Mezzanine floors;
- Indicators of vitality and viability.

2.43 This revision does not introduce any provisions that the LDP does not currently cover.

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (May 2017)

2.44 This new TAN sets out guidance in respect of provisions set out in the Historic Environment Act. As the LDP relies on national guidance for its policy framework for considering historic environment developments, the publication of the TAN, whilst changing the framework, does not change the position in respect of the development plan. As a result the publication of this TAN does not have any significant implications that would require a review of the plan.

Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (October 2017)

2.45 This amendment to TAN 20 has incorporated changes arising from The Planning Act. These include the provision for promoting places where community life can take place in Welsh, with seeking to encourage local authorities to view such development as vital to the future of the Welsh language.

2.46 Whilst expanding on previous guidance the implications are primarily for an emerging plan rather than an adopted one, so the implications from this update do not justify a review of the LDP.

2.47 Overall, changes to the TANs, whilst changing the policy guidance framework, do not significantly affect the LDP and therefore, are not themselves a reason to trigger the review

Other Matters

2011 Census

2.48 In preparing the LDP, the strategy was based on a moderate growth in population. Moderate growth was the mid-point between high growth, based on the net migration rate for Caerphilly County Borough reflecting the average for South East Wales, and low growth, based on balanced migration with the same number of people moving in to and out of the county borough.

2.49 Moderate Growth realised a population increase of 6,200 from 171,300 at the base date of the plan (2006) to a population of 177,500 at the end of the plan period (2021). The annual increase in population equated to 411 persons, 165 from net in-migration and 246 through natural change (births over deaths). Whilst the level of in-migration was higher than had been experienced in the years preceding 2006, it was a level that could reasonably be achieved during the plan period.

2.50 The publication of data from the 2011 Census indicated that the population for Caerphilly County Borough was 178,806. This figure was higher than the projected population at the end of the Adopted plan period and significantly higher than had been projected for 2011 (173,400). It was also notably higher than previous mid-year estimates [MYE] and the 2011 population for both the 2006 and 2008 WG population projections.

2.51 In light of the differences between the 2011 Census figures and earlier estimates, the MYE for 2002-2010 for Wales were revised. In Caerphilly's case, the MYE for each year has been revised upwards. Whilst the natural change and migration figures had increased slightly, the main reason for the differences between the old and revised Mid-Year

Estimates is 'unattributable change'. The unattributable change accounts for 5000 people and the Office of National Statistics [ONS] has indicated that this may be due to a combination of potential inaccuracies in respect of:

- Internal migration, particularly due to problems in accurately estimating certain moves, such as young people finishing further education courses;
- International migration, due to different methods of calculating immigration;
- 2001 population estimates, which were based on the 2001 census;
- 2011 Census estimates, as an estimate needed to be made for the number of people who didn't appear on a Census form;
- Prisoner definitions, which changed.

2.52 Given that the differences between the old and revised MYEs cannot be fully explained, caution needs to be applied to any assumptions made in respect of population change through the plan period, as the population increase could have happened in the period 1991 – 2001 and had been under-enumerated in the 2001 Census, rather than the growth taking place between 2001 and 2011. This uncertainty makes it difficult to consider the implications of the 2011 Census and whether the expected level of population growth has been realised in the plan period.

2.53 The estimated population as of 30th June 2018 MYE was 181,019. The components of change since the 2011 Census indicate:

- Growth through natural change has been positive at an average growth of 256 people per annum;
- The natural change growth is marginally higher than the assumptions in the LDP of 246 per annum;
- Net migration (including unattributable change) has been variable with figures ranging between -180 (loss) and 305 (gain) net migrants per annum and amounts to just 63 people over the period, compared to a net migration figure of 165 people per annum in the LDP;
- In several years since 2011 it has been the case that internal migration has been negative (i.e. more UK born citizens moving out of Caerphilly than moving in);
- In most years the trend has been for positive migration figures for international migrants.

2.54 Welsh Government are in the process of preparing the 2018 based population and household projections and it is anticipated that these will be published in early 2020. These 2018 projections will form part of the evidence base for future housing requirements.

2.55 Overall, there has been population growth in the county borough over the plan period. However, the MYE identifies that younger age groups are decreasing, whilst older age groups, particularly those over retirement age, are increasing significantly. The loss of the younger age groups means that for the current and subsequent plan periods the workforce in the county borough will be reducing, whilst increasing numbers of retired people place an extra burden on resources that are funded by the economically active. As a result there is greater pressure on the decreasing numbers of people in employment to support an increasing number of people who are not in work. This is an issue that will need to be addressed through any review of the LDP. The difficulty in determining whether the population growth set out in the LDP is being achieved, and the unsustainable form of growth that is manifesting itself following the 2011 Census, raises significant concern over whether the LDP is delivering the strategy in terms of its expected population growth and

demography. Given this, it is considered that a review of the LDP is required to consider and address these issues.

Census 2021

- 2.56 The National Census was undertaken on 21 March 2021. Data from the Censuses does not generally become available until at least 2 years from the census date. On this basis the 2021 Census data is anticipated to start becoming available in 2023, which is during the period moving towards the anticipated Deposit Consultation stage of plan preparation.
- 2.57 The 2021 Census data will provide an up to date snapshot of the demographics for the county borough. However, it should be noted that the R2LDP is a 15-year document and will be based upon trends across the 15-year period. Whilst the Census data may indicate changes to the base information in respect of the plan evidence base, account can be taken of this as part of the preparation process and these changes can be incorporated with the overall plan framework that seeks to deliver up to 2035.
- 2.58 Whilst the emerging Plan will need to fully take account of the 2021 Census data, it is not anticipated that this would require a significant change of policy at that stage.

The Regionalisation Agenda

- 2.59 There has been a significant move towards a regional approach to addressing principal planning and transport issues. Transport has a history of being addressed regionally, through regional transport plans, and the former regional transport body South East Wales Transport Alliance (SEWTA) – superseded by the Cardiff Capital Region Transport Authority (CCRTA) as part of City Deal. However, strategic planning has been dealt with almost exclusively at a local authority level. As a result the consideration of planning at a more strategic regional level is a significant change to the position when the LDP was adopted. Provisions for the preparation of SDPs and the inclusion of joint working between authorities in the Planning Act support and facilitate the regionalisation of planning.
- 2.60 There have been three recent elements that have reinforced the regional approach to planning and transport and these are:

The Valleys Taskforce

- 2.61 The Valleys Taskforce (Taskforce) was set up by the Welsh Government in June of 2016 to review and address economic issues across the South Wales valleys that is broadly located between the Brecon Beacons National Park and the M4, covering all of the South Wales valley areas. The remit of the Taskforce is to consider necessary actions to address economic issues across the whole of the valleys, and deliver real change within them. As such the Valleys Taskforce operates at a strategic, arguably wider than regional, level, considering related economic development, planning and transport issues across the area.
- 2.62 In addressing its remit the Taskforce published the first iteration of “Our Valleys, Our Future” in 2017. Our Valleys, Our Future is the Taskforce’s plan, covering the period up to 2021, addressing the issues through a number of actions grouped under 3 priority areas:
- Priority 1: Good quality jobs and the skills to do them
 - Priority 2: Better public services
 - Priority 3: My Local Community
- 2.63 The delivery plan sets out actions that are intended to be undertaken within the plan timeframe (up to 2021) so they are not exhaustive, as it is intended that the plan will be revised over time. A key outcome of the work of the Taskforce is the identification of Strategic Hubs, which will be the subject of focussed public sector investment targeted at

attracting private investment and creating jobs across the region. Strategic Hubs have been identified at locations that are accessible within 45 minutes of people in the valleys by public transport.

2.64 Caerphilly/Ystrad Mynach has been identified as 1 of 7 Strategic Hubs in the VTF area and includes proposals for:

- Strategic employment and residential site;
- Employment hubs linked to strategic transport infrastructure improvements;
- Town centre redevelopment;
- Tourism and cultural development;
- Residential development.

City Deal and The South Wales Metro (Metro)

2.65 The South East Wales region is entering a significant period of change. In February 2016, the Council agreed that the authority (through the Leader) should formally sign a commitment to participate in the City Deal initiative, a £1.2 billion programme to regenerate the economic fortunes of the South East Wales region. Subsequently, in March 2016, the City Deal agreement was signed by the ten local authority Leaders, the First Minister for Wales and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. The City Deal sets out a transformative approach to how the Cardiff Capital Region will deliver the scale and nature of investment needed to support the area's growth plans, a key element of which is the delivery of significant public transport improvements that will facilitate the Region's economic growth aspirations.

2.66 City Deal seeks significant economic growth throughout the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR), with the focus on Cardiff as the economic engine for the CCR. A key element in the proposals is the Metro, a new transport system for the region that will transform the way people travel around the region providing faster, more frequent and joined up services using trains, buses and rail. Together the City Deal and Metro has the potential to realise significant changes to the county borough in the near future and could bring wide spread changes to the county borough's economy that could be realised over a relatively short timeframe.

The Growth and Competitiveness Commission

2.67 The Growth and Competitiveness Commission (Commission) was established as part of the City Deal agreement between the UK Government, the Welsh Government and the ten local authorities of the CCR. The remit of the Commission was set out in the City Deal Agreement as follows:

- Review the evidence about the functional economic area and advise how best to generate Gross Value Added growth and support the ambitions of a dynamic capital region in a successful Welsh Economy.
- Examine the challenges and opportunities for economic growth and competitiveness and make recommendations for how the CCR can achieve its full growth potential, and contribute most to the Welsh economy.

2.68 In 2016 the Commission published its report and recommendations. It considered the spatial development throughout the Capital region, concluding that "*the Cardiff Capital Region is not homogeneous; it consists of diverse places each with distinctive histories, strengths, challenges and opportunities.*"

- 2.69 Its findings recommended “*With differences in economic performance and outcomes across the city-region there is a clear need to ensure that the region is organised spatially in a way that maximises the benefits for residents*”
- 2.70 The report recommended that the Capital Region develops a spatial perspective, complementing the economic strategy, that define the roles of::
- Cardiff and Newport as established hubs of business, commerce and institutions, each playing to their particular strengths;
 - Cardiff Airport and the associated Enterprise Zones;
 - The re-emerging towns such as Bridgend, Barry, Caerphilly and Pontypridd that are in transition to accommodating high value-added activity, renewed resident populations and university expansions; and
 - The Valleys and rural towns which are becoming increasingly important centres for local services, amenities and the foundational economy, and are developing their roles in tourism and leisure.
 - The environment in the growth and regeneration of the valleys with the Valleys Regional Park being developed to secure a range of long lasting benefits associated with the environment and well-being.
- 2.71 In January 2018 the Joint Cabinet agreed in principle the preparation of a SDP for the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal area, and in June 2019 endorsed a report to be presented to each of the 10 constituent local authorities of the region seeking their agreement to commence work on the SDP. To date 8 local authorities have presented this report to their Councils and all 8 have agreed to commence work on the SDP. The remaining 2 authorities are due to present the report to their councils early in 2020.

Strategic Development Plan

- 2.72 A key issue to arise from the work undertaken in respect of the City Deal is the potential for a regional level of development plan, a SDP. The Planning Act makes provision for Strategic Development Plans to be prepared.
- 2.73 The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 introduced the provisions to set up Corporate Joint Committees [CJC] for designated Regions within Wales. The Regions were to be defined by the National development Framework (Future Wales 2040) and one of the responsibilities of the CJC is to prepare a Strategic Development Plan for their region. Future Wales 2040 identifies South East Wales as one of the regions in Wales and, as such, the CJC for the region will be responsible for delivering the SDP.
- 2.74 Whilst setting up the CJC and commencing the preparation of a SDP will take time, the R2LDP will need to ensure that it is monitoring the position with the SDP and that it ensures, as far as is practicable, that it is in general conformity with it.

Conclusion

- 2.75 Whilst there have been significant changes since the adoption of the LDP, the changes have not directly affected the existing policy framework and consequently there is no requirement to review the LDP arising from the policy based changes.
- 2.76 The Well-being Act has made radical changes to how local authorities, and the public sector as a whole, act, interact and deliver their services. However, the changes are generally procedurally based and, as a result, are not retrospective. Consequently the Well-being Act does not directly impact on LDP policy, only affecting the processes for implementing it.

2.77 However, whilst it is noted that the need to review the LDP does not arise from the changes, the situation has changed significantly since the LDP was adopted and these changes will need to be taken into account and addressed through the LDP Review process.

2. Annual Monitoring

- 3.1 It is a statutory requirement for all local planning authorities to monitor the delivery of their LDP through annual monitoring reports (AMR). The main aim of the AMR is to assess the extent to which the Strategy and Strategy Policies of the LDP are being achieved. It, therefore, has two primary roles; firstly to consider whether the policies identified in the monitoring process are being implemented successfully; and secondly to consider the plan as a whole against all of the information gathered to determine whether a complete or partial review of the plan is necessary.
- 3.2 In order to consider whether the strategy is being implemented successfully, the LDP strategic policies, which should deliver the strategy, are monitored by considering a number of indicators related to each policy. As the strategic policies are complex, more than one indicator is required to monitor each policy, with each indicator monitoring a specific element within the overall policy context. Some of the indicators monitor the delivery of the policy over the plan period and whether it meets its anticipated trajectory and others monitor how far a policy is being delivered from its expected norm. Where policies have deviated significantly from their expected norm and reach their trigger point, the AMR includes a consideration of whether that policy is not being delivered appropriately and whether it is sufficient to require a review of the LDP. In addition, there is also a requirement to monitor the effects that the implementation of the LDP is having on the environment under the requirements of the European Directive on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment [SEA Directive]. This is monitored through indicators derived from the sustainability indicators set out in the Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal [SEA/SA]. The SEA/SA monitoring is also included in the AMR each year.
- 3.3 This section will consider the issues arising from the most recent AMR, which was published in October 2019 and covered the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. Note that, as outlined in paragraph 1.17 previously, the requirement to prepare a monitoring report for 2020 was waived by Welsh Government. As such the 2019 AMR remains the most up-to-date annual monitoring report for the county borough and this report will review annual monitoring on the basis of that AMR. It should be noted that the housing delivery statement that was agreed by Council in December 2020 included the same recommendations for addressing the shortfall in housing delivery that had been included in the 2019 AMR.
- 3.4 It should also be noted that at the time the 2019 AMR was prepared the changes to TAN1 and the revocation of the 5-year land supply requirement and policy had not been made and so these were the considerations for that report.

Strategic Policies and LDP Objectives

- 3.5 Whilst there are 8 previous AMRs, the most recent AMR (2019) is the most relevant for the Review Report as it provides the most up to date position in respect of the Adopted LDP. It should be noted that the 2013 AMR, produced for the period 1 April 2012 – March 31 2013 concluded that, whilst the LDP Development Strategy remained sound, the need to address housing land supply and the requirement for new sites for the 21st Century Schools programme would require a change to the Adopted policy and a revision of the plan should be undertaken.
- 3.6 The revision of the Adopted Plan was commenced in 2013 and Preferred Strategy and Deposit Replacement LDP documents were published and consulted on. At the meeting of the Full Council on 19 July 2016 the Council resolved to withdraw the Replacement LDP (subject to Ministerial approval) and seek support for the early preparation of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Cardiff Capital Region. As a result the council withdrew the revision to the Adopted LDP and retained the current Adopted LDP to determine the

future use of land and building in the county borough. In doing so it is important to understand those policies that are being effective and understand which policies are not.

3.7 The Adopted LDP sets out 22 Strategic Policies that are intended to deliver the plan strategy and realise the plan vision. It is these policies that are monitored to determine whether the strategy is being implemented. The 2019 AMR found that, for the first time since its adoption, over half of the strategic policies are identified as not delivering as expected. Eleven of the policies have been identified as not delivering as expected but do not require interventions, whilst 2 of the policies are identified as failing to deliver and interventions are required. Table 1, below, sets out the relative performance of the Strategic Policies, whilst Appendix 1 sets out the performance of the policies and an explanation of what action is required and why.

Strategic Policy		Performance
SP1	Development in the HOVRA	
SP2	Development in the NCC	
SP3	Development in the SCC	
SP4	Settlement Strategy	
SP5	Settlement Boundaries	
SP6	Place Making	
SP7	Planning Obligations	
SP8	Minerals Safeguarding	
SP9	Waste Management	
SP10	Conservation of Natural Heritage	
SP11	Countryside Recreation	
SP12	Development of the Valleys Regional Park	
SP13	Leisure Centre in the HOVRA	
SP14	Total Housing Requirements	
SP15	Affordable Housing Target	
SP16	Managing Employment Growth	
SP17	Promoting Commercial Development	
SP18	Protection of the Strategic Leisure Network	
SP19	Transport Infrastructure Improvement	
SP20	Road Hierarchy	
SP21	Parking Standards	
SP22	Community, Leisure and Education Facilities	




Key	
	Policy is being met or exceeded. No intervention required.
	Policy is not delivering as anticipated but is delivering sufficiently and does not require intervention measures.
	Policy is failing to deliver as anticipated and intervention measures should be considered.

Table 1: Policy Performance (2019 AMR)

3.8 Table 1, above, identifies two Strategic Policies that are not being implemented as anticipated and are deviating to a point that intervention measures should be undertaken. The policies, SP14 - Total Housing Requirements and SP15 – Affordable Housing Target both relate to the delivery of housing to meet the needs to the projected population in 2021. These policies are failing due to an accumulation of the same factors, specifically:

- low house building rates,
- risk-averse investment, and

- very low housing land supply figures.
- 3.9 To fully consider whether the plan strategy is being implemented, consideration also needs to be given to whether the LDP Objectives are being delivered. Appendix 2 sets out the performance of the policies against the LDP Objectives. The LDP contains 24 Objectives that set out what the LDP will deliver by the end of the plan period. Appendix 2 identifies that 14 of the 24 Objectives are being delivered as anticipated, indicating that the majority of the LDP strategy is being delivered as anticipated. It then identifies 7 Objectives that are not being delivered as anticipated, but have been subject of progress towards their delivery. These Objectives do not require intervention measures as continued progress could realise their delivery by the end of the plan period.
- 3.10 Finally Appendix 2 identifies 3 Objectives that are not being delivered as anticipated. Objective 9, which addresses the delivery of housing, has been identified as not being delivered. Whilst just over 50% of the total housing requirement has been delivered to date, this is behind the anticipated rate, as only two years of the plan period remain. Furthermore, the Council does not have the required five-year housing land supply. This is a material consideration in the determination of housing applications and has resulted in a number of housing applications being allowed on appeal in locations that are contrary to the LDP.
- 3.11 Objective 17 which addresses Caerphilly's role as a commercial and employment centre and Objective 18, on providing and protecting a diverse portfolio of employment land for a variety of employment uses, have also been identified as not delivering, on the grounds of the small amount of land granted planning permission for employment use and no allocated employment sites being developed for employment use during the monitoring period.

General Findings of the Policy Monitoring

- 3.12 In order to fully consider whether the LDP is being implemented appropriately, the monitoring framework for the LDP monitors progress on the delivery of the policies and also monitors factors that could indicate that the evidence base that informed the preparation of the LDP could be out-of-date and would need to be revisited, e.g. the viability evidence that informed the affordable housing targets. There are 80 indicators in the monitoring framework and together they provide an overview of the current position in respect of the LDP. The main findings of the 2019 AMR are:
- The annual house building rate in this AMR has fallen this year from 284 to 190 units (based on 2018 Joint Housing Land Availability Study figures).
 - The housing land supply figure has increased from 2.1 years to 2.3 years using the residual method, following the approval of several major housing applications. *(It should be noted that the AMR uses the data from the previous year's JHLAS, due to the fact that the JHLAS is generally agreed after the preparation of the data for the AMR Report. Therefore, the 2019 AMR uses the 2018 JHLAS information that actually covers the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. The 2019 JHLAS has recently been agreed and the housing land supply has decreased to 2.0 years. This is still well below the 5-year requirement. This figure will be reflected in the 2019 AMR)*
 - The average house price for the county borough increased by 2% from £129,928 to £132,469.
 - The annual unemployment rate decreased from 6.2% to 5.2%.
 - The number of residents in employment increased from 80,700 to 81,900.
 - A further 12 hectares of employment land was granted planning permission.

- Of the principal town centres, only Caerphilly and Risca-Pontymister have a vacancy rate of lower than 10% and both towns saw their vacancy rates decrease to the lowest levels since the LDP was adopted. Blackwood, Bargoed and Ystrad Mynach have all seen an increase in vacancy rates.
- In the three principal towns with footfall counters (Caerphilly, Blackwood, Bargoed) there has been an increase in footfall in both Caerphilly and Blackwood. However, the previous AMR year data included a period of six weeks where the footfall counters were out of action so the data is not directly comparable. The figures in Bargoed have decreased, but this is to be expected as there is now only one footfall camera within the town rather than two.
- There was a further increase in visitor numbers to countryside recreation facilities to 1.5 million visitors per annum, and customer satisfaction has increased from 75% to 85%.

SEA/SA Monitoring

- 3.13 It is a statutory requirement that, as part of its preparation, the LDP is the subject SEA/SA. The SEA Directive requires that the LDP is the subject of Strategic Environmental Assessment and national legislation requires that LDPs are also subject of Sustainability Appraisal. As well as requiring SEA assessment of the LDP during its preparation, the SEA Directive also requires that the effects of the implementation of the plan on the environment be monitored annually, and it is incorporated into the AMR Report.
- 3.14 SEA monitoring is different to the LDP monitoring as it monitors the state of the environment rather than the performance of the LDP. The state of the environment is affected by many things, only some of which are within the remit of the LDP. Consequently when preparing the LDP the SEA/SA scopes out the state of the environment to identify relevant issues. These issues are then narrowed down to a series of indicators which provide information on the issues that have been identified and 25 sustainability objectives, setting out the target to be reached by the end date of the LDP, are identified. The indicators are used to assess the LDP, whilst the Sustainability Objectives are the basis for the monitoring of the state of the environment over the plan period.
- 3.15 Whilst the SEA monitoring is undertaken each year, the indicators are considered against their respective targets and whether progress is being made to achieve them. Therefore, for the purposes of this report, the key consideration is how the state of the environment at the last AMR differs from that at the start of the period, as this provides the long term changes and overall trends that are occurring, rather than yearly changes which can be greatly affected by issues with the data.
- 3.16 The overall results show a balanced outcome – whilst the overall number of double negatives has increased since last year, there are now single negatives. All of the indicators that are recorded as negative this year have previously been negative in at least one other AMR report. None have been consistently negative since the start of the plan period; there has been significant variation across the years. The annual results are set out in the Table at Appendix 3.

Issues Arising From Annual Monitoring

- 3.17 There are key issues that have been identified through the AMR process – the failure of the housing policies in delivering housing, including affordable housing, and the significant concerns around the future availability of land for employment to meet the needs of investors, linked to the wider regional aspirations for economic growth and prosperity.

3. Evidence Base

4.1 Underpinning the LDP is a wealth of information forming the LDP evidence base, which sets out the background position and reasons for the LDP strategy and its policy framework. The evidence base pulls information from a wide range of sources and changes in this information may not be directly reflected in the performance of the LDP. However, such changes could have fundamental implications for the policy framework and, as a result, changes to the evidence base need to be considered to determine whether they are of significance to the LDP, and the consideration of whether there is a requirements to Review the plan.

4.2 As the Council has resolved to undertake a full review of the LDP the whole of the evidence base will need to be reviewed and updated. Whilst the whole of the evidence base will need to be reviewed, consideration is given below to the principal issues relating to the land use topics and what needs to be done in respect of all relevant parts of the evidence base.

Population and Housing

Population Projections

4.3 The WG 2003-based sub-regional population and household projections were the ‘starting point’ that informed the population and household assumptions in the LDP. However, at the time of the preparation of growth scenarios PPW indicated that local authorities were able to deviate from these projections where they could justify their own policy based projections. The LDP is based on a position of moderate growth.

4.4 Since the LDP was prepared, a number of other sets of projections have been published by Welsh Government - 2006-based, 2008-based, 2011-based and most recently, the 2014 based population and housing projections.

4.5 It should be noted that the projections are trend based so do not make allowances for the effects of local or central government policies or socio-economic factors on future population levels, distribution and change or household composition and only indicate what may happen in future should the trend-based assumptions become true.

4.6 In respect of the 2011-based projections, the then Minister for Housing and Regeneration wrote to local authorities highlighting the need for caution in the use of the projections, particularly as the trend based nature of them would include assumptions based on the previous five year trends. Welsh Government has confirmed that the principles of this letter is still relevant for the 2014-based projections, highlighting that the housing requirements in the LDP must be based on all sources of evidence rather than relying solely on the projections.

4.7 The 2014 population projections show a low level of growth in the period up to 2030, before the population begins to decline. The population growth is projected to be due to natural change, with a negative level of migration (more international and internal migrants expected to move out than in). Furthermore, the projections indicate that there will be a significant increase in the number of people who are aged 65 and over. Conversely, the economically active population and population aged 15 and under are both projected to decrease.

4.8 The projections show a declining population with a significant decrease in working age population. This is significantly different from the population projections used to inform the LDP. Any review of the LDP will need to consider and address these issues

4.9 Since the LDP was adopted, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) has been subject to several revisions with respect to Population and Housing. PPW recognises that the household

projections are based on population projections. From the projections perspective, the emphasis has changed from the housing projections forming the "starting point for assessing housing requirements" to "forming a fundamental part of the plan's evidence together with other key issues such as what the plan is seeking to achieve, links between homes and jobs, the need for affordable housing, Welsh language considerations, the provisions of corporate strategies and the deliverability of the plan." Any review of the LDP will need to consider a range of factors in determining the level of future growth.

- 4.10 Two key elements of the evidence base that underpin the housing topic are the Local Housing Market Assessment and the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. Both of these assessments will need to be refreshed to provide up to date and robust evidence for the LDP Review.

Affordable Housing Targets

- 4.11 The affordable housing policies in the LDP were informed by an Affordable Housing Viability Assessment [AHVA], which tested notional 1 hectare sites in a number of market areas and made assumptions about: the mix of houses, type of affordable housing, sales values, development costs, developer profit and land values. Two of the key elements in this assessment were land values, which are a cost to development viability, and house prices, which are revenue for development viability. Changes in these two values can have very significant implications for development viability and for the level of affordable housing that can be achieved through the planning system.
- 4.12 Land values are historically difficult to monitor, as the purchase values for land are not disclosed and are variable due to a large number of factors. As a result the monitoring framework does not include indicators related to land values. House prices, on the other hand, are known and published and the monitoring framework includes an indicator on house prices. Interestingly house prices have increased significantly to the point that the Indicator triggered for the first time in the 2017 AMR. In order to ensure that the affordable housing target was reasonable, the AVHA was the subject of sensitivity testing, which determined the effects of fluctuations in the assumptions that underpin the assessment. The sensitivity testing included a change in house prices and the trigger for this indicator was set at the ends of the sensitivity testing, where changes to house prices did not undermine the target. The fact that this indicator has triggered at the high end of the scale means that increases in house prices have occurred that could undermine the affordable housing target (i.e. in some areas the amount of affordable housing that it would be viable to deliver could be higher than the targets in the plan). However, it must be noted that there are many other factors that could mitigate against the rise in house prices, meaning that the target is still appropriate.
- 4.13 The Affordable housing target, along with its supporting viability evidence, will need to be reviewed and re-assessed as part of any review of the LDP.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.14 Given that the WG projections are only part of the evidence base, and are not intended to determine growth levels, or even a spatial distribution of growth, there is scope for a regional context that would set overarching parameters that, cumulatively, local plans would need to realise. This would allow the strategic level to consider the regional spatial distribution of growth, which would reinforce both City Deal and the Valleys Taskforce aspirations.
- 4.15 PPW advises that "Local Housing Market Assessments provide the evidence base supporting policies to deliver affordable housing through the land use planning system". Guidance on producing local housing market assessments requires that consideration for housing issues should be based on the broad housing areas, rather than local authority

administrative boundaries. Housing markets are not restricted to local authority boundaries and cover large areas, often located within two or more authorities.

- 4.16 Acting on a regional scale would assist in the consideration of the housing markets across the CCR which could result in a more homogenous system of affordable housing targets across the region. Such consideration, however, could be undermined by local Community Infrastructure Levy charges that could drastically affect site viability between local authority areas within the same housing market area, unless CIL was also regionalised. This would be unlikely, however, as not all councils have moved to adopt Charging Schedules for CIL and it would be unlikely that those authorities would move to a regional CIL now.

Joint Working

- 4.17 Currently the population and housing projections that underpin the adopted plans are based on local assumptions that are influenced by local circumstances and the aspirations of different administrations. Whilst joint working across local authorities is possible, there are significant issues of compatibility of objectives and aims between authorities that could render such work problematic, especially where authorities have differing views of the level of growth that should be accommodated.
- 4.18 The position is similar in respect of housing. Whilst housing market areas do extend across local authority boundaries, they are not reflective of them. As a result whilst adjoining authorities may share some housing market areas, they also share others with other authorities. A joint approach can only partially address the issue of cross border issues.

Employment

Employment Development

- 4.19 The LDP allocates 101.9 hectares of land for employment uses of which 25.7 hectares have been developed for employment purposes. Whilst only 25.5% of the allocated land has been developed, Oakdale Plateau 1 continues to be the focus of interest for potential occupiers and Ty Du in Nelson has recently been granted planning consent for mixed-use development and is expected to commence on-site in early 2020.
- 4.20 The adopted LDP allocates three sites in the Caerphilly Basin. To date, one of these sites has been built out (Western Industrial Estate) and a further site (Caerphilly Business Park) has been partially developed. The land available for new employment development within the Caerphilly Basin is, therefore, very limited. Whilst there are opportunities for redevelopment on existing industrial estates, the lack of any significant sites for employment growth is a concern from a strategic perspective, due to the identification of Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach, as a 'strategic hub' by the Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales Valleys.
- 4.21 Employment land does remain in other parts of the County Borough, including at Oakdale Plateaux 1, 2 and 4, Heads of the Valleys, Hawtin Park North, Duffryn South and Trecenydd. There is also land for smaller scale development and redevelopment within existing industrial estates. However, in light of the developments that have taken place during the plan period to date, the diversity and range of allocated sites that remain are limited and it would be timely to reconsider whether these continue to meet the needs of the business community. The decrease in permissions for B1/B2/B8 employment this year, together with the low rates of delivery over the past three years, raises concerns that there is no longer the range and diversity of sites to meet future needs. This is critical in respect of regional aspirations, where City Deal strives to deliver 25,000 jobs in the region; the allocation of land is needed to facilitate this.
- 4.22 Key elements of the evidence base in respect of employment are a larger than local assessment of the economic market and an assessment of existing employment land and

forecasts of future employment land requirements. Both of these will need to be revisited as part of the LDP Review.

Economic Structure

- 4.23 By comparison to the CCR and Wales as a whole, the county borough has a relatively low proportion of its residents employed in managerial and senior professional occupations. Conversely a higher proportion of the residents in the county borough are employed in mid-level jobs.
- 4.24 Thirty percent of the county borough's workforce is employed in the public sector (public administration, education and health) which is lower than the rate for South East Wales. Manufacturing, on the other hand, employs 22.9% of the workforce, which is over double the rate for South East Wales. The county borough has particularly strong manufacturing sub-sectors, namely food, plastics and paper products.
- 4.25 Any review of the LDP will need to reflect the economic structure when identifying and allocating sustainable employment sites for future economic growth.

Commuting

- 4.26 Caerphilly county borough has one of the highest out-commuting rates in Wales with just under 41,000 trips for employment outside of the county borough, most of which use the car as their mode of travel. Monitoring data identifies an overall trend of increasing levels of out-commuting, with out-commuting exceeding 50% of total residents travel to work in the 2016, 2017 and 2019 AMRs. There is also a significant in-commute every day, the 2019 AMR figure being 17,400 trips into the county borough from other authorities.
- 4.27 The level of commuting, and the fact that the vast majority uses the car, has major implications for the county borough's strategic road network. Caerphilly Basin is quickly approaching severe congestion and potential gridlock, whilst the Mid-Valley strategic routes suffers delays and increasing congestion through Maesycwmmmer.
- 4.28 From an employment perspective a key factor influencing the need to travel outside of the county borough, is the number of jobs available for the economically active resident population. The 2019 AMR identifies the job density (number of jobs per head of economically active population) of just 0.56, effectively just over one job per 2 people. This shortage in jobs requires the county borough's economically active to travel outside the county borough for employment.
- 4.29 It should be noted, however, that the job density for the county borough has been rising since its low of 0.47 in 2003, indicating that the position is slowly being rectified. However, further increases will be required to assist in alleviating the issues of commuting traffic within and outside the county borough. Any review of the plan will need to consider increasing the employment land provision in the county borough through the allocation of attractive and viable sites that can be delivered during the plan period.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.30 Planning Policy Wales advises "*Effective planning for the economy requires local planning authorities to work strategically and co-operatively steering development and investment to the most efficient and most sustainable locations, regardless of which local authority area they are in.*", whilst TAN 23 – Economic Development advises "*Local planning authorities are encouraged, therefore, to work jointly in regional groups, which ideally already exist, to prepare regional economy evidence bases, including an analysis of the dynamics of the regional commercial and industrial property market, followed by an economic strategy*". Both of these references indicate that a more regional approach to considering future economic development needs to be adopted in future plan preparation.

- 4.31 TAN 23 also requires that local authorities undertake a study that considers “*individual local planning authorities’ position in the region and nationally and also include high level data on non B class uses falling within other employment categories to ensure a picture of the whole economy is presented*”. This requires LDP strategies to reflect the regional economic pattern and to establish policies that have regard to it. Given this, there is already a regional requirement for economic development.

Joint Working

- 4.32 In keeping with the “larger than local” approach to planning for economic development put in place by TAN 23, SEWSPG has established a methodology for the undertaking of employment land reviews across South East Wales, ensuring a common approach to employment surveys. This will enable a regional evidence base to be established with employment sites assessed and evaluated in accordance with a single set of parameters, which will have clear advantages from the point of view of preparing a SDP. However, there are differing levels of resources across the ten LPAs, both in terms of staffing levels and expertise in undertaking such work (some have not, to date, undertaken employment surveys), and this will have implications in terms of establishing a single evidence base and in terms of employment forecasting for the region, especially bearing in mind the requirements of PPW 10 which stipulates that reviews include assessments of anticipated employment change by sector and land use, and targets on land provision for employment uses showing net change by sector.
- 4.33 Caerphilly, in conjunction with Monmouthshire, Newport, Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent, have jointly procured a larger than local economic review, which will provide the basis for the wider economic analysis for the LDP review.

Transport

The Strategic Highway Network and Congestion

- 4.34 The Transport Background Paper to the LDP states that “. . . *without legislative intervention or the introduction of fiscal measures, car travel will continue to be the dominant transport mode for the majority of people who live and work within the county borough*”. This remains true. Following a slight reduction in traffic between 2010 and 2013, traffic levels have again continued an upward trend, resulting in increasing congestion levels and congestion continues to be the principal transport issue for the development plan. In order to appropriately plan for future transport needs it is important that there is a thorough understanding of the current position and where interventions are required.
- 4.35 In order to effectively plan for the future a more robust evidence base is required. Whilst Planning applications deliver localised transport assessments, which provide useful information to feed into the strategic picture, a fuller and better understanding of the strategic network and its linkages is important to inform any future plan.

Air Quality

- 4.36 One of the main implications arising from increasing traffic and congestion is worsening air quality. The County Borough already has two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) and increasing traffic and congestion is likely to increase the number of areas that exceed minimum air quality standards.
- 4.37 Whilst Action Plans for both of the AQMAs have been produced and are being implemented, general measures to address traffic management and measures to seek the reduction in vehicular traffic also need to be pursued to realise the required improvement in air quality generally. Increased use of public transport and active travel are important measures, but so are traffic management schemes that seek to address traffic movements where they are giving rise to air quality issues.

Rail

- 4.38 Responsibility for rail transport is vested with WG (Transport for Wales [TfW]) and the new rail franchise operator Keolis-Amey. As part of the City Deal and Metro further expansion of the rail transport system is proposed... It should be noted that the improvements to the rail service in the county borough will increase capacity and service levels, but this increase is not sufficient in itself to address the congestion and commuting issues facing the county borough and other measures will also be required to deliver meaningful change.

Bus

- 4.39 Local authorities are an important element in the delivery of bus services throughout the region, being responsible for administering subsidies to routes to aid viability. There is a need to increase connectivity between bus and rail services, improve linkages between them and provide a more comprehensive and integrated transport system and this will need to be reflected through any new development plan.

Active Travel

- 4.40 The Council has published its Active Travel Integrated Network Map, which sets out existing and proposed active travel routes. The Council is continuing to work on delivering the proposed active travel routes.
- 4.41 Moving forward active travel will form a key element of the transport infrastructure. Whilst strategic rail and bus transport will provide transport for distances, there are many journeys that do not end at the rail or bust stop. The most effective mode of transport for these trips is via active travel. Moving forward any new plan will need to consider how to provide active travel opportunities to continue bus and rail journeys to their ultimate destination.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.42 Transport at a regional level will be considered through City Deal and the Metro, through the Regional Transport Body that will be set up to facilitate it. It will be necessary to integrate bus and active travel modes into the regional transport system to ensure that the objectives for City Deal are delivered.

Regional Working

- 4.43 The South East Wales Region has a history of joint working, through regional officer groups to the former SEWTA regional transport body. When SEWTA was wound up in 2014 Regional Transport Plans were dropped and Local Transport Plans brought in to replace them. In response to this the Council, in conjunction with Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Torfaen Borough Councils, jointly prepared and published the South East Wales Valleys Local Transport Plan, which sets out the transport plan for each of the contributing authority areas.
- 4.44 Further to this the 10 authorities comprising the Cardiff Capital Region have agreed to work jointly in delivering the Metro through a regional body.

Natural Heritage

Biodiversity

- 4.45 There is a Biodiversity Duty that requires local authorities to protect and enhance biodiversity as part of their decisions. This is a key driver for sustainable development and well-being and as such will need to be at the heart of any plan revision.
- 4.46 There is a defined hierarchy of nature conservation protection sites, with European designations being most protected, followed by national designations with local designations given the least stringent protection.

4.47 Aberbargoed Grasslands Special Area for Conservation [SAC] is the county borough's only designated European site of nature conservation importance. There are 13 nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest [SSSI] within the county borough; 8 of these are designated on nature conservation interest and 5 on their geological interest. Both the European and national sites are defined and identified outside of the remit of the development plan and therefore have no evidence base implications for the plan review.

4.48 The LDP identifies and allocates 190 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation [SINC]. SINCs are identified and given their protection through the adoption of the LDP... Given that SINCs are the least protected sites in the protection hierarchy, they are at risk from agricultural operations and from proposed development. Consequently, SINCs can easily be adversely affected and fall below the requirements for designation over the plan period. Similarly some sites can continue to improve as habitats and become eligible for designation over time. A review of the status and quality of sites will need to be undertaken to inform any review of the plan.

Landscape

4.49 The LDP allocates 6 Special Landscape Areas [SLA], which seek to protect important landscapes from damage from development. These designations were evidenced using Landmap as the basis for the designations that remains valid today. A review of the LDP may require changes to existing settlement boundaries and consequential changes to SLAs may be required. Any changes will be minor and at the edges of the SLAs. .

4.50 The LDP also allocates 4 Visually Important Local Landscapes [VILL], which are important for their aesthetic landscape value. A review of the LDP may require changes to existing settlement boundaries and consequential changes to VILLs may be required.

4.51 The council are in the process of preparing a Landscape Strategy for the county borough and this will feed into any revision of the LDP.

Green Infrastructure

4.52 The Council is in the process of preparing its Green Infrastructure Strategy that will address the issues of Green Infrastructure. In addition consideration will also need to be given to the issue of green wedges and the potential for coalescence of settlements. Both of these will feed into any revision of the LDP

Geology & Geomorphology

4.53 Caerphilly County Borough has five sites that qualify for protection as a Regionally Important Geological Site [RIGS]. However these sites are not specifically designated as RIGS as they are also nationally designated as SSSIs, which carries greater protection than the RIGS designation would. Given the hierarchical nature of the protection designations, the higher SSSI designation provides greater protection than the RIGS designation would, so the SSSI designation is retained for these sites. This position has not changed and will not need to be revisited as part of any review.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

4.54 Since natural heritage issues are not defined by administrative boundaries they should be addressed strategically, through consultation and collaboration with adjoining planning authorities.

4.55 The Valleys Regional Park (VRP) concept drives and promotes activities related to the environment and heritage and associated tourism activities across the South Wales Valleys. Its activities are already delivered through a strategic cross-boundary collaborative and regional approach. In addition to a funded package of enhancements the VRP supports design principles that help protect the natural heritage of the Valleys, increase its resilience and improve usage.

Joint Working

- 4.56 A report has been carried out looking at future options for the next phase of the VRP and this will be of major importance across the CCR in respect of natural heritage matters.
- 4.57 In terms of natural heritage, there is a history of joint working, through both regional and national officer groups. Regionally, the continued designation of biodiversity and midscape sites is required, however, standard criteria is required for such designations. Green Infrastructure policies should be considered at regional level and key local green network features, and particularly linkages, should be maintained and enhanced throughout the region.

Retailing

- 4.58 The Shopper Attitude Survey (SAS) is undertaken to establish: where and how often residents are shopping for their food (convenience) and non-food purchases (comparison / bulky comparison); reasons for visiting centres; their attitude towards the centres and means of transport used'. The survey includes both a telephone survey and an on-street survey. (Caerphilly county borough is split into 6 retail catchment areas defined by fitting census small area boundaries to 20 minute drive time isochrones for each centre). The survey sample includes postcode areas from within each of the 6 catchment areas across the county borough in order to be capable of producing residents' behaviour patterns by individual settlements.
- 4.59 In Caerphilly County Borough the data from the SAS in addition to population and expenditure data purchased from Experian (industry standard that consultants also use) is used to carry out all the retail calculations in respect of retail capacity. The Shopper Attitude Survey and retail analysis will need to be revisited as part of the LDP Review.
- 4.60 Retail and Commercial Centres are increasingly becoming 'hubs' for investment with funding forthcoming from City Deal and the Metro as well as being identified as locations for investment by the Valleys Taskforce. The nature of town centres is changing, with their increasing prominence as service centres, economic development hubs and major employers and to a lesser extent retail. The future vitality and viability of town centres is very much dependent upon their ability to adapt and to serve the needs of their immediate catchment.
- 4.61 There is scope across the region to work jointly together to establish regional evidence and align local evidence gathering methodologies. In recognition of this, a decision was made by SEWSPG to undertake work relating to specific topic areas that would underpin the evidence base of any 'new' emerging plan. A Retail Task and Finish Group was established at the request of SEWSPG. The purpose of this group was for practitioners to:
- Identify best practice;
 - Align an LDP evidence base as it relates to retail across the 10 Local Planning Authority Areas;
 - Establish a common methodology for each LPA to use in undertaking annual retail monitoring to determine current retail provision ;
 - Propose a methodology for undertaking a regional retail capacity study;
 - Identify the potential for collaborative working;
 - Highlight the resource implications of all of the above.
- 4.62 The first retail paper that proposed a standardised methodology for surveying existing retail provision was agreed by SEWSPG in May 2017. The second retail paper intended to devise a methodology to undertake a Retail Capacity Assessment for the region and the resource implications and potential cost savings in undertaking this work collaboratively is

yet to be reported but could have implications for work in respect of the retail evidence base.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.63 Leaders within the CCR have committed to producing a SDP for the region in order to drive growth in appropriate locations and to provide the critical mass necessary to support a strong and diverse economy. Whilst the scope of the SDP is yet to be determined there is a strong likelihood that this will include defining a Retail Hierarchy for the region.

Joint Working

- 4.64 Whilst a common methodology has been agreed by SEWSPG partners for monitoring existing retail provision and aligning the retail evidence base across the CCR, further work needs to be progressed in respect of undertaking retail capacity assessments and the merits of undertaking this work collaboratively.

Leisure

- 4.65 Welsh Government requires local authorities to create a framework for allocating adequate land for provision of sport, recreation and leisure facilities. This can only be reasonably achieved by undertaking local assessments of need and audits of existing provision.

- 4.66 PPW recognises the Fields in Trust Standards [FIT Standards], which were introduced to replace the National Playing Fields Association [NPFA] six acres standard, as a useful benchmark for assessing the need for sports and recreational provision. A Play sufficiency assessment was undertaken in 2013 to inform the now withdrawn Replacement LDP, however there have been changes in the interim period that will require this assessment to be updated.

Natural Green Space

- 4.67 The former Countryside Council for Wales (now part of Natural Resources Wales) developed the “Greenspace Toolkit” that sets targets for access to green space for set distances from a person’s home.
- 4.68 The Council, in conjunction with 4 other authorities, undertook an assessment of the county borough that identified that the county borough was well provided with larger green spaces at distance, reflecting the large area of open uplands and common above the linear settlements along the valley floor, with less provision at the shortest distances, particularly provision within 400m. This position still remains and it is unlikely that further assessment is warranted.

Open Space and Outdoor Recreation and Leisure

- 4.69 A review of outdoor recreation and an audit of open space were undertaken as part of the preparatory work for the now withdrawn Replacement LDP. Both assessments identified areas where provision was needed and where protection of facilities were heightened due to under provision. The Council approved its Sports and Active Recreation Strategy in November 2018. Any revision of the LDP will need to take account of this Strategy.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.70 All LDPs contain policies for the provision and protection of open space and recreation within their areas. Whilst there is some discrepancy in the background evidence that has been used to reach targets, generally, the FIT standards are used.
- 4.71 Some LPA’s have used consultants and have looked at both public and private leisure provisions within their respective LDPs, as well as incorporating Leisure facilities into their Retail studies as the two subjects can overlap.

Joint Working

- 4.72 Whilst there is some collaborative working to plan for the delivery of sport and physical activity, generally, leisure issues such as play parks, skate parks and sporting facilities are localised to communities rather than large areas of population.
- 4.73 However, larger leisure activities such as leisure centres, cinemas and golf clubs have a much bigger impact that reach beyond local authority boundaries. Leisure Centres are the council's only commercial leisure provision, although the council also owns and operates tourism attractions, such as BMI, Llancaiach Fawr and Country Parks, that also operate on a commercial basis. Other larger leisure activities tend to be provided by the private sector.

Community Facilities

- 4.74 Community Facilities cover a wide range of services, some of which are delivered by the Council, whilst others are provided by either other public bodies (e.g. Aneurin Bevan Health Board) or by the private sector/third parties. As a result the evidence underpinning the community facilities element of the LDP is heavily reliant upon input from other bodies and organisations.
- 4.75 Whilst the Council monitors the delivery of its provision of community facilities, changes in the need and provision of those facilities not provided by the Council will need to be identified by the respective provider having regard for the planned level of population and household growth. As a result it will be necessary to update the evidence in respect of those elements of the community facilities provision.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues & Joint Working

- 4.76 The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires public bodies 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. Most importantly the Act requires that all public bodies work together to deliver services, rather than individually and in isolation. To deliver this change each local authority within the CCR is required to establish a Public Service Board to oversee the integrated delivery of services across the public sector. Each PSB is a separate entity and the legislation does not require them to work together. However they do work together on mutually relevant issues. Most PSB partner organisations, apart from the local authorities, cover a footprint wider than a single PSB area and this encourages joint working. In Gwent the 5 local authorities and their PSB partners work jointly through the Gwent Well-being Assessment Group (GSWAG), and partners across the whole Cardiff Capital Region City Deal work together on joint initiatives related to that strategic programme of work.

Waste

- 4.77 Planning for waste management is performed on a regional basis in Wales, with the preparation of Regional Waste Plans and the procurement of major new waste facilities being achieved through regional consortia. A significant implication of the regional approach to waste management provision is that the requirements of an individual local authority can be met within another local authority's area, or through a combination of facilities throughout the region.
- 4.78 The planning system has a role in implementing the revised EU Waste Framework Directive [rWFD] that aims to prevent and reduce the impacts of the generation and management of waste, whilst improving the efficiency and use of resources. Article 28 of rWFD requires member states to prepare waste management plans, fulfilled by PPW and TAN 21 Waste, and article 16 requires the establishment of a network of waste management facilities to address the recycling and disposal and use of waste.

- 4.79 PPW 10 sets out the role that the circular economy has to play in the reduction of waste and its importance in the waste hierarchy. The LDP review will need to address the issue of waste minimisation and the role of the circular economy in addition to setting out the waste management requirements for the county borough.
- 4.80 As part of facilitating the provision of sustainable waste management, the identification of suitable locations for such development should be considered as part of plan preparation, recognising that the most appropriate locations will be those with the least adverse impact on the local population and the environment and with the best potential to contribute to a broad infrastructure framework. TAN 21 Waste provides further guidance in respect of addressing waste issues through development plans.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.81 As outlined above waste management is already addressed on a regional basis through regional consortia.

Joint Working

- 4.82 Given that waste management is addressed through regional consortia means that each local authority is already working jointly with the others within its region.

Renewable Energy

- 4.83 In 2011, the Council completed a 'Renewable Energy Baseline Assessment' (REBA), which examined the potential within the county borough to generate renewable energy. In accordance with National Guidance, the authority has updated its Renewable Energy Baseline Assessment (REBA) in 2015 following the approach set out in 'Renewable Energy: A toolkit for Planners'. The 2015 Assessment identifies:
- The current renewable energy capacity within the County Borough; and
 - The future potential to harness renewable energy within Caerphilly County Borough Council;
- 4.84 The assessment concentrated on the following renewable energy technologies:
- Onshore Wind;
 - Biomass;
 - Energy from Waste;
 - Landfill Gas;
 - Anaerobic Digestion (animal and food);
 - Hydro power;
 - Building Integrated Renewables (BIR); and
 - Solar Farms.
- 4.85 The updated 2015 REBA study identifies the following as potential opportunities within Caerphilly:
- **Wind energy**, however cumulative visual impact is likely to limit the exploitation of this resource. Detailed feasibility work of specific sites would be required to confirm the viability of specific sites.
 - **Solar PV**, both building integrated and ground based. Further survey work would be required to identify viable projects as well as a landscape sensitivity and capacity study. Again, the cumulative impact is likely to limit the exploration of this resource.

- There are potential opportunities for heat networks in respect of proposed larger development sites across the County Borough.

- 4.86 As part of regional work undertaken for assessing the requirements of Wind Turbine developments across the County Borough, Gillespies LLP were commissioned to carry out a landscape sensitivity and capacity study for the county borough. This document highlights the various typologies of wind turbines, against the assessments within LANDMAP and against known constraints. The guidance does not however consider the environmental impact of development. The guidance also sets out the minimum requirements and standards of information to be submitted with a landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA). The guidance has been adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the LDP.
- 4.87 On 4th June 2019 Caerphilly County Borough Council formally declared a climate emergency as a Notice of Motion and as a result of this, the Council has committed to becoming net zero carbon by 2030. Following engagement with residents and key stakeholders, officers are in the process of developing a 'Net Zero Carbon Plan' which will focus on four broad categories being Reduce, Produce, Offset and Buy. The Net Zero Carbon Plan will also include a detailed action plan to enable the Authority to achieve the 2030 target.
- 4.88 The evidence base for renewable energy will need to be updated and consideration will also need to be given to the Draft NDF, which identifies Priority Areas for renewable energy and sets out the national policy for renewable energy generation

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.89 Regionally the vast majority of authorities have undertaken a REBA study, as required by Welsh Government in their toolkit. Whilst there is a strong desire to include renewable energy policies in LDPs and to not hinder their development through generic renewable energy policies, the designation of Strategic Search Areas has focussed such provision. However there are no Strategic Search Areas within Caerphilly and this may have a negative effect in scheme being progressed. The Draft NDF has proposed Priority Areas for onshore wind and solar energy generation that include areas within the county borough. The SDP for the region will need to take account of these as part of any regional policy strategy for renewable energy generation.

Joint Working

- 4.90 Welsh Government has set targets for the generation of renewable energy. Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10 requires local authorities to identify targets for renewable energy in their development plans. However, renewable energy targets would be better addressed at a regional level.
- 4.91 In producing a regional evidence base, as there is a need for LPA's to translate findings onto a map, regional working would help solidify the locations of where renewable energy generation would take place.
- 4.92 Whilst there is a general consensus across all LPA's for the need to increase renewable energy generation through appropriate proposals and allocations, it would require the identification of strategic search areas across the region. A regional evidence base that is well established and has regional buy in would assist in securing sites that may be of contention.

Minerals

- 4.93 Energy minerals have largely been considered through Local Development Plans, prepared in accordance with national guidance. Aggregates, on the other hand, have been

considered regionally since the early 1970s, when the Regional Aggregates Working Parties (RAWP) were set up to advise the government on aggregates demand and supply issues. The South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party (SWRAWP) covers the whole of South Wales, including Caerphilly County Borough. The SWRAWP undertakes an annual survey of aggregate sales and reserves, and produce the Regional Technical Statement, which sets out how aggregates demand will be met over the next 15 years, although this is reviewed every 5 years.

- 4.94 During the preparation of the LDP minerals activity was high, as a result of the buoyant economic climate. This was reflected in all future projected need for both energy minerals and aggregates, which formed the basis for the preparation of the minerals policies contained within the LDP. Whilst the Adopted LDP proposed no energy mineral requirements, the annual projected production for aggregates was around 800,000 tonnes per year. Since the first AMR Report Policy SP8 Minerals Safeguarding has consistently realised its trigger point because annual minerals production had fallen to just over 400,000 tonnes per year. However, the SWRAWP annual surveys identified that demand for aggregates had dropped significantly and that is why aggregate production also fell, as aggregates are only worked where a demand exists for them. The SWRAWP annual surveys also identified that the demand for aggregates across South East Wales was being met. As a consequence the level of production has fallen throughout the plan period for the LDP but this is a direct reflection of falling demand, which is otherwise being catered for.

The Regionalisation Agenda

Regional Issues

- 4.95 Regional issues are addressed through the RAWP and the second Regional Technical Statement was subject of public consultation from September to November 2019. The LDP Review will need to take account of this.

Joint Working

- 4.96 As outlined above, local authorities, along with other stakeholders, are already working jointly and progressively through the RAWP.

Covid 19 and Brexit

- 4.97 Whilst these two issues are not currently part of the evidence base, they both have the potential for very significant economic and social impacts that would have implications for all policy areas. In accounting for these issues, the main problem stems from a lack of evidence and information to substantiate the extent and nature of the impacts that these issues will have. It is highly likely that the information surrounding these issues will increase during plan preparation. However there is also likely to be significant wealth of short-term trends and actions that seek to address the immediate issues, but the emerging plan will need to take a long term view of the position and resist the potential to be drawn by short term trends.

What Changes Are Required to the LDP?

- 4.98 The Adopted LDP was adopted in November 2010 and, as such, the policy framework and evidence base in support of the framework are 10 years old. Whilst the Replacement LDP was progressed to Deposit stage, neither the evidence supporting this plan nor the policy framework it proposed were the subject of scrutiny through an Examination. The withdrawal of the Replacement LDP means that, whilst the evidence base was updated, the policy framework is still dated and any future revision of the Adopted LDP will require a fundamental reconsideration of all aspects of policy. This is necessary because:
- The national policy framework within Wales has changed significantly since the Adoption of the LDP in 2010 which have introduced a number of new and additional requirements to plan preparation;

- The Well-being Act has introduced a new way of working for public bodies and this needs to be embodied in any review of the LDP;
- The requirement to deliver sustainable development will need to be at the heart of the any review of the plan in accordance with the Well-being Act
- The increased pressure for joint working will impact upon how the evidence base is updated and will include more larger than local authority-wide assessments;
- The Environment Act sets out a biodiversity duty for local authorities that must be considered throughout the LDP. This will be underpinned by Area Statements that are required to be prepared by NRW.”
- The demography of the previous plan is based on Census figures that are 20 years old. Any review of the plan will require significant updating of these figures, which are at the heart of any development plan;
- The economic circumstances have changed dramatically from the period when the plan was adopted. Any review of the LDP will need to take account of the current and future economic environment;
- Leaving the European Union. Any review of the LDP will need to take account of the potential impacts of Brexit, not least the impacts that this will have on land use planning, specifically: migration, rural diversification and on funding streams that development proposals could be reliant upon;
- Any review will need to take account of the regionalisation agenda, in particular:
 - The implications and opportunities arising from City Deal, The Metro and the Valleys Task Force.
 - The implications arising from the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region.

4.99 Given the above, **ALL** of the content of the LDP will need to be reconsidered due to changes in circumstances and policy requirements that have occurred since the adoption of the LDP in 2010. These include:

- LDP Vision, Issues and Objectives: The Vision, Issues and Objectives of the LDP were borne out of the Council’s Community Plan. However since then Community Plans have been replaced by Single Integrated Plans, which themselves have recently been replaced by Well-being Plans. As the basis used for the LDP Vision, Issues and Objectives no longer exists, then these need fundamental reconsideration as part of the LDP review.

4. Options and Conclusions

5.1 The previous chapters have outlined the position in respect of the LDP, how it is performing and what an evidence base for any plan review would need to consider. Moving forward it is necessary to consider a number of factors before determining what course of action is appropriate for the Council. There are three broad areas that need to be considered, which are:

- Is a Review of the Adopted Plan necessary?;
- What form of review should be undertaken?;
- The scope for joint working;

Is a review of the Adopted plan necessary?

The 2019 Annual Monitoring Report

5.2 The 2019 AMR sets out the full position in respect of the current position in respect of the Adopted LDP and whether a review of the plan is required. The 2019 AMR has identified that 2 housing policies, namely: SP14 Total Housing Requirements; and SP15 Affordable Housing Target, its associated Objective (9) and two employment objectives (17 & 18) are not being delivered.

5.3 Since 2013 the housing indicators have identified that insufficient housing has been developed in the county borough. This was one of the two reasons for the commencement of a revision to the LDP in 2013, which was subsequently withdrawn. Whilst some housing proposals have been approved on appeal, this is insufficient to address the shortfall in housing. It is accepted that a review of the LDP is required to fully address this position.

5.4 Concern in respect of the Employment Objectives has been raised in the 2019 AMR. The concern revolves around the issue that the City Deal and Metro and the Valleys Taskforce have identified Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach as a focus for regional growth and investment, whilst the employment land in both towns is severely restricted. The lack of any significant sites for employment growth is a concern from a strategic perspective, due to the identification of Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach, as a 'strategic hub' by the Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales Valleys.

5.5 Whilst employment land exists elsewhere in the county borough, it does not provide the platform to realise the potential of the strategic hubs at Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach and as such, would compromise the ability to deliver the two Objectives. Given these issues the 2019 AMR concluded that a review of the LDP is required.

The Position in Respect of the SDP for the Region

5.6 When the Council resolved to withdraw the Replacement LDP in July 2016, and its subsequent ratification of the withdrawal of the plan in October 2016, it was on the basis that the Council would seek the early preparation of a SDP. As a result, whilst all AMRs since the 2013 AMR have identified that a review of the LDP was required, the resolution to pursue an early commencement of the SDP outweighed that need.

5.7 In January 2018 the Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet agreed the principle of preparing an SDP for the region and in June 2019 the Cabinet endorsed a report recommending the commencement of the SDP, which was to be presented to each of the 10 constituent local authorities for their agreement to commence the process. To date 8 of the authorities have presented the report and all 8 have accepted the recommendations. The remaining 2 authorities will present the report to their Councils early in the new year. The report was presented to Caerphilly Council on 23 October 2019 and the Council agreed the recommendations.

- 5.8 Since the Council has agreed to commence the preparation of a SDP for the region, the resolution from the 2016 decision to withdraw the Replacement LDP has now been met. As a result the resolution to pursue the early commencement of the SDP is no longer a reason not to commence a review of the LDP.
- 5.9 The enactment of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act in January 2021, it is now a statutory requirement that the CJC for the Cardiff Capital Region prepares an SDP for the region.

LDP Drop Dead Date

- 5.10 One of the key issues driving the need to review the LDP is the fact that the LDP will expire on 31st December 2021 (note: 7 of the region's 10 local authorities have LDPs that expire in 2021). The effect of this is that, under the Planning Act, the LDP will not form the local development plan for the county borough after the expiry date, and there will be no plan coverage if a revision or new plan is not in place. Whilst SEWSPG and the WLGA have repeatedly campaigned for WG to relax the expiry date to allow the policy frameworks to maintain coverage whilst the SDP is prepared and adopted, WG have not amended the position.
- 5.11 As a result the LDP will cease to be in effect, and will have no weight in planning decisions, after 31 December 2021. As a result a review of the LDP is required in order for there to be plan coverage for the county borough after the drop dead date.

Is a review of the Adopted LDP required - Conclusion

- 5.12 Given the above, the 2019 AMR concluded that a review of the LDP was required and should be commenced immediately. It should be noted that the Minister for Housing and Local Government has advised local planning authorities, who had plans adopted prior to the introduction of the Planning Act in 2015, that their plans do not expire at the end of their plan period. Rather they continue to provide a policy framework for considering development proposals. Whilst this removes one of the reasons for moving towards a review of the LDP, it does not undermine the need to undertake an immediate and full review of the LDP.

What form of review should be undertaken?

- 5.13 There are potentially 2 forms of review that could be undertaken in respect of the plan.

LDP Lite

- 5.14 The Planning Wales Act 2019 sets out the provisions for the preparation of Strategic Development Plans. In addition to this the Act sets out the provisions for local authorities within the area covered by an SDP to undertake a short form of LDP review termed an LDP Lite. The LDP Lite would benefit from the overarching strategy and strategic policies set out in the SDP. As a result the LDP Lite would comprise allocations and local development control policies.
- 5.15 Given the reduced content and the fact that the LDP Lite would not require the Preferred Strategy stage, due to the SDP Strategy, the LDP Lite would be quicker to prepare than a full review. However, an LDP Lite is directly related to the SDP and would therefore need to be prepared after the SDP, although it might be possible to commence the preparation of an LDP Lite when the SDP has reached a stage of relative certainty, i.e. submission for examination. Commencing preparation of an LDP Lite before the SDP is adopted runs the risk that the LDP Lite may be found not to be in conformity with the SDP if changes are made to the SDP as part of the examination process. This would require additional work to address the issue and would increase the preparation time for the LDP Lite.
- 5.16 Whilst the process for preparing the LDP Lite would be shorter, the fact that the preparation of the LDP Lite would need to be delayed until the SDP has reached an advanced stage means that the LDP Lite would, at best, be adopted in 2026, or even later if there are

delays in preparing the SDP. That would mean the county borough would be without LDP coverage for at least 5 years.

Full LDP Review

- 5.17 By comparison a full review of the Adopted LDP would require the full process, including the Preferred Strategy stage. The full review process is more expensive and longer than the LDP Lite process and WG expects LDP Revisions to take three and half years to prepare and adopt.
- 5.18 It should be noted that care would need to be taken with the preparation of a full review of the LDP to ensure that it remains in conformity with the emerging SDP as it is progressed, albeit slightly behind the LDP. If the new Replacement LDP is not in general conformity with the adopted SDP, then a further review of the LDP would be required, albeit in the form of the LDP Lite.

Review Form - Conclusion

- 5.19 The principal issue in respect of the form of the review is that the Adopted LDP is nearing the end of its plan period, and whilst the plan will not cease to have any weight, the fact remains that the plan would be operating outside of its plan period and there are issues that have arisen in respect of housing and employment land that need to be addressed. It is essential that these are addressed as a matter of priority and this would mean a full review is required as employment and housing land provision is at the heart of any future strategy.
- 5.20 Consequently a full review of the Adopted LDP should be undertaken.

The Scope for Joint Working

- 5.21 It is a requirement of the Review Report that it considers the potential for:
- preparing a joint LDP with other authorities, and/or
 - Working together to procure evidence for the evidence base

Joint LDP Preparation

- 5.22 There is general support from all authorities in the CC Region for joint working towards the preparation of a SDP. However, there are a number of issues that impact on the potential for undertaking joint reviews at a local level.
- 5.23 The principle behind preparing Joint Plans is that a comprehensive and joined up approach is taken towards cross-boundary issues. This would require that the two authorities that could prepare joint plans would need to have a common boundary that would generate cross boundary issues. Whilst it is more than possible that two physically separated authorities could have related and connected issues, the fact that there would be a further authority(ies) that would not be party to the joint plan, would mean that the issues could not be addressed appropriately due to the lack of overall coverage. As a result it would be inappropriate to consider authorities without a physical boundary with the county borough for Joint Plan preparation. This would rule out Monmouthshire County Council, The Vale Of Glamorgan County Borough Council and Bridgend County Borough Council.
- 5.24 A key issue when considering the remaining 6 authorities that do share a boundary with Caerphilly, is that they are all at different stages of plan preparation. Both Newport and Cardiff City Councils have Adopted plans with plan periods that do not expire until 2026, although both are progressing reviews, albeit at different points in the preparation process to Caerphilly.
- 5.25 The remaining 5 authorities have commenced a review of their plan. However, due to the Covid restrictions and the issue of consultations they are all at slightly differing points in the process from one another. Table 2 below sets out the respective positions of each authority in their plan preparation.

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Authority	Adoption	Review	Expiry	Stage of Review
Blaenau Gwent	2012	2016	2021	Delays caused by Covid restrictions, second call for candidate sites cancelled.
Bridgend	2013	2017	2021	Deposit Consultation early 2021
Caerphilly	2010	2014	2021	DA Consultation closed on 29 March 2021, to be submitted to WG early in June 2021
Cardiff	2016	2020	2026	Consultation on DA completed. Working towards Preferred Strategy stage
Merthyr	2011	2015	2021	LDP recently Adopted.
Monmouthshire	2014	2019	2021	Preferred Strategy consultation started early in 2021 although Covid restrictions are impacting upon the process.
Newport	2015	2019	2026	Consultation on DA and Review Report completed.
RCT	2011	2015	2021	DA agreed September 2020, working toward Preferred Strategy
Torfaen	2013	2017	2021	Consultation on Preferred Strategy underway.
Vale of Glamorgan	2017	2021	2026	Commencing a Review June 2021

Table 2: Status of LDPs and current position in Respect of Review

Whilst there was potential for Caerphilly and RCT to undertake joint plans when the Draft Review Report was written, things have changed since then and, due to the different impacts of Covid upon the authorities they are now at different points in the process. To delay on authority from continuing to allow the other to catch up and continue as joint plans would not only cause undue delay to one authority (potentially putting their delivery timetable in jeopardy) both authorities set out to prepare their own plan and as such it would be inappropriate to join them now.

- 5.26 Similarly, the other 5 authorities that border Caerphilly are at different points in the process and were prepared as stand alone documents, that would cause significant issues if they were to be aligned and prepared jointly. Given this there is no scope for the preparation of joint plans with any of the other authorities.

Joint Working

- 5.27 Caerphilly is actively looking at working jointly with those authorities that are committed to a LDP Review. Caerphilly has worked, and are continuing to work, with other authorities on various cross border issues, such as the larger than local economic study and the renewable energy assessments. Caerphilly has worked with Monmouthshire, Newport, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and RCT councils in preparing evidence and as a joint procurement for a database solution for the LDP process.
- 5.28 In addition to this SEWSPG is actively looking at opportunities for collaboration across the region on a wide range of potential evidence base areas.
- 5.29 Both SEWSPG and Caerphilly will seek to maximise their use of the opportunities for joint working and collaboration as plan preparation progresses.

Conclusion

5.30 This Review Report concludes:

- I. In agreement with the 2019 AMR Report that a review of the Adopted LDP is required
- II. In agreement with the council resolution of 23 October 2019 that a full review of the LDP should be commended immediately
- III. It would be inappropriate to undertake a joint plan with another local authority due to the significant difference in progress on plan preparation and in respect of the issues and strategies for the review process.
- IV. That Caerphilly and SEWSPG should continue to maximise the opportunities to use joint working and collaboration in plan preparation moving forward.

5. Next Steps and Arrangements

The Review Report will be reported to Full Council on 1st June 2021 and, if approved will be submitted to Welsh Government as the Council's final Review Report.

Appendix 1: Strategic Policy Performance and Actions

Please note that as a result of the waiving of the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020, this table reflects the findings of the 2019 AMR Report

Policy	Factor	Issue	Comment	Consideration	Action Required
SP1				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP2	Factor 3	Out commuting as a percentage of total commuting of residents of the county borough.	The trigger point for this factor is for out-commuting to exceed 50%. This current rate is 52.7%, which is an increase of 4.7% from last year. The policy has triggered three times in the last 4 years.	The figures are taken from the Annual Population Survey, which provides information on commuting patterns by local authority in Wales. This is a sample survey subject to natural variances. This results in natural fluctuations in the results, which could explain why only 3 years out of 8 have triggered. As the previous year was below the trigger and there has been significant variation, this is not considered to be a matter that requires immediate action and should be monitored further.	No immediate action required. Will need to consider further if next year's AMR also triggers.
SP3	Factor 2	Percentage of total new housing development on Brownfield land.	Only 61% of new housing development was on brownfield land, which was below the trigger point of 88%.	There has been a decrease in the number of housing completions on brownfield sites compared to previous years. This is mainly due to the development of two greenfield sites that were allocated in the LDP. The other greenfield completions were primarily on small sites (less than 5 dwellings) that were infill sites within the	No immediate action required. Will need to consider further if next year's AMR also triggers.

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				<p>defined settlement boundary, which accords with the strategy aim of consolidating development within existing settlement boundaries.</p> <p>Whilst the policy has triggered, the fact that the greenfield sites that have been developed have been within settlement limits means that the policy itself is not failing. However, future AMRs will record completions on greenfield sites allowed on appeal.</p>	
SP4	Factor 1	Annual footfall in 3 of the principal town centres.	<p>Footfall has decreased in Bargoed and is below the target. Caerphilly and Blackwood have seen an increase in footfall over the last year, but Caerphilly is still below the target.</p>	<p>Bargoed has seen a decrease in footfall, but this is expected as the town now only records footfall in one location, rather than in two locations, as was previously the case. Blackwood and Caerphilly have seen an increase in footfall, but this is compared to the previous year when data was not available for 6 weeks due to a footfall monitor replacement programme.</p>	No further action required.
SP4	Factor 2	Vacancy Rates in the 5 principal town centres.	<p>Vacancy rates in Bargoed are over 20% for 5th consecutive year. Increased by 2.1% above last year's</p>	<p>The vacancy rate in Bargoed continues to be above 20%, increasing by 2.1% to 22.9% when compared to 2018 figures. Bargoed has been the subject of major regeneration work and has suffered due to</p>	No further action required.

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			results.	<p>the recession. However, there continues to be developer interest in the town, which may return Bargoed below the trigger point, but this may not be immediate.</p> <p>There has been a small increase in vacancy rates in both Ystrad Mynach and Blackwood over the monitoring period, although in both towns the figure is lower than 15%, so within an acceptable monitoring level.</p>	
SP4	Factor 3	Percentage of residents satisfied with their town centres.	Caerphilly only (5th year but no revision for 5 years). Under the trigger by 3%	Caerphilly is the only centre to trigger and this undoubtedly relates to the lack of redevelopment that has taken place in the centre due to the economic downturn. The data has not been updated for 5 years so is now outdated.	No further action required.
SP4	Factor 4	Percentage of money spent in County Borough retail centres as a total of total spend.	Non-Bulky goods only (5th year but 5 years since last data revision). Significantly under the trigger.	Retail spend has declined throughout the county borough in line with the recession. This position has been exacerbated by the regeneration works in Bargoed and the lack of redevelopment in Caerphilly. The data has not been updated for 5 years so is now outdated. Whilst this issue will need to be monitored closely in the future, it is not yet an issue that would require a review of the plan.	No action at the current time.

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SP5	Factor 1	Number of applications for urban forms of development (not defined by criterion C, Policy CW15) located outside of settlement boundaries either approved by CCBC or allowed on appeal	This is the third year that this Factor has triggered. This year, it has triggered both in relation to the number of applications approved in the monitoring year (5 applications), and on the trigger of three consecutive years where urban development outside of the settlement boundary has been approved.	<p>The number of application approved for urban forms of development outside the settlement has decreased from 20 last year to 5 this year. This includes the approval of reserved matters applications in relation to 2 major housing sites that were approved at appeal and 3 minor housing sites (single dwellings in appropriate locations).</p> <p>The change in policy stance to dis-apply the “considerable weight” applied to the lack of a 5 year land supply could change the future consideration of applications so may reduce the number of speculative out of settlement applications approved in the future and this will need to be monitored in future AMRs.</p>	No further action required. Will need to consider further if next year’s AMR also triggers.
SP6				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP7				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP8	Factor 2	Average yearly usage of aggregates by the construction industry (averaged across the preceding 3 years)	Triggered in every year of the monitoring, apart from where data was not available.	Minerals production is intrinsically aligned to minerals use (minerals are not produced if there is no market for them). Mineral use has reduced dramatically as a result of the economic downturn and has not yet recovered in any substantive way. As a result mineral production has	No further action required.

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				<p>dramatically reduced to reflect this. No action required.</p> <p>Given that there is not a shortfall in production over usage, the fact that the Factor triggers is not significant.</p>	
SP9				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP10	Factor 2	Number of approved applications that result in loss of Area of SINC/LNR to development	<p>Triggered for the fifth year in a row, but, because it is based on a 3 year cumulative trigger, it has actually failed for the past 7 years.</p> <p>The number of applications approved has fallen from 12 to 3.</p>	<p>This Factor, like many others, is based upon an absolute trigger that does not take account of the nature of the applications that are being permitted. Whilst 3 applications have recorded loss of SINC/LNR land, there is no qualification as to whether the applications actually result in any damage to this land.</p> <p>The three proposals that have been granted permission within SINC's include two single dwelling schemes – one within the curtilage of an existing dwelling, and one on the edge of a settlement, plus an industrial use. In each case, there was considered to be no harm to the SINC.</p> <p>Two of the Indicators address landscape designations, one relates to VILLs and the other relates to SLAs, neither of which have triggered this</p>	No action currently required, although careful consideration should be given to subsequent triggering and consideration for remedial action may be required.

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				year, although both have triggered in previous years.	
SP11				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP12				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP13				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
SP14	Factor1	Annual building rate	This indicator has triggered for the third year running, as the average completions are well below 50% of the average annual requirement.	The 2019 result is significantly under the trigger level of 288 units for this Factor. The housing completions figure have decreased from last year (284 to 190) and it is a matter of concern that completions are significantly below 50% of the annual requirement. The low level of completions is due, in part, to the legacy of the economic recession where the number of submitted housing applications decreased significantly. There remains viability issues for developing in certain parts of the County Borough	Action required to improve overall housing delivery.
SP15	Factor 1	Yearly affordable housing unit numbers delivered through the planning system as a percentage of total housing units (based on units built)	Triggered for the 7 th consecutive year for the 10% and 25% areas, with figures way below the trigger level. It also triggered this year in the 40% area	Affordable housing is not being delivered at the required rates, but this is a corollary of general house building being low due to the economic climate. Low levels of development viability also impact on the level of affordable housing delivered and this, in conjunction with potential	Action required to improve affordable housing delivery.

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				reductions on capital grant funding could result in further reduction in the provision of affordable housing.	
SP15	Factor 2	Average House Price (over the base Viability Study 2009 level)	Triggered for the third year as house prices continue to increase.	The Factor has triggered for the third time. It is now almost £13,500 above the maximum sensitivity test used to set the affordable housing targets. In theory, the increase in house prices should mean that development should be more viable, and more affordable housing is delivered, but there are a number of factors that need to be considered on a site-by-site basis that influence this. Overall, there is a need to improve affordable housing delivery, and the increase in average house price would support this, rather than being a matter of concern.	No action currently required.
SP16	Factor 3	Number of employees in part time employment as a percentage of total employees in employment	Triggered for the seventh consecutive time.	This has effectively triggered every year, with the exception of the first year when a lack of data availability prevented it from being monitored. The monitoring framework was set out before the economic downturn and sets out triggers that are more reflective of the more buoyant economic	No action currently required.

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				<p>climate. The economic downturn has undoubtedly been the reason that the percentage of part time workers has increased (with less full time employees and increasing part time employees). As a result the triggering factor is reflecting the economic conditions which are largely outside of the control of the development plan and, therefore, does not indicate that the policy is failing.</p>	
SP17	Factor 3	Area of Class B1 employment uses permitted within Commercial Opportunity Areas, as a percentage of total designated area	<p>Blackwood and Caerphilly have both triggered, as there has been no B1 office development within the defined areas with 5 years (Blackwood) and 3 years (Caerphilly). This is the sixth year in a row that Caerphilly has triggered and the fourth year for Blackwood.</p>	<p>The indicator relates to the granting of permission for class B1 office uses within the Commercial Opportunity Areas identified within each of the principal towns. Blackwood and Caerphilly have both triggered. The Commercial Opportunity Areas in both towns have relatively low vacancy rates and are occupied by a range of uses, although not B1 office use. There have also been office developments elsewhere in both towns, which is positive. It is not therefore considered that the lack of office development in itself is a sign of the failure of the policy.</p>	No action currently required.
SP18	Factor 2	Numbers of planning	Triggered for the seventh	The monitoring framework was set out	No action currently

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		applications that provide new formal play areas through S106 agreements	consecutive time.	<p>when development levels were high and the trigger level for this Factor was set against high levels of planning gain. Since the economic downturn the number of submitted planning applications has reduced significantly and, as a corollary, the numbers of facilities secured through S106 agreements to those applications have similarly decreased.</p> <p>Therefore the Factor is triggering as a direct result of the economic downturn and would be expected to rise when the economy starts to recover. The economic conditions are largely outside of the control of the development plan so the triggering of the Factor is not a significant indicator that the policy is failing.</p>	required.
SP19	Factor 1a	Number of Schemes identified in Policy TR5 delivered through Obligations and agreements.	Triggered for the first time.	This indicator considers the number of schemes that have been delivered in respect of Policy TR5 Transport Improvement Schemes in the Northern Connections Corridor. None of the five schemes identified within the LDP have been delivered for a period of 7 years. This is in itself not a failure of the plan, but relates to	No action currently required.

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				the limited financial resources to fund schemes. The schemes that have been prioritised are those within the most significant congestion issues.	
SP20	Factor 2	The Number of Monitored Links That Are Above CRF level that do not have planned improvements	Triggered for the second time, but has in fact triggered every year, but has not been recorded due to the trigger being over a 3-year period and that no data was available for the 2014 AMR.	<p>Four of the 17 monitored links are above their nominal design capacity, but 3 of the links have proposals in the LDP to address the issue.</p> <p>One of the links is not subject to proposals for improvement and therefore triggers the policy.</p> <p>There were improvements ongoing at the Pwllpant roundabout during the monitoring period and this would have had a consequential effect on the wider Caerphilly Strategic highway network. The improvement scheme has now been completed and the impacts of this will need to be considered through future monitoring as it is likely that congestion will reduce overall. Therefore, the triggering of this indicator is not considered to indicate that the policy is failing.</p>	No action currently required.
SP21				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required

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SP22				The policy is being delivered as anticipated	No action required
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Appendix 2: Strategic Policy Performance Against LDP Objectives

Please note that as a result of the waiving of the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020, this table reflects the findings of the 2019 AMR Report

	LDP Objective	Commentary	Performance
1	Accommodate sustainable levels of population growth.	The 2011 Census identified that the county Borough has already accommodated the population levels that had been predicted for the end of the plan period. Whilst the projected population levels have been met, the associated housing development required to ensure that this population is accommodated in the most sustainable way has not been delivered as expected.	
2	Ensure that the County Borough is well served by accessible public open space and accessible natural green space.	The policies protecting and enhancing open and natural green space are performing well and the objective is being met.	
3	Ensure the effective and efficient use of natural and built resources while preventing the unnecessary sterilisation of finite resources through inappropriate development.	The policy framework is delivering appropriate development. Whilst policy SP10 is raising issues over development in designated SINCs, SLAs and VILLs, this development is very limited in scale and, on balance, is acceptable within those areas. As such the objective is being met overall.	
4	Ensure that the environmental impact of all new development is minimised.	SEA/SA monitoring of the environment is seeing significant overall positive effects from the plan. Protectionist and enhancing policies for the natural environment are also working and the objective is being met.	
5	Improve energy, waste and water efficiency while promoting environmentally acceptable renewable energy to maintain a cleaner environment and help reduce our impact on climate change.	Many of the measures used in addressing these issues are outside the scope of the LDP. However the policy framework is contributing toward the overall objective and the SEA/SA Monitoring is seeing positive effects in respect of those issues that are currently monitored, even though the rate of improvement may be low.	
6	Encourage waste management based on a hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recovery (including material recycling, energy recovery and composting) and safe disposal.	Many of the measures used to realise the hierarchy lie outside of the remit of the LDP. However the policy framework assists in delivering sustainable waste management and the SEA/SA Monitoring is realising positive effects in respect to certain elements of waste.	
7	Encourage the re-use and / or reclamation of appropriate brownfield and contaminated land and prevent the incidence of	The majority of allocated brownfield sites in the NCC and SCC have been reclaimed and redeveloped. The policy framework is controlling development to ensure that further contamination does not take place.	

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	further contamination and dereliction.	The objective is being met.	
8	Concentrate new development in appropriate locations along existing and proposed infrastructure networks that are accessible to pedestrians, cyclists and to public transport in order to sustain and complement the role and function of individual settlements.	This principle underpins the development strategy for the LDP and the allocations have taken this issue fully into account. This issue is also a consideration set out in the policy framework against which development proposals are considered. This objective is being met.	
9	Ensure an adequate and appropriate range of housing sites are available across the County Borough in the most suitable locations to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population.	As outlined in objective 1 the projected population for the plan period has already been reached but only just over 50% of the required housing provision has been delivered. Whilst these low levels of housing development can be attributed to the economic climate leading to low development rates in the early part of the plan period, there are only two years left of the plan period there is insufficient time remaining to address the significant shortfall. Furthermore, affordable housing is also not being delivered at the levels required. As a result, this objective is not being met.	
10	Ensure that all new development is well designed and has regard for its surroundings in order to reduce the opportunity for crime to occur.	Design is a key consideration in respect of development proposals and is an important element of the policy framework. SEA/SA monitoring raises no issues in respect of design and crime related indicators are realising positive outcomes. This objective is being met.	
11	Identify, protect and, where appropriate enhance, valuable landscapes and landscape features and protect them from unacceptable development.	The plan has allocated landscapes for protection and these are protected through the policy framework. The SEA/SA monitoring realises positive outcomes for some landscape indicators, but there are some areas of concern in respect of some elements of the landscape and this needs to be monitored going forward.	
12	Identify, protect and enhance sites of nature conservation and earth science interest and ensure the biodiversity of the County Borough is enhanced.	Policy SP10 – Conservation of Natural Heritage has triggered as part of this monitoring assessment. Whilst the amount of land being lost is very small, this remains an issue moving forward for the plan although, given the small areas of land in question, the objective is not being met as proposed at the moment.	
13	Create appropriate new landscape and ecological features and habitats as an integral part of new development wherever	This has realised some positive results in both the LDP and SEA/SA monitoring processes. This objective is being met.	

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	appropriate.		
14	Manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.	This issue has not received any negative impacts from the SEA/SA monitoring in the early part of the plan period, although the data has not been available for the previous 3 AMRs.	
15	Reduce the impact of flooding by ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of risk wherever possible.	SEA/SA monitoring has realised negative results for this issue for consecutive years. However, the indicators are based against a zero comparison and small areas can be affected by development and be acceptable as it is the use of the land that determines whether a site should not be utilised. Whilst small areas of land liable to flooding are subject to development, the proposed development is not unacceptable and, whilst the monitoring results are negative, the objective is largely being met (as highly vulnerable development is not being permitted in the flood zones).	
16	Reduce congestion by minimising the need to travel, promoting more sustainable modes of transport and making the most efficient use of existing transport infrastructure.	The imbalance between population and residential/employment development is having knock-on effects for this issue, which has realised negative results recently. Out-commuting as a proportion of total work related travel has increased this year and the figure now exceed the trigger point. Other indicators, such as the number of schools with travel plans, show some positive moves towards achieving this objective.	
17	Capitalise on Caerphilly's strategic position further developing its role as a commercial and employment centre in the heart of the Valleys City Region with strong links to the Heads of the Valleys area and as the smart alternative for locating development to Cardiff and Newport.	Employment development has been slower than anticipated due to economic conditions in the earlier part of the plan period. However, the 2019 AMR indicates lower rates of development this year compared to previous years. There has been no development on allocated EM1 employment land for employment use in this monitoring year. Furthermore, the amount of land granted permission on EM1 land has been the lowest rate since 2012. In terms of protected employment sites, development of floorspace has decreased significantly since last year and has been at one of the lowest rates seen in the plan period. Whilst the floorspace granted permission on EM2 employment land has increased slightly compared to last year, there is significant concern about the level of economic development taking place in the County Borough and the availability of attractive sites.	

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18	Provide and protect a diverse portfolio of employment land for a variety of employment uses, focusing in particular on higher value employment opportunities and sites to meet local need, including waste management facilities.	Whilst a number of employment sites have been developed over the plan period, it is important that there continues to be a diverse portfolio of sites available to meet demand. As above, there is concern about the take up of employment land in the County Borough, as low take up rates raises concern about the suitability of the sites that remain undeveloped within the LDP.	
19	Encourage the development of high quality, all season tourist attractions and tourist accommodation that complements the natural and built environment of the County Borough.	A total of 6 of the 9 allocations have been delivered, at least in part. As such this objective is being met.	
20	Maximise the efficient use of the existing infrastructure and encourage the necessary improvements to the network to sustain necessary levels of development at appropriate locations across the County Borough.	Rail related developments have progressed well. Highway improvements have not been delivered as expected, although this is due to the low levels of development that is taking place, which provides funding for these improvements. Overall progress is being made but the objective is not being delivered as anticipated.	
21	Protect and provide a wide range of community and health facilities which are appropriately located and easily accessible, and which meet the needs of all sections of the population.	The majority of allocations in the LDP either have either been delivered or have planning permission. This objective is being met.	
22	Maintain the vitality, viability and character of the County Borough's town and village centres and re-establish them as a focus for economic activity and community pride.	Policy SP4, which focusses on the principal town centres, has triggered as part of this assessment in respect of all four factors. Whilst this is a sign that the objective is not being delivered as well as anticipated, particularly in Bargoed, where there is a high vacancy rate, the indicators have been influenced by incomplete and out of date data.	
23	Maintain, enhance and develop a hierarchy of town and village centres which are easily accessible, and which meet the needs of all sections of the population.	Policy SP4, which focusses on the principal town centres, has triggered as part of this assessment in respect of all four factors. Whilst this is a sign that the objective is not being delivered as well as anticipated, particularly in Bargoed, where there is a high vacancy rate, the indicators have been influenced by incomplete and out of date data.	

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24	Protect and enhance the overall quality of the historic natural and built environment of the County Borough	SEA/SA monitoring has consistently realised strong positive outcomes for the historic environment with the policy framework protecting assets and the number of buildings at risk being reduced overall. The objective is being met.	
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Appendix 3: SEA/SA Monitoring Overview

Please note that as a result of the waiving of the requirement to prepare a AMR for 2020, this table reflects the findings of the 2019 AMR Report

Objective	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
To reduce the average resource consumption of each resident	X	DNA	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
To improve the condition of housing and ensure the range of housing types are accessible to meet the needs of residents.	+	+	+	+	++	X	+	X	X
To reduce the incidence of crime	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	X	O
To improve educational achievement	XX	X	+	+	X	X	O	XX	XX
To allow equal opportunities for all	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
To increase the percentage of people of working age in employment	XX	++	O	O	XX	+	+	X	+
To increase the wealth of individuals in CCBC	DNA	X	X	+	O	O	X	X	+
To ensure a sufficient range of employment sites are available	DNA	X	X	++	O	O	DNA	+	X
To improve the health of individuals	XX	X	O	++	O	+	XX	O	+
To retain the population of county borough to at least current levels and attain a more balanced demographic structure?	DNA	+	+	++	X	X	O	X	O
To allow all residents easy access to leisure facilities	DNA	+	++	+	++	++	++	+	O
To reduce air, noise, light and odour pollution and ensure air quality improves.	+	O	O	X	+	+	XX	O	XX
To protect the landscape value of the most important landscapes in the county borough and maintain a clean and accessible environment to encourage a greater sense of belonging.	DNA	X	O	O	X	+	++	O	X

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Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan – Review Report

To protect the cultural identity of the county borough	DNA	+	X	O	+	+	O	++	+
To protect and enhance important historic assets	+	++	++	O	+	+	+	++	+
To protect aquifers and improve the quality and quantity of the water in our rivers and to reduce water consumption	++	O	DNA	O	++	+	DNA	DNA	DNA
To minimise the number of developments affected by flooding	X	O	O	+	X	X	X	X	X
To make the most efficient use of land and to reduce contamination and safeguard soil quantity, quality and permeability.	+	X	O	O	XX	O	X	X	X
To protect geologically important sites and improve their accessibility	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++
To reduce the amount of waste produced and increase the reuse of materials	+	+	+	+	DNA	++	+	O	+
To enhance the biodiversity of the county borough	O	O	O	+	O	O	X	+	+
To reduce the total amount of CO ₂ produced within the county borough each year	X	DNA	X	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
To reduce congestion by minimising the need to travel, encourage alternatives to the car and make best use of the existing transport infrastructure.	X	O	O	+	+	+	O	+	+
To increase the proportion of energy gained from renewable sources.	DNA	+	+	X	++	X	X	X	+
To improve the performance of material assets within the county borough	O	X	O	O	+	O	+	X	O



COUNCIL – 1ST JUNE 2021

**SUBJECT: 2ND REPLACEMENT CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2035 – DELIVERY
AGREEMENT**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMY AND
ENVIRONMENT**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report to Council the outcome of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 Draft Delivery Agreement public consultation exercise.
- 1.2 To seek Council approval of the final Delivery Agreement.
- 1.3 To seek Council agreement to submit the Delivery Agreement to Welsh Government by the end of June 2021 for its approval.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council resolved to commence a full revision of the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted LDP) at the Council meeting held on 23 October 2019.
- 2.2 The first stage in the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 (2RLDP) is to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA) which includes:
 - The timetable for the delivery of the 2RLDP;
 - The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) – which sets out who will be consulted and when.
- 2.3 On 19 January 2021, Council agreed a nine-week public consultation on the Draft DA, which commenced on Monday 25th January 2021 and concluded Monday 29th March 2021.
- 2.4 In total, 23 responses were received during the public consultation period.
- 2.5 A Report of Consultation has been prepared that addresses the responses to the Draft DA. 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.

- 2.6 A final DA has been prepared to reflect the responses received and this is included as Appendix 2 to this report.
- 2.7 Council approval of the final DA is sought along with agreement to submit the DA to Welsh Government.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Council approves the final DA and agrees for its submission to Welsh Government.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 To comply with the requirements of Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

5. THE REPORT

Background

- 5.1 Members will be aware that the Council resolved to commence a full revision of the Adopted LDP at the meeting on 23rd October 2019. The preparation of a new plan is a time and resource intensive exercise and Welsh Government guidance requires plans to be prepared within three and a half years from commencement, with the option of a single slippage period of three months.
- 5.2 The Council is required to prepare a DA as part of the 2RLDP that sets out the timetable for delivery and identifies who will be involved and when they will be involved in the process.
- 5.3 The DA forms an important and legal part of the 2RLDP preparation process. Delivery of the 2RLDP in accordance with the DA will be an important test of the 'soundness' of the Plan. Both the content of the DA and the way in which the Council implements it are, therefore, fundamental to the overall success of the 2RLDP.
- 5.4 The Draft DA is required to be the subject of consultation and Members will recall that Council gave approval to consult on the Draft DA for consultation for six weeks, commencing March 2020. However, due to the unprecedented circumstances surrounding COVID-19, that consultation was cancelled.
- 5.5 A revised Draft DA was produced and, to reflect recent Covid-19 restrictions and allow more time for engagement with the process, the Draft DA was the subject of public consultation which commenced on Monday 25th January 2021 and concluded Monday 29th March 2021.

Public Consultation

- 5.6 The public consultation was publicised in the following way:

- Leaflets were delivered to every house within Caerphilly county borough.
- Letters or emails were sent directly to approximately 400 stakeholders, including Elected Members, Public Service Board partners, planning consultants, housebuilders and other organisations.
- The Council's Communications Team sent three Gov Delivery email bulletins – 27,782 emails were opened and there were 681 unique opens of LDP consultation news stories.
- The consultation was advertised by three posts on the Council's Facebook page with a reach of 36,569 people.
- All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page.

5.7 At the end of the consultation period, 23 responses had been received from members of the public and external organisations. A Report of Consultation has been prepared and the DA has been amended to reflect any comments where appropriate.

Summary of Responses

- 5.8 Of the representations received, 2 respondents completed the Draft DA Response form but made no comments in respect of the Draft DA. These respondents will be treated as though they have registered their interest in the 2RLDP process and will be added to the database accordingly.
- 5.9 A number of comments received related to land-use issues that will be considered later, as part of the 2RLDP process.
- 5.10 The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales lists a number of resources and tools to assist in ensuring that the 2RLDP aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and contributes to the seven well-being goals and well-being objectives. These will all be considered and utilised throughout the 2RLDP process.
- 5.11 Newport City Council recognises that Caerphilly County Borough Council's 2RLDP is on a similar timescale to its own Replacement LDP. It notes that cross boundary work is already taking place between local authorities and welcomes the continuation of a joint approach to the evidence base.
- 5.12 The list of Consultation Bodies has been updated as a result of the consultation.
- 5.13 Typographical errors have also been amended.

Conclusion

- 5.14 Council agreed to a full review of the Adopted LDP in October 2019.
- 5.15 A Draft DA was produced and subject to a nine-week public consultation in a manner that adhered to COVID-19 Regulations and guidelines.

- 5.16 23 responses were received during the public consultation and a final DA has been produced to reflect those responses. A Report of Consultation has also been prepared detailing the responses received.
- 5.17 Approval is sought to submit the DA to Welsh Government for its approval.
- 5.18 Welsh Government will have four weeks from the date of submission to consider the DA and to issue its decision. The approval of the DA by Welsh Government will mark the formal start of the period for preparing the 2RLDP.

6. ASSUMPTIONS

- 6.1 No assumptions have been made in this report.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The DA contains the timetable for preparation of the 2RLDP and the Community Involvement Scheme which sets out how the Council proposes to engage with and involve the local community and other stakeholders in the 2RLDP preparation process.
- 7.2 The CIS will have a positive impact on many protected characteristics as it outlines how the Council will actively engage with members of the public, including hard to reach groups. A number of organisations and bodies representing hard to reach groups were contacted directly.
- 7.3 The DA itself does not support the Corporate Well-being objectives. However, the emerging 2RLDP will be prepared with regard to the well-being objectives where they relate to land use planning. The DA and emerging 2RLDP will maximise contributions to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 7 well-being goals and 5 ways of working. The DA itself supports the Council in meeting its duty under the Act, particularly the involvement and collaboration principles.
- 7.4 The DA delivers against a number of other Council policies including:
- Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021, Adopted 2010.
 - Corporate Plan 2018-2023.
 - Local Well-being Plan for 2018-2023 'The Caerphilly We Want'.
 - A Foundation for Success 2018 – 2023.
- 7.5 The DA public consultation was held during the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore the period for consultation was extended to 9 weeks to allow more time for engagement. As well as publicising widely on the Council's website and via social media, letters and e mails were sent to almost 400 people directly, and leaflets were distributed to every household within the county borough to ensure as many people as possible were reached.
- 7.6 The DA allows opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and it aims to ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language, and bilingual engagement is encouraged. All documentation was available in welsh format and all publicity was produced bilingually.

Link to full Integrated Impact Assessment

https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyDocs/IIA/IIA_LDP_Mar2021

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from the report.
- 8.2 The Council resolved in October 2019 that budgetary provision be made available where necessary to fund the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Local Development Plan.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications arising as a result of this report.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 All responses from consultees have been incorporated into the report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 require the Council to prepare and keep under review the LDP for the County Borough to act as a single framework for the control and use of land within its administrative boundary.
- 11.2 The Local Government Act 1998. The Local Government Act 2003. The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended). The Planning (Wales) Act 2015.

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Consultees: Cllr Sean Morgan, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise
Cllr Roy Saralis, Chair of Planning Committee
Cllr Andrew Whitcombe, Chair of Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Christine Forehead, Vice-Chair of Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Christina Harray, Chief Executive
Mark S Williams, Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer
Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning & Strategy
Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Rhian Kyte, Head of Regeneration and Planning
Marcus Lloyd, Head of Infrastructure
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property Services
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer
Kath Peters, Corporate Policy Manager

Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer, Equalities, Welsh Language and
Consultation
Ryan Thomas, Planning Services Manager
Dave Lucas, Team Leader, Strategic Planning

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Report of Consultation

Appendix 2 – 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to
2035 - Delivery Agreement, April 2021



2ND REPLACEMENT CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2035

DELIVERY AGREEMENT - REPORT OF CONSULTATION

INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended), the Council is required to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA) setting out the timetable and community involvement scheme for the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 (2RLDP).
2. This Report summarises the public responses related to the Draft DA and includes officer recommendations for appropriate changes to the document as a result.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

3. The Draft DA was subject of a nine-week public consultation, from 25th January 2021 to 29th March 2021.
4. The Draft DA public consultation was publicised by the following means:
 - Leaflets were delivered to every house within Caerphilly county borough.
 - Letters or emails were sent directly to approximately 400 stakeholders, including Elected Members, Public Service Board partners, planning consultants, housebuilders and other organisations.
 - The Council's Communications Team sent three Gov Delivery email bulletins – 27,782 emails were opened and there were 681 unique opens of LDP consultation news stories.
 - The consultation was advertised by three posts on the Council's Facebook page with a reach of 36,569 people.
 - All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page.
5. Respondents were asked for their views on the Timetable for delivery of the 2RLDP and the Community Involvement Scheme, and for any other comments on the Draft DA.

SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND COUNCIL RESPONSE

6. The Council received a total of **23** responses.

7. Of the representations received, 2 respondents completed the Draft DA Response form but made no comments in respect of the Draft DA. These respondents will be treated as though they have registered their interest in the 2RLDP process and will be added to the database accordingly.
8. A number of comments received related to land-use issues that will be considered later, as part of the 2RLDP process.
9. The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales lists a number of resources and tools to assist in ensuring that the 2RLDP aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and contributes to the seven well-being goals and well-being objectives. These will all be considered and utilised throughout the 2RLDP process.
10. Newport City Council recognises that Caerphilly County Borough Council's 2RLDP is on a similar timescale to its own Replacement LDP. It notes that cross boundary work is already taking place between local authorities and welcomes the continuation of a joint approach to the evidence base.
11. The list of Consultation Bodies has been updated as a result of the consultation.
12. Typographical errors that have been identified have also been amended but these have not been recorded in the Report of Consultation.
13. A summary of the responses received, together with the officer response, is attached at Appendix 1.

MOVING FORWARD

14. This report of consultation will be considered by a full meeting of the Council on 1st June 2021.
15. Council approval of the final DA will be sought along with agreement to submit the DA to Welsh Government.
16. In accordance with the Development Plan Regulations, once approved by Council the DA must be formally submitted to Welsh Government (WG) for its approval. Once agreed, the DA commits the Council to producing the 2nd Replacement LDP according to the stated timescales and processes outlined within it.

APPENDIX 1 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES RECEIVED

Issue	Summary of response received	Council response	Changes required
2RLDP	Support for the preparation of the 2RLDP.	The support is noted.	No amendment to the document required.
Draft Review Report	Reflecting points made in the Draft Review Report.	The Draft Review Report has been subject to its own consultation.	No amendment to the document required.
List of Evidence	Paragraph 1.18 contains a list of evidence used to formulate the 2RLDP. Missing from this list is landscape analysis and the importance of landscape considerations which should be added.	Paragraph 1.19 clarifies that the list is not a definitive list. However, the list includes Infrastructure Assessment, and this is to be amended to Green Infrastructure Assessment, which will include landscape analysis.	Amend the list within paragraph 1.18 to include Green Infrastructure Assessment.
Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Well-being, mental health and general health should be protected. ○ Suffering and the risk of angst in our community as our facilities are slowly diminished. 	<p>The provisions of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations, 2004, require the Council to assess the significant effects that its plan could have on the environment. In addition, Section 62 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of its plan. As a matter of good practice, the SEA and SA processes have been combined into one iterative SEA/SA process. The SEA/SA process was an iterative part of the preparation process of the Adopted LDP and is reflected in the Plan's proposals and policies.</p> <p>The Council will continue to adopt the integrated SEA/SA process in preparing the 2RLDP. However, other legislation has introduced additional assessment requirements that should also be addressed as part of the plan preparation process, e.g. health impact assessment,</p>	No amendment to the document required.

		<p>equalities assessment. Consequently, the Council will undertake an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA), which combines the SEA/SA process with the other required assessments as part of the preparation of the revised plan. The ISA will ensure that the revised plan is internally consistent, with economic, environmental, cultural and social issues considered alongside other relevant matters. The appraisal process will run concurrently with the plan preparation process.</p> <p>Given that sustainable development is the core underlying principle of both the LDP and SEA, there are clear associations between the LDP and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFG Act). As a requirement of the Act a Local Well-being Plan must be produced. The Council published its LWBP in 2018 and it covers the period up to 2023. Both the WBFG Act and LWBP will be considered fully throughout the preparation of the 2RLDP and the Well-being Assessment will form part of the evidence base of the 2RLDP.</p>	
	<p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales lists a number of resources and tools to assist the LDP team to ensure that the 2RLDP aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and helps contribute to the seven well-being goals and our well-being objectives.</p> <p>The first Future Generations Report, which sets out the Commissioner's assessment of where Wales is at the moment, a vision for the future and recommendations to help public bodies reach that vision. This includes a section on Planning and Placemaking, which contains a number of recommendations relevant to this exercise, including recommendations to:</p>	<p>The comments are noted. Resources will be utilised during 2RLDP process.</p>	<p>No amendment to the document required.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align Local Development Plans and well-being plans/well-being objectives. • Make use of the advice and review service of the Design Commission and of the Welsh Health Impact Assessment Unit for major development and design and revisions of Local Development Plans. • Change mindsets from consultation to involvement and make every effort to involve people in plan design. • Synchronise and align all their infrastructure plans. • Produce plain language explanation of their Local Development Plans and their planning documents and guidance. • Embracing the new presumption in Planning Policy Wales 10 paragraph 1.17 in favour of sustainable development in accordance with the development plan to ensure that social, economic, cultural and environmental issues are balanced and integrated. <p>The self-reflection feedback sent in 2019 contains advice about placemaking, future-fit housing and decarbonisation, which is relevant to this work.</p> <p>Lists other resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework for scrutiny as it can help ensure that this work considers all of the Act's elements - goals, objectives and ways of working. • The Journeys to the well-being goals as they might give inspiration and ideas. <p>Journey on Involvement, which will be useful for consultation and wider involvement exercise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important that LDP does not only address current needs but also considers future trends. a 3 Horizons Toolkit has been published together with Public Health Wales to help public bodies to think and plan for the long-term by keeping a clear vision and taking future trends into account. <p>Other useful planning and placemaking resources, such as the Design Commission's Placemaking Charter and</p>		
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	guidance, RTPI's Value of Planning tool, and the Creating Healthier Places guide by Public Health Wales and Natural Resources Wales.		
Timetable	Support for the Timetable	Comments noted.	No amendment to the document required.
	The effects of Covid-19 on the timetable	<p>The DA has been prepared during the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. While the timetable is challenging, it provides a realistic timeframe for preparation of the 2RLDP.</p> <p>The Council will adhere to the Government Regulations regarding COVID-19; this includes social distancing and seeking innovative methods to consult during this time. Should additional opportunities arise during the plan preparation process especially where restrictions continue to be lifted, the Council will endeavour to respond to these.</p> <p>The Council will monitor and regularly review progress of the 2RLDP against the requirements of the DA to ensure the timetable is being adhered to and the public engagement, as set out in the CIS, is being met.</p>	No amendment to the document required.
	Consultation period should be longer	<p>In respect of the level of consultation required, Paragraph 3.16 of the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, 2020) states:</p> <p><i>Local Planning Authorities should consider the most appropriate level and form of involvement for their DA to suit the local context.</i></p> <p>Previous Draft DA consultations have been held for 6 weeks, however, and in response to Covid-19 and the latest restrictions, a nine-week</p>	No amendment to the document required.

		consultation was undertaken to allow more time for engagement.	
Consultation	Ruperra Castle Preservation Trust (RCPT) wishes to contribute towards the 2RLDP.	Comment is noted. RCPT will be added to list of consultees.	No amendment to the document required.
	Welcome the chance to take part.	Comment of support is noted.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs to be publicised more ○ Letters should be sent to every household 	<p>The comment is noted. However, the Draft DA public consultation was publicised widely by the following means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaflets were delivered to every house within Caerphilly county borough. • Letters or emails were sent directly to approximately 400 stakeholders, including Elected Members, Public Service Board partners, planning consultants, housebuilders and other organisations. • The Council's Communications Team sent three Gov Delivery email bulletins – 27,782 emails were opened and there were 681 unique opens of LDP consultation news stories. • The consultation was advertised by three posts on the Council's Facebook page with a reach of 36,569 people. • All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page. 	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involving the general public in the appropriateness of decisions made has previously been limited. ○ Need to be considered and listened to. 	The CIS sets out how the Council proposes to proactively engage with and involve the local community and stakeholders in the preparation of the 2RLDP. It is essential when preparing the 2RLDP that the right people are involved at the	No amendment to the document required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councillors need to be knocking doors and making people aware of developments. ○ Essential to engage with local community and be flexible when alternatives need to be made to plans. ○ Costs could be avoided if people are listened to, e.g. Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre. ○ Engagement gives a real chance to influence policy. ○ People of Blackwood feel devalued. ○ Blackwood's community will be allowed to have their say to help shape and influence a better Blackwood for future years to come, instead of it being transformed into endless estates with no facilities, no heart and no future. ○ There needs to be specific effort to consult communities on the amenity of public spaces. ○ Consult with landowners, e.g. NRW and Mountain Bike Clubs and work to formalise existing off road mountain bike trails throughout the county borough, with community engagement and management of trails. 	<p>right time to seek greater consensus and strengthen community involvement in the plan making process.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The document is lengthy. ○ The CIS is not prominent enough or user friendly. 	<p>It is accepted that the Draft DA is a lengthy document. However, the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 requires a number of complex matters to be included within the timetable and the CIS and therefore the document must be comprehensive.</p> <p>Every effort has been made to write the document in plain language and in a format that the residents of the county borough can understand. For future key stages, easy read versions of key documents will be produced.</p>	<p>No amendment to the document required.</p>

		A contact telephone number and email address were provided, and officers were available to assist if required.	
	Difficulty accessing/using online response form.	The online response form was designed and structured to capture the views of people on the timetable, the CIS and any other comments. If people were unwilling or unable to complete the survey online, other options were available to them – email and paper form. A contact telephone number and email address were also provided, and officers were available to assist if required.	No amendment to the document required.
	Need to consider petitions.	Petitions received during each public consultation stage will be recorded and reported.	No amendment to the document required.
	Any site notices need to be bigger and more noticeable.	Comment is noted. Site notices will be considered at future stages.	No amendment to the document required.
Page 157 Community facilities	o Community/leisure facilities.	The provision of Community and Leisure Facilities within the county borough will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	o Closure and sale of community/leisure facilities.	The closure and sale of facilities is outside of the LDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
	o Suffering and the risk of angst in our community as our facilities are slowly diminished.	Land use, including community and leisure facilities will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Infrastructure	o Infrastructure needs to be appropriate, e.g. doctors' surgeries, schools.	Other departments such as Education, and outside bodies such as Aneurin Bevan University Health Board will be engaged in plan preparation and their land use requirements will be reflected in the 2RLDP.	No amendment to the document required.
Open space/recreation space	o Need for green recreational space. o Open space should be protected.	Potential land use and protection of land will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No green sites should be developed 	Potential land use and protection of land will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various housing estates proposed around Blackwood and many people have made objections but are not being listened to or considered How many homes proposed for blackwood? 	Housing provision within the county borough will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empty Homes Fund 	This is outside of the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern regarding Bargoed town centre and its vacancy rates. Plans for Bargoed Town Centre 	Retail policies for all Town Centres will be considered through the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Historic Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underline the importance of the historic environment. Urges the Council to strengthen its commitment to protecting heritage assets. 	Issues relating to the historic environment will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growing community of mountain bikers in the area. Area draws in hundreds of mountain bikers each week. Formalise mountain bike trails. Benefits for physical and mental health and for communities and for the economy. 	Land use will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to consider cyclists. 	Active Travel will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Other	Planning application process and objection to decision made.	Some comments received relate to a recently approved planning application and are not related to the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
	Newport City Council recognises that Caerphilly County Borough Council's 2RLDP is on a similar timescale to its own Replacement LDP. It notes that cross boundary work is already taking place between local authorities and welcomes the continuation of a joint approach to the evidence base.	Comments are noted. Cross boundary work will continue where possible throughout the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.

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Caerphilly County Borough Council Delivery Agreement

**2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local
Development Plan Up To 2035**

April 2021

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Glossary of Terms

2RLDP	The 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035
Adopted LDP	The Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021
CIS	Community Involvement Scheme
DA	Delivery Agreement
GDPR	EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
ISA.....	Integrated Sustainability Appraisal
ISAR	Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report
LDP.....	Local Development Plan
LPA.....	Local Planning Authority
LWBP	Local Well-being Plan
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
PSB	Public Services Board
Review Report	Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 Review Report
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEWSPG	South East Wales Strategic Planning Group
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
SA.....	Sustainability Appraisal
SAR	Sustainability Appraisal Report
WBFG Act.....	Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Definition of LDP Terms

Term	Definition
Adoption	The final stage of the 2RLDP preparation where the 2RLDP becomes the statutory development plan for the area it covers.
Baseline	A description of the present state of an area.
Candidate Sites	A site nominated by an individual with an interest in land (i.e. landowner, developer, agent or member of the public) to be considered for inclusion in the 2RLDP.
Community	People living in a defined geographical area, or who share other interests and therefore form communities of interest.
Consensus	A process of early dialogue with targeted interest groups to understand relevant viewpoints and generate agreement through discussion.
Consultation	A formal process in which comments are invited on a particular matter or document.
Council	Caerphilly County Borough Council.
Deposit	A statutory six-week stage in which individuals and organisations can make representations on the 2RLDP. Representations that relate to whether the plan is 'sound' are subsequently considered by an Inspector at the examination into the plan.
Duly Made	Representations, in writing, on the 2RLDP which are made in the correct manner and within the specified consultation time period. These representations will be considered by the Inspector at the Examination into the 2RLDP.
Engagement	The process that pro-actively seeks to involve the community in the preparation of the 2RLDP (interchangeable with the term "Involvement").
Evidence Base	Information and data that provides the basis for the preparation of the LDP vision, objectives, policies and proposals and justifies the soundness of the policy approach of the LDP.
Examination	The formal process of considering whether the Deposit 2RLDP satisfies the tests of soundness and can be formally adopted by the Council. The process is chaired by an independent Planning Inspector.
Interested Parties	Any person, group, organisation or company wanting to be involved in the preparation of the 2RLDP.
Involvement	The process that pro-actively seeks to involve the community in the preparation of the 2RLDP (interchangeable with the term "Engagement").
Local Planning Authorities	Local Council's and National Parks with planning powers.
Objective	A statement of what is being sought or proposed to be delivered.
Participation	The process whereby stakeholders interface with plan makers.
Pre-Deposit	The stages of 2RLDP preparation and consultation up to and including the consultation on the Preferred Strategy document.
Report of Consultation	A document that addresses the representations submitted during a consultation period and the actions resulting from them.
Representations	Comments received in relation to the 2RLDP, either in support of, or in opposition to.
Soundness	The concept against which the plan is tested to determine whether it can be adopted by the council. Soundness is considered through 3 tests that the independent Inspector applies to the 2RLDP through its examination.
Stakeholders	Any person, group, organisation or company whose interests are directly affected by a 2RLDP or who participate through the 2RLDP engagement process.
Submission	The formal act of sending documents to Welsh Government at key stages in plan preparation.
Timetable	Sets out the timeframe for delivering the 2RLDP, including dates by which key stages and processes of 2RLDP preparation are expected to be completed.

1. Part 1 - Introduction

- 1.1 A full review of the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted LDP) has been undertaken and the findings are set out in the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 Review Report (Review Report). The Review Report provides an overview of the issues that have been considered as part of the review process and subsequently identifies any changes that are likely to be needed to the Adopted LDP. It concludes that the Council should commence an immediate full revision of the Adopted LDP.
- 1.2 The Adopted LDP remains extant and will continue to provide the policy framework for the determination of planning applications while the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 (2RLDP) is being prepared.
- 1.3 The first stage in the preparation of the 2RLDP is to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA). This Delivery Agreement has been prepared during the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. The Council will adhere to the Government Regulations regarding COVID-19; this includes social distancing and seeking innovative methods to consult during this time. Should additional opportunities arise during the plan preparation process especially where restrictions continue to be lifted, the Council will endeavour to respond to these.

Purpose of a Delivery Agreement

- 1.4 The preparation of a Delivery Agreement (DA) is a key requirement in preparing the 2RLDP. This document provides details of the stages involved in the Plan-making process, the time each part of the process is likely to take, and the resources that the Council will commit to plan preparation. The DA will also establish the Council's early full and continuous approach to community engagement and involvement in the preparation of the 2RLDP.
- 1.5 The DA forms an important and legal part of the preparation of the 2RLDP and its delivery in accordance with the DA will form an important test of the 'soundness' of the plan. Both the content of the DA and the way in which the Local Planning Authority implements it is, therefore, fundamental to the overall success of the 2RLDP.
- 1.6 The DA is split into two key parts:
- **The Timetable for producing the 2RLDP.**
This provides an indication of when various stages of plan preparation will take place. Definitive dates are provided up to the deposit stage and indicative dates for later stages. The timetable is included in Part 2 of this DA.
 - **The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS).**
This sets out the Council's principles, strategy and mechanisms for early, full and continuous community and stakeholder engagement throughout the revision process. This is a fundamental element of the development plan system. Once approved, the Council will need to comply with the requirements for community engagement that are set out in the CIS. The CIS is included in Part 3 of this DA.

Stages in the Approval of the Delivery Agreement

- 1.7 In developing the DA for the 2RLDP, the Council will:
- Prepare a Draft DA (this document).
 - Consult on the Draft DA with key stakeholders and revise the DA appropriately.
 - Obtain Council Approval for the updated DA.

- Submit the DA to Welsh Government for agreement.
- Upon agreement of Welsh Government, publish the DA on the Council's website and place in the Planning Service's Reception.
- Review the DA on a quarterly basis against progress on the preparation of the 2RLDP.

Preparation of the 2RLDP

- 1.8 In preparing the 2RLDP, and in accordance with Welsh Government LDP Manual (Edition 3, 2020), the Council will aim to achieve the following key outcomes:
1. Support sustainable development and quality places based around the National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes, aligned with national policy (set out in PPW) integrated with an SA/SEA/HRA, including Welsh language and the requirements of the WBFG Act 2015.
 2. Be based on and underpinned by early, effective and meaningful community involvement in order to understand and consider a wide range of views, with the aim of building a broad consensus on the spatial strategy, policies and proposals.
 3. Be based on a robust understanding of the role and function of an area(s) including the functional linkages to areas beyond administrative boundaries.
 4. Be distinctive by having plans setting out clearly how their area will develop and change, giving certainty for communities, developers and business.
 5. Be resilient to climate change (using the latest UK Climate Projections, flood risk and vulnerability assessment data) and support the transition to a low carbon society in line with the latest carbon reduction targets and budgets as set out in the Environment (Wales) Act (Part 2). The principles of Placemaking, the Sustainable Transport Hierarchy and the Energy Hierarchy as set out in PPW must be adhered to.
 6. Ensure the sustainable management of natural resources in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and other relevant legislation.
 7. Deliver what is intended through deliverable and viable plans, taking into account necessary infrastructure requirements, financial viability and other market factors.
 8. Be proactive and responsive with plans, kept up-to-date and flexible to accommodate change.
- 1.9 The 2RLDP will be prepared with regard to a wide range of legislation, policies and other initiatives at the European, national, regional and local level. The Local Well-being Plan for 2018-2023 'The Caerphilly We Want' (LWBP) will be of particular importance at the local level. This relates to the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Caerphilly County Borough and will have clear links with the 2RLDP where it relates to land use planning.

Integrated Sustainability Appraisal incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.10 The provisions of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations, 2004, require the Council to assess the significant effects that its plan could have on the environment. In addition, Section 62 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of its plan. As a matter of good practice, the SEA and SA processes have been combined into one iterative

SEA/SA process. The SEA/SA process was an iterative part of the preparation process of the Adopted LDP and is reflected in the Plan's proposals and policies.

- 1.11 The Council will continue to adopt the integrated SEA/SA process in preparing the 2RLDP. However, other legislation has introduced additional assessment requirements that should also be addressed as part of the plan preparation process, e.g. health impact assessment, equalities assessment. Consequently, the Council will undertake an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA), which combines the SEA/SA process with the other required assessments as part of the preparation of the revised plan. The ISA will ensure that the revised plan is internally consistent, with economic, environmental, cultural and social issues considered alongside other relevant matters. The appraisal process will run concurrently with the plan preparation process.
- 1.12 The ISA will include the following stage documents:
- **The Scoping Report.** This will set out the current state of the environment and will identify the existing sustainability issues within Caerphilly County Borough to provide baseline information for assessment and monitoring through a series of Objectives and a Sustainability Framework. It will also set out a review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and strategies at European, national, regional and local levels, indicating their implications for the 2RLDP process.
 - **An Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report (ISAR).** This will consider the likely effects of the 2RLDP Preferred Strategy, aims and objectives. It will also consider the effects of any reasonable alternative strategies. The ISAR will be published at the same time as the Preferred Strategy.
 - **The Environmental Report.** This will consider the likely effects of the Deposit version of the 2RLDP. It will assess the social, economic, cultural and environmental impacts likely to arise from the policies and allocations set out in the plan. This will be published at the same time as the Deposit Plan.
 - **The Adoption Statement.** A Statement published by the Council that sets out how the ISA has been accounted for in the 2RLDP. The Adoption statement is published following the Adoption of the 2RLDP.

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

- 1.13 In accordance with the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, the impacts of any land use plan on the conservation objectives of any European protected site are to be assessed by means of an Appropriate Assessment. The Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) will be prepared concurrently with the Deposit Plan and will be published with both the Deposit Plan and the Environmental Report.
- 1.14 There are two stages of HRA:
- Screening – To determine whether any of the conservation objectives of any European Site could be adversely affected;
 - Appropriate Assessment – Assessment of the plan proposals on the conservation objectives of all affected European sites.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WCFG Act)

- 1.15 The WCFG Act gained Royal Assent in April 2015. The Act aims to make a difference to lives of people in Wales in relation to seven well-being goals and sets out five ways of working. The seven well-being goals relate to:

- A Prosperous Wales,
- A Resilient Wales,
- A Healthier Wales,
- A More Equal Wales,
- A Wales of Cohesive Communities,
- A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Welsh Language, and
- A Globally Responsive Wales.

1.16 The five ways of working are:

- Long Term,
- Integration,
- Involvement,
- Collaboration, and
- Prevention.

1.17 Given that sustainable development is the core underlying principle of both the LDP and SEA, there are clear associations between the LDP and the WCFG Act. As a requirement of the Act a Local Well-being Plan must be produced. The Council published its LWBP in 2018 and it covers the period up to 2023. Both the WCFG Act and LWBP will be considered fully throughout the preparation of the 2RLDP. The Well-being Assessment will form part of the evidence base of the 2RLDP.

Evidence

1.18 There is a need to update the evidence base, including undertaking various evidence base assessments throughout the preparation of the 2RLDP. At this stage it is envisaged that this will include:

- Population and Housing Growth Options
- Affordable Housing Viability Assessment
- Local Housing Market Assessment
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
- Larger than Local Economic Review
- Employment Land Review
- Strategic Transport Assessment
- Shopper Attitude Survey and retail analysis
- Renewable Energy Assessment
- Settlement Boundary Review
- Green Infrastructure Assessment
- Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment
- Minerals and Waste Assessment

1.19 This is not a definitive list and additional evidence base requirements may emerge as the plan revision progresses.

Tests of Soundness

1.20 As an integral part of the development plan system it is the responsibility of the appointed independent Inspector to consider the soundness of the 2RLDP as a whole during the Examination into the Plan. A straightforward interpretation of “sound” is that it “shows good judgement” and “is able to be trusted”. The LDP Manual (Edition 3, 2020) provides 3 criteria for assessing ‘Soundness’. These tests are:

- a. Does the Plan Fit?
- b. Is the Plan Appropriate?
- c. Will the plan deliver?

- 1.21 The tests of soundness, in part, relate to the process by which the 2RLDP has been prepared by the Council, its consistency, coherence and effectiveness. To ensure that time is not spent examining in detail a plan that is procedurally unsound the Inspector will carry out an early screening of the 2RLDP to ensure that it has been prepared in accordance with the DA. It is in the Council's interests, therefore, to ensure that the DA has been adhered to throughout the 2RLDP process. It is also the responsibility of all stakeholders in the process to facilitate the process by meeting the requirements of them.
- 1.22 Following the Examination, the Inspector will prepare a report that sets out the Inspector's findings and conclusions. The conclusions reached by the Inspector are binding and, unless Welsh Government intervenes, the Council can either adopt the plan including the Inspector's recommendations or resolve not to adopt the plan.

2. Part 2 - Timetable

- 2.1 The Council has established a timetable for the delivery of the 2RLDP, summarising the key stages in plan preparation (Table 1). While the timetable is challenging, it provides a realistic timeframe for preparation of the 2RLDP having regard to the resources available. In preparing the timetable, regard has been given to Welsh Government's expectation that a revised plan can be prepared within three and a half years.
- 2.2 The timetable in Table 1 is split into two parts, the definitive and the indicative stages:
- The Definitive Stages – This part of the timetable provides information up to and inclusive of the statutory Deposit stage. The progress of the 2RLDP over this period is under the direct control of the Council and therefore target dates, while challenging, are considered realistic and every effort will be made to adhere to these dates.
 - The Indicative Stages – This part of the timetable provides for the stages of plan preparation beyond the statutory Deposit stage. These stages are increasingly dependent on a wide range of external factors (e.g. the number of representations received, number of examination hearing sessions, time taken to receive Inspector's Report) over which the Council has far less control. Those dates will be reconsidered after reaching the Deposit stage when definitive timings for the remaining stages will be prepared and submitted to Welsh Government for agreement and publication.

Table 1 – Key Stages in 2RLDP Preparation

Definitive Stages	Timescale
Delivery Agreement	Nov 2020 – July 2021 9-week consultation (25 th January – 29 th March, 2021) Final DA reported to Council – June 2021 Submission to WG by June 2021 (response to LPA to be received within 4 weeks)
Pre-Deposit Participation	July 2021 – July 2022 Report to Council on draft Preferred Strategy and ISA – June 2022
Preferred Strategy (Pre-Deposit) Consultation	June – July 2022 Preferred Strategy – 6-week consultation (with optional additional 2 weeks if required) Report to Council on draft Deposit Plan and ISA – January 2023
Statutory Deposit Plan Consultation	February – March 2023 Deposit Plan – 6-week consultation (with optional additional 2 weeks if required) Prepare the Report of Consultation Report to Council on submission of Deposit 2RLDP and ISA to Welsh Government for examination – January 2024
Indicative Stages	
Submission of 2RLDP to Welsh Government	February 2024
Independent Examination	March - October 2024
Inspector's Report	November 2024
Adoption	December 2024 (must be adopted within 8 weeks of receiving the Inspector's binding report) Publication of ISA Adoption Statement

- 2.3 A detailed project plan outlining the timescale for each of the stages of plan preparation is included in Appendix 1.

Resources

- 2.4 The Planning Services Manager will be responsible for the overall delivery of the 2RLDP, with the Team Leader, Strategic Planning being responsible for the day to day project management. The Strategic Planning Team will lead in the preparation and delivery of the 2RLDP with Member engagement and political reporting at appropriate stages. The existing staff resources are set out in Table 2 below. Approximately 90 to 95% of officer time will be dedicated to the preparation of the 2RLDP. Additional time will be dedicated by the Planning Services Manager, the Head of Regeneration and Planning and the Interim Director Communities to ensure the efficient delivery of the 2RLDP. It will also be necessary to call upon staff resources from other service areas across the Council to assist in undertaking various evidence base updates/assessments. This is likely to include officer support from; Development Management, Housing, Infrastructure, Education, Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services, Corporate Policy, Democratic Services and

Legal Services. Significant input will also be required from technical support in preparing the 2RLDP documentation.

Table 2 – Strategic Planning Team Staff Resources

Officer Job Title	Number of posts
Team Leader	1
Principal Planner	1.8
Planning Officer	1
Assistant Planner	1

- 2.5 The Council recognises that additional specialist input will also be required to progress and establish a robust evidence base to inform the 2RLDP. While it is anticipated that a considerable amount of evidence base work will be undertaken by CCBC officers, predominately the Strategic Planning Team, the use of external consultants is likely to be necessary, particularly in relation to highly technical or specialist elements of the evidence base. An initial assessment has been carried out of the elements of plan preparation that are likely to require external consultant input and financial resources have been agreed by Council.
- 2.6 The DA has been prepared on the basis of the Council preparing its own LDP, not in collaboration with, or as a joint plan with other Councils. Joint working is, however, on-going on a regional basis, particularly in respect of preparation of the evidence base. Collaboration with neighbouring authorities will be fundamental to the preparation of the 2RLDP, particularly with regard to a joint evidence base, where appropriate. The South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG) is working towards a set of regionally agreed methodologies for key topic areas to ensure a consistent evidence base throughout the Cardiff Capital Region. In addition, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire and Newport have identified several work streams where studies could be, and are being, commissioned jointly.
- 2.7 The Council has agreed a budget to progress the 2RLDP to adoption within the prescribed timetable. It is anticipated that this will cover expenditure relating to all elements of preparation of the 2RLDP and its Examination.

Supplementary Planning Guidance

- 2.8 The 2RLDP will contain sufficient policies to provide the basis for determining planning applications. However, Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has an important supporting role in providing more detailed or site-specific guidance on the way in which the 2RLDP policies will be applied. While SPG does not form part of the development plan it should be derived from and be consistent with the 2RLDP. The SPG should also be clearly cross-referenced to the policies and proposals it supplements.
- 2.9 Since the adoption of the Adopted LDP several SPG documents have been prepared and adopted to support Adopted LDP policies. The SPG cover the following key areas:
- Affordable Housing
 - Trees and Development
 - Car Parking Standards
 - Building Better Places to Live
 - Householder Developments
 - Protection of Open Space
 - Buildings in the countryside
 - Shop Fronts and Advertisements

- Planning Guidance for Smaller Scale Wind Turbine Developments – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Requirements
- Smaller Scale Wind Turbine Development – Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study

2.10 It is anticipated that the SPG listed above will continue to be necessary and relevant, and so will be carried forward with any amendments necessary to support the 2RLDP, and/or the updated evidence base.

2.11 It should nevertheless be noted that SPG to the 2RLDP cannot be adopted until after the Inspector's Report has been received and it is clear that there are no changes to the policy approach set out in the revised plan. It is not anticipated that any new/additional SPG will be prepared or consulted on in parallel with the 2RLDP, primarily due to the challenging timescales.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

2.12 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was introduced in Caerphilly County Borough Council in 2014, to assist in the delivery of the council's land use objectives as set out in the Adopted LDP.

2.13 CIL will be reviewed in parallel with the end of the 2RLDP plan preparation process.

Monitoring and Review of the DA

2.14 The Council will monitor and regularly review progress of the 2RLDP against the requirements of the DA to ensure the timetable is being adhered to and the public engagement, as set out in the CIS, is being met. As noted in paragraph 2.8 the timetable allows for a marginal degree of flexibility, however, any amendments to the DA will require approval by the Council prior to Welsh Government agreement. The DA may need to be amended if the following circumstances occur during the preparation of the 2RLDP:

- Significant change to the resources available to undertake preparation of the 2RLDP.
- Preparation of the 2RLDP falls behind schedule i.e. more than 3 months.
- Significant changes to European, UK or Welsh legislation directly affecting the 2RLDP preparation process.
- Any other change in circumstances that will materially affect the delivery of the 2RLDP in accordance with the DA.
- Significant changes to the CIS.
- Unforeseen events such as the COVID-19 Pandemic.

2.15 An updated timetable will be submitted to Welsh Government following the Deposit stage. This will provide greater certainty of the timescales for the remaining stages (i.e. replacing indicative stages with definitive stages). The indicative timetable will be redefined within three months of the close of the formal Deposit period and will be submitted to Welsh Government for agreement.

Monitoring and Review of the LDP

2.16 The Council will produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) each year following the adoption of the 2RLDP. This will assess how effectively the policies and proposals of the plan are performing and highlight any need for modifications. The monitoring report will also include references to new or updated National Planning Guidance and any other relevant

information. Once produced, the monitoring report will be made available to the public to view on the Council's website.

Following the adoption of the LDP, it is intended that the plan will be reviewed on a four-yearly cycle.

Risk Management and Analysis

- 2.17 Whilst the timetable for preparation of the 2RLDP is realistic and deliverable, it is acknowledged that it will also be very challenging, particularly with further challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is recognised that there are several factors that could result in plan preparation deviating from the proposed timetable. Consequently, the LDP Manual (Edition 3, 2020) provides flexibility by allowing a single three-month slippage, before a formal revision to the DA is required. Appendix 2 sets out a risk assessment identifying potential issues that could cause difficulties in keeping to the proposed timetable, together with the Council's proposed approach to managing them.

3. Part 3 – Community Involvement Scheme

- 3.1 The CIS sets out how the Council proposes to proactively engage with and involve the local community and stakeholders in the preparation of the 2RLDP. It is essential when preparing the 2RLDP that the right people are involved at the right time to seek greater consensus and strengthen community involvement in the plan making process.
- 3.2 The Development Plans Manual, Edition 3, states that when preparing the CIS, LPAs should:
- Create the conditions for early involvement and feedback at a stage when people can shape and influence the plan, based on the 5 ways of working, as set out in the WBFGA 2015.
 - Encourage the commitment from all participants to an open and honest debate on realistic development alternatives in search of broad consensus.
 - Recognise the need to adopt approaches/techniques for involving all elements of the community (age groups, local community action groups, hard to reach groups and protected characteristic groups) including business, which seeks to involve those not normally involved.
 - Recognise that a one size fits all approach will not be appropriate.
- 3.3 The Council has prepared its Community Involvement Scheme during the COVID-19 Pandemic and will adhere to the latest Government guidelines and Regulations in terms of implementing consultation methods, such as social distancing rules. The LPA will endeavour to engage the community in innovative ways and will keep the methods under review as the plan preparation is undertaken.
- 3.4 The Council has prepared a timetable for the preparation of the 2RLDP (Part 2, Appendix 1), which should be read in conjunction with the CIS.

Principles of Engagement

- 3.5 The *#TeamCaerphilly – Better Together* Transformation Strategy, endorsed by Cabinet in June 2019 highlights the importance of engaging and working with our communities as one of its primary themes.
- 3.6 The draft Consultation and Engagement Framework 2020-2025 sets out our approach to further enhance consultation and engagement across Caerphilly county borough communities. It highlights the principles and standards that underpin meaningful engagement and consultation to enable a consistent, transparent and high-quality approach to the planning and undertaking of community engagement. This Framework has direct links to several other strategies, including The Communications and Engagement Strategy 2019 – 2022 which has been developed to help define the way the Council engages with its residents, partners, businesses and all other key audiences.
- 3.7 The Council has adopted the National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales as a guide for all engagement:
1. **Engagement is effectively designed to make a difference** - Engagement gives a real chance to influence policy, service design and delivery from an early stage.

2. **Encourage and enable everyone affected to be involved, if they so choose -**
The people affected by an issue or change are included in opportunities to engage, as an individual or as part of a group or community, with their views both respected and valued.
3. **Engagement is planned and delivered in a timely and appropriate way -** The engagement process is clear, communicated to everyone in a way that is easy to understand within a reasonable timescale, and the most suitable method(s) for those involved is used.
4. **Work with relevant partner organisations -** Organisations should communicate with each other and work together wherever possible to ensure that people's time is used effectively and efficiently.
5. **The information provided will be jargon free, appropriate and understandable -** People are well placed to take part in the engagement process, as they have easy access to relevant information that is tailored to meet their needs.
6. **Make it easier for people to take part -** People can engage easily as any barriers for different groups of people are identified and addressed.
7. **Enable people to take part effectively -** Engagement processes should try to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of all participants.
8. **Engagement is given the right resources and support to be effective -** Appropriate training, guidance and support are provided to enable all participants to effectively engage, including both community participants and staff.
9. **People are told of the impact of their contribution -** Timely feedback is given to all participants about the views they express, and the decisions or actions taken as a result; methods and forms of feedback should take account of participants' preferences.
10. **Learn and share lessons to improve the process of engagement -** People's experience of the process should be monitored and evaluated, to measure its success in engaging people and the effectiveness of that participation. Lessons should be shared and applied in future engagements.

3.8 In terms of the wider context, this Framework also supports the Council in meeting its duty under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, particularly the involvement and collaboration principles, and The Equality Act which is supplemented by a specific set of Welsh duties, one of which is to involve people who it considers to be representative of those with different protected characteristics who have an interest in the way in which the authority carries out its functions.

Who will we involve?

- 3.9 The LPA is committed to engaging with any person or organisation who has an interest in shaping the future of Caerphilly County Borough. The 2RLDP, once adopted, will be used to guide development in the county borough and will be a key decision-making tool for the consideration of planning applications. The Council therefore encourages anyone who wishes to express their views, to do so as part of the preparation of the 2RLDP process.
- 3.10 The legal requirements for community involvement and public participation for the 2RLDP are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended 2015). The Council intends to meet and where possible,

exceed these requirements. A list of Specific and General Consultation bodies is set out at Appendix 3.

3.11 The Council will actively seek to involve the following parties:

Members of the public, interested persons and organisations

- 3.12 For both the Adopted LDP and the withdrawn Replacement LDP the Council maintained a consultation database that included members of the public, interested persons, organisations and companies who had requested to be kept informed at each stage of the LDP process. The primary purpose of this database was to allow for those who are not included on the Welsh Government list of consultees for LDPs to be involved and informed throughout the LDP process.
- 3.13 The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force in May 2018 placing new restrictions on how organisations can hold and use personal data and defining rights with regard to that data. As a result of GDPR we are unable to contact those individuals who previously expressed an interest in the LDP process. Consequently, the Council is now required to establish a new stakeholder database of parties wanting to be involved in the preparation of the 2RLDP.
- 3.14 Any interested parties must give their consent, in writing, if they wish to be added to the 2RLDP stakeholder database. Anyone who makes representations at any of the stages of 2RLDP will be deemed to have given their consent and will be added to the stakeholder database in order to administer their comments and for them to be adequately informed of further opportunities to participate at a later date in the process.
- 3.15 Respondents will also be given the opportunity to confirm whether they wish to correspond in Welsh or English.
- 3.16 If any person, group, organisation or company wishes to be involved in the preparation of the 2RLDP, they can request to be added to the stakeholder database by logging their details on the Council's website. For those who are unable to access the Council's website, they can contact the Strategic Planning Team by email, telephone or in writing, using the contact details as set out in paragraph 3.34 to obtain a form to submit their details and consent. Given the requirements of the GDPR the Council can only include details submitted on-line or on the form supplied. The Council cannot accept details by e-mail, phone or letter.

LDP Focus Group

- 3.17 In order to guide the 2RLDP process, the Council will set up the LDP Focus Group. This group will be comprised of Cabinet Members, Members from opposition groups and Service Area Heads and will facilitate continued engagement with senior members and officers throughout the plan preparation process. The LDP Focus Group will be engaged through specific workshops and meetings where appropriate.

Elected Members

- 3.18 It is recognised that the involvement of Members of Caerphilly County Borough Council throughout the preparation of the 2RLDP will be of key importance. Members have a unique position, as not only do they represent the communities within their individual ward, they also represent public interest and are involved in decisions for the wider benefit of the County Borough as a whole. Accordingly, Members will play an essential role in the 2RLDP process by providing information to local residents, informing the LPA of issues and opportunities within their local area and more fundamentally making decisions on matters affecting Caerphilly County Borough as a whole.
- 3.19 The Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise has responsibility for planning policy, including the preparation of the 2RLDP. Close liaison with the Cabinet Member, and all

other Council Members, is an essential part of the 2RLDP process. Consequently, Member seminars will be undertaken where appropriate, in particular at key stages of the 2RLDP including, but not limited to; the Preferred Strategy, Deposit and at Adoption. Members will be fully informed throughout the process and notified prior to every participation and consultation stage.

Community and Town Councils

- 3.20 Town and Community Councils also play a key role in disseminating information to the residents within their area on matters of local importance and will be a key link to communities across Caerphilly County Borough. Community and Town Councils will be consulted at every stage of the 2RLDP process and through their individual communication methods will help raise awareness of the 2RLDP to local communities. They also can provide up to date local information, opinions on any proposals within their areas and more importantly can provide detail of any land-use based aspirations they have for their community.

Housing Stakeholder Group

- 3.21 In order to generate a housing trajectory which must be prepared to support the Deposit Plan, it will be necessary to engage with stakeholders through a Housing Stakeholder Group. This will ensure that the timing and phasing of sites is robust and based on up to date information. The Stakeholder Group should comprise officers, home builders, landowners (and agents where appropriate), Registered Social Landlords, statutory undertakers, infrastructure providers and other bodies as appropriate.

Partnership Groups

- 3.22 Partnership groups act as single contact points for groups of people and are, consequently, an important point of contact for engaging the wider community in the preparation of the 2RLDP. This is particularly the case during the early stages of public participation when structured discussion is desirable.
- 3.23 The Caerphilly Public Service Board (PSB), and its partners, will be of particular importance to ensure the 2RLDP aligns with the Local Well-being Plan. As such the PSB will be actively involved during the preparation of the plan.
- 3.24 The Strategic Planning Team will also work closely with the Council's Corporate Policy Team who support the delivery, co-ordination and administration of the Public Services Board and lead the Council's contribution to the Local Well-being Plan.

Businesses, Landowners, Developers and Agents

- 3.25 As outlined previously, extensive engagement will be undertaken at each key stage of the 2RLDP process. Efforts will be made to engage with the business community at an early stage. We will also engage with planning agents, who are regular customers of Caerphilly County Borough's planning service. Anyone can request for their details to be included on the 2RLDP stakeholder database (please refer to paragraph 3.16 above for details). Landowners, agents and prospective developers who wish to put land forward to be considered for development will be deemed to have provided their necessary consent and will be added to the stakeholder database.
- 3.26 The Candidate Site process will provide the opportunity for those who have an interest in land to submit sites they wish to be considered for development in the 2RLDP. A common methodology for considering such sites has been established for the South East Wales region for local planning authorities to utilise for their respective LDPs. A 'Call for Candidate Sites' will be made, and all candidate sites will need to be submitted on the standard form. The form will set out the criteria required to assist in the assessment of the suitability of sites for inclusion as potential allocations in the 2RLDP. A threshold for accepting candidate sites will be set in order to ensure the plan remains strategically focused. This threshold will be provided at the outset in order to provide clarity for the

process and avoid unnecessary work being undertaken for sites that will not be considered for inclusion in the 2RLDP. Accordingly, all candidate sites will need to be submitted during the appropriate period.

Additional Consultation Bodies

- 3.27 Appendix 3 provides a list of the specific and general consultation bodies along with UK Government departments and other consultees. The specific consultees are comprised of Welsh Government and those bodies with specific functions that apply to the 2RLDP area, e.g. the Aneurin Bevan Health Board and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. The Authority must also consult UK Government Departments where aspects of the plan appear to affect their interests. These consultation bodies will be engaged throughout the 2RLDP process at each of the formal stages and informally, as appropriate.

Hard to Reach Groups

- 3.28 Hard to reach groups, and those that are seldom heard, are those groups who have not traditionally taken part in the plan preparation process. Additional effort will, therefore, be required to ensure these groups are engaged in the 2RLDP process. A flexible approach will need to be undertaken in relation to engagement with these groups, albeit within the parameters of the specified participation/consultation periods and resource limits.
- 3.29 Hard to reach groups include:
- Young people and children
 - People with disabilities
 - Older people
 - People with learning difficulties
 - Homeless people
 - Ethnic minorities
 - Gypsies and Travellers
- 3.30 Engagement with these groups may be achieved by using existing partnerships and groups wherever possible. It is nevertheless recognised that the very principle of a hard to reach group is that they may not be involved in existing groups and that this may not, therefore, always be achievable. Trusted intermediaries will also be used, as appropriate, in order to gain the views of particular groups of people who do not have the confidence to engage directly in the process.

Planning Aid Wales

- 3.31 Planning Aid Wales is an independent service providing planning advice to groups and individuals, particularly in disadvantaged areas, helping them to understand the planning system and influence what happens in their local area. Where appropriate we will work with Planning Aid on consultation/training activities.

How we will involve you?

- 3.32 Details of the emerging 2RLDP and its processes and progress will be published on the council's website throughout the process. We will seek to publicise the 2RLDP process at every stage and reach as much of the community, and other stakeholders, as possible, to advise people about the 2RLDP and how they can get involved.
- 3.33 This will be done by:
- Direct contact (i.e. preferably by email, or letter).
 - Leaflets distributed to households within the county borough.
 - Through use of Twitter, by utilising the corporate @CaerphillyCBC account.
 - Via Facebook on the Caerphilly County Borough Council page.

- Engagement with Elected Members through specific workshops, Member drop-in sessions and in reports to appropriate Council meetings.
- All 2RLDP information and documents will be made available on the Council's website, which will be constantly updated.
- Deposit of documents at the Council's headquarters, libraries/Customer Service Centres where possible.
- Press releases for the local media, where appropriate.
- Producing Easy Read Summary documents for key stages of the 2RLDP process.
- Public exhibitions, drop in sessions and meetings in accessible and neutral locations, the manner of which will be subject to COVID-19 Regulations and guidelines.
- Videos, virtual engagement and consultation via web-based technology such as webinars.
- Site notices will be displayed regarding proposed land allocations at the Deposit stage.

3.34 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic officers of the Council will, where possible be available in person, subject to regulations set out by the Government such as social distancing. Where this is not possible the Council will seek alternative appropriate methods of engagement such as being available on the telephone and online, to ensure that the community can effectively engage with us in the process.

Building Consensus

3.35 The Council will seek to build consensus through the various engagement and consultation methods set out within the CIS. Consensus building can only be achieved if the community and other interested parties are kept fully informed and effectively engaged throughout the 2RLDP process. This is of particular importance in the early stages of plan preparation. It is nevertheless recognised that there will be occasions where consensus cannot be achieved and a difference in opinion between certain parties occurs. A clear audit trail of decisions will be maintained in order to ensure that there is transparency in the decision-making process, and to provide assurances to those that disagree that the decisions have been made in an informed and balanced way.

Availability of Documents

3.36 The 2RLDP documents will be made available at each of the relevant stages. All documents will be available on the Council's website. Electronic representation forms will also be made available during periods of consultation. In addition to online availability, where possible and subject to COVID-19 restrictions, the documents will also be made available in paper format in the following locations:

- Tredomen House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach
- Penallta House; and
- All local libraries/Customer Service Centres in the County Borough.

3.37 Paper copies of documents will not be sent out during the 2RLDP process as they will be made publicly available in the locations listed above, as well as being made available electronically. In exceptional circumstances, or when documents cannot be made available in the above locations, paper copies will be made available on request.

Welsh Language and Bilingual engagement

- 3.38 The Welsh Language Standards place a legal duty on Councils to make it easier for people to use services through the medium of Welsh. The Council has published a Welsh Language Strategy for 2017 – 2022, the requirements of both the corporate strategy and Welsh Language Standards will be maintained at all stages of the 2RLDP.
- 3.39 Bilingual engagement will be carried out in the following ways:
- We welcome correspondence in both Welsh and English. Where correspondence is received in Welsh and a reply is necessary, this will be sent in Welsh.
 - All consultation letters, comments forms, public notices (including site notices) and newsletters will be bilingual.
 - Any pages on the Council's website and social media posts published on twitter will be bilingual.
 - Any public meetings will be conducted bilingually where a request has been made ahead of time. Prior notification is required in order to provide a translation service.
 - The Adopted 2RLDP will be published in both Welsh and English format.
- 3.40 There is a requirement to undertake an assessment on the impact, positive, negative or no impact, the proposals will have on the Welsh Language. The 2RLDP will be the subject of an integrated impact appraisal that will include Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Health Impact Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and Welsh Language Impact Assessment, among others.

What we expect from you

- 3.41 In order to ensure any comments and representations on the 2RLDP are considered, they must be submitted within the prescribed timescales and in the prescribed manner. The DA sets out the timetable of relevant stages and provides a guideline of when we seek your involvement. More detailed information is set out in Part 2 and Appendix 1. This will ensure that individual views are considered and taken into account throughout the process.
- 3.42 It is also important that you notify the Strategic Planning Team should your contact details change during the 2RLDP process in order for officers to keep you fully informed of progress. With regard to candidate sites, land ownership changes may also occur during the process and it is imperative that these are updated via the Council's website in order to ensure progress is not delayed.

Handling Representations

- 3.43 Representations which are received within the prescribed timescales will be handled in the following manner during each stage of plan preparation:
- Representation logged and given a representation number;
 - Confirmation sent to representor of receipt of the representation;
 - Representation and details of representor logged;
 - All valid representations considered, and responses formulated; and
 - Local Authority's responses to representations recorded and published in accordance with the Regulations.

Late Representations

- 3.44 The 2RLDP process is subject to statutory and non-statutory consultation/involvement periods which have defined periods for submissions. Responses are required by the

specified deadline of these consultation periods in order for them to be ‘duly made’ and thus considered. Any comments/representations submitted after the deadline dates will not be considered as part of the 2RLDP process and will be classed as ‘not duly made’ for the purposes of the 2RLDP Examination. The timescale to produce the 2RLDP is already challenging, the acceptance of late representations would result in further delay which would not be acceptable.

Timetable and Methods of Engagement

- 3.45 The following tables set out the detailed timetable for community engagement and the proposed engagement methods for the key stages in the LDP preparation process. The list is not exhaustive and may need to be adapted to ensure the community and stakeholders are appropriately involved at each stage.
- 3.46 The tables identify the following key stages:
- **Definitive Stages**
 - Pre-Deposit Participation
 - Pre-Deposit Public Consultation
 - Statutory Deposit of Proposals
 - **Indicative Stages**
 - Submission of 2RLDP to Inspectorate for Examination
 - Independent Examination
 - Publication of Planning Inspector’s Recommendations
 - Adoption

DEFINITIVE STAGES					
Pre-Deposit Participation (Regulations 14 & 16)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
Delivery Agreement	To set out timetable for plan preparation and process and methods of community involvement.	Nov 2020 – July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General Consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public • Hard to reach groups • Community and Town Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Website • Social media • Leaflet to all households within the county borough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All documentation placed on the Council's website
Review and update existing evidence base	To inform development of the 2RLDP Strategy and policy framework.	Nov 2020 – April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Officers • Neighbouring LAs • Additional Consultation Bodies • Consultants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDP Monitoring • Specialist Surveys/data collection analysis • Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDP Monitoring reports • Topic Papers • Survey Reports
Call for Candidate Sites	To establish land availability and landowners' willingness to release land for development to inform the identification of potential development sites.	Jan – Aug 2021	Stakeholder database, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners • Agents • Developers • Home Builders Federation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Website • Social media • Leaflet to all households within the county borough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate Sites Register
Review of existing vision, objectives and options	To develop and agree an updated vision, develop consensus on options including growth levels and spatial distribution and inform development of the Preferred Strategy.	May 2021 – May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • LDP Focus Group • Public Service Board • Existing Local Forums • Internal Officers • Other consultees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Meetings • Email/letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All documentation placed on the Council's website
ISA					
Review/Update ISA baseline and framework	To update the baseline information and framework.	July – Oct 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Officers • Specific Consultation Bodies • Neighbouring LAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings • Email/letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report as part of SA/SEA Scoping Report

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ISA Scoping Report including the Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Policies	To involve the SEA/SA Statutory Consultees in preparing the Scoping Report.	Nov - Dec 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Officers • Specific Consultation Bodies • Neighbouring LAs • SEA/SA Statutory Consultees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of Consultation
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Pre-Deposit Consultation (Regulations 15 & 16)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
6/8-week Public Consultation on Preferred Strategy and assessment of representations received	<p>To make relevant documents available and accessible and to enable anyone to make representations to the Council's pre-deposit document.</p> <p>To consider whether any changes are needed to the Preferred Strategy and Option for the emerging 2RLDP.</p>	Jun – July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General Consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public • Existing Local Forums • Hard to reach groups • Community and Town Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Social media • Website • Drop in sessions/exhibitions • Copies of documents available in the Council Offices and where possible, all public libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of Consultation and recommendations to Council
Request for further information on Candidate Sites (where not previously submitted)	To identify potential development sites and obtain detailed site information.	Jun - July 2022	<p>Stakeholder database, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landowners • Agents • Developers • Home Builders Federation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Website • Social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate Sites Register
ISA					
6/8-week consultation on ISA Scoping Report and ISAR	To enable anyone to make representations on the Scoping Report and ISAR.	Jun – July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General Consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public • Existing Local Forums • Hard to reach groups • Community and Town Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Social media • Website • Drop in sessions/exhibitions • Copies of documents available in the Council Offices and where possible, all public libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of Consultation and recommendations to Council

Statutory Deposit of Proposals (Regulation 17)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
6/8 week Deposit Consultation exercise	To make relevant documents available and accessible and to enable anyone to make representations in respect of any policies and proposals in the Deposit 2RLDP.	Feb – March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General Consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public • Existing Local Forums • Hard to reach groups • Community and Town Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Social media • Website • Drop in sessions/exhibitions • Copies of the documents available in the Council Offices and where possible, all public libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard copy of representations placed in Council Offices and copies available on website • Representations and comments to be included in a report of consultation which will be available on the website • Representations submitted to WG for consideration by the Inspector
ISA					
Environment Report and Habitat Regulations Assessment	To consult on findings of the ISA and HRA.	Feb – March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General Consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public • Existing Local Forums • Hard to reach groups • Community and Town Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email/letter • Social media • Website • Drop in sessions/exhibitions • Copies of documents available in the Council Offices and where possible, all public libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard copy of representations placed in Council Offices and copies available on website • Representations and comments to be included in a report of consultation which will be available on the website • Representations submitted to WG for consideration by the Inspector

INDICATIVE STAGES					
Submission of 2RLDP to Inspectorate for Independent Examination (Regulation 22)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
Undertake work necessary for formal submission to WG for Examination	<p>To consider the representations received during the statutory consultation period and provide a response to them that can be considered by the Inspector at the Examination.</p> <p>Provide notice to all interested stakeholders of the submission of the 2RLDP and ISA, and associated documents, to Welsh Government.</p> <p>Enable examination of the 2RLDP.</p>	Indicative Feb 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder database Elected Members Internal Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Media Email/letter Website Provide copies of relevant supporting documents at Council offices and where possible, all libraries 	

Independent Examination (Regulation 23)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
Notification of Independent Examination	To ensure that interested persons/organisations are aware that an Independent Examination into the 2RLDP is taking place.	Indicative Mar – Apr 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder database Elected Members General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal notification given by email/letter to any person who has made (and not withdrawn) a representation. Notice placed in the local press and on the website. 	None
Pre-Examination meeting	To advise on examination procedures and format.	Indicative May – July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation stakeholder database Elected Members General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email/letter to all Representors Notice on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statements of Common Ground and Papers as necessary
Consideration of all representations to the plan by the independent Planning Inspector appointed to consider the evidence	<p>To provide an impartial planning view on the soundness of the 2RLDP, and the representations made in respect of it.</p> <p>To undertake any further work requested by Inspector.</p>	Indicative July – Oct 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All those interested individuals and organisations that have made representations at the Deposit Stage of the 2RLDP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round Table Discussions. Formal hearings (if requested and agreed by Inspector) Written submissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspectors report.

Publication of Planning Inspector's Recommendations (Regulation 24)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
Publication of the Inspector's Report	To make the Inspector's Report publicly available.	Indicative Nov –2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation stakeholder database • Elected Members • General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2RLDP documents including the adoption statement and the Sustainability Appraisal Report made available on the website • Formal notification given by email/letter to specific consultation Bodies and Elected Members • Copies of all relevant documents available in the council offices and where possible, all public libraries • Press Release 	None
ISA					
Formal publication of Environmental Report	Identify any adjustments arising from the Examination	Indicative Nov –2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation stakeholder database • Elected Members • General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2RLDP documents including the adoption statement and the Sustainability Appraisal Report made available on the website • Formal notification given by email/letter to specific consultation Bodies and Elected Members 	None

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Copies of all relevant documents available in the council offices and where possible, all public libraries• Press Release	
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Adoption (Regulation 25)					
Stage in the 2RLDP preparation process	Purpose	When? Timescale	Who will be involved	How? Consultation, Dissemination and Notification mechanism	Reporting, Dissemination & Notification
<p>To formally adopt the 2RLDP as the Development Plan for the County Borough within 8 weeks of receipt of the Inspectors Report.</p>	<p>To inform stakeholders of adoption</p>	<p>Indicative Dec 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2RLDP documents including the adoption statement and the Sustainability Appraisal Report made available on the website • Formal notification given by email/letter to specific consultation Bodies and Elected Members • Copies of all relevant documents available in the council offices and, where possible, all public libraries • Press Release 	
<p>ISA Adoption Statement</p>	<p>To set out how the Adopted 2RLDP has taken account of the findings of the ISA</p>	<p>Indicative Dec 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Consultation Bodies • General consultees • LDP Focus Group • Elected Members • General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adoption statement is made available on the website • Formal notification given by email/letter to specific consultation Bodies and Elected Members • Copies of all relevant documents available in the council offices and, where possible, all public libraries 	

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Contact Details

3.47 Further information can be gained by visiting the Council's website at:

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/ldp

3.48 Or, for those who are unable to access the Council's website, further information can be gained by contacting the following:

E mail: ldp@caerphilly.gov.uk
Telephone: 01443 866777

Strategic Planning Team,
Caerphilly County Borough Council
Tredomen House
Tredomen Park
Ystrad Mynach
Hengoed
CF82 7WF

3.36 Comments are welcome in Welsh or English.

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Key Stage Indicative	2020		2021					2022					2023					2024					2025							
	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
Submission of LDP to Planning Inspectorate																														
Examination																														
Inspector's Report - Preparation																														
Inspector's Report - Publication																														
Inspector's Report - Adoption																														

Appendix 2 – Risk Assessment

Risk	Potential Impact	Mitigation	Probability	Impact
LOCAL				
Delay in major applications coming forward until 2RLDP is adopted.	Whilst the Adopted LDP will remain in force until the 2RLDP is adopted, this will delay major applications from coming forward. This will impact on the Council's ability to address/deliver the 2RLDP issues and objectives and put pressure on the deliverability of the housing and employment.	Progression of the 2RLDP in a timely manner will ensure that the Council has an adopted 2RLDP in place as soon as possible, minimising the negative implications associated with the delay in major applications coming forward.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Change in staff resources available to undertake preparation of revised LDP.	Programme slippage.	Ensure revised LDP process maintains highest level corporate priority.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Staff turnover in small team.	Programme slippage.	Consider additional resources (including support from other sections within the Council) and ensure robust structure.	Low Likelihood	Medium Impact
Reduction and lack of financial resources.	Programme slippage.	Ensure plan preparation process is adequately costed with in-built capacity for unforeseen costs.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Council decision making reporting cycle.	Programme slippage.	Streamline decision-making procedures and ensure timetable is realistic.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Political Change / Elections.	Programme slippage.	Early Member training.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Lack of support from officers / other departments in production of the evidence base.	Programme slippage.	Ensure organisation wide support of plan process and timetable from outset.	High Likelihood	High Impact
Translation, printing and production delays.	Programme slippage.	Consider additional resources to undertake process in house.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
Insufficient information to undertake SA/SEA.	Programme slippage.	Identify and manage expectation of consultation bodies.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact
ISA/HRA implications on plan strategy / proposals.	Programme slippage.	Ensure process is fully integrated with LDP preparation.	Low Likelihood	Low Impact
Large volume and / or highly significant levels of objections to proposals e.g. site allocations.	Programme slippage. Plans cannot be submitted without significant work.	Ensure close liaison and early/continued involvement of community, statutory bodies & stakeholders throughout the plan preparation process.	High Likelihood	Medium Impact
Plan fails test of 'soundness'	Plan cannot be adopted without considerable additional work	Ensure Plan and Community Involvement are 'sound'. Close liaison with WG Planning Division.	Low Likelihood	High Impact
Legal challenge	Programme slippage. Quashing of adopted LDP.	Ensure good knowledge of statutory requirements to ensure compliance.	Low Likelihood	High Impact
Further lockdown due to COVID-19.	Non-compliance with CIS and timetable.	Staff are able to work from home and online consultation would still be possible.	High Likelihood	High Impact
Undertaking consultation during COVID-19.	Safety of staff. Non-compliance with CIS and timetable.	Ensure consultation events are risk assessed. Keep the DA under regular review and endeavour to adapt as necessary to ensure effective consultation.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact

NATIONAL / REGIONAL ISSUES				
Additional requirements arising from new legislation/ national guidance e.g. revised Planning Policy Wales and LDP Manual.	Programme slippage.	Monitor emerging legislation/guidance and respond to changes as soon as possible.	High Likelihood	High Impact
Involvement in preparation of Strategic Development Plan.	Programme slippage. Resource implications as extent of input into SDP is currently unknown.	Ensure sufficient resources are made available to support SDP process and ensure corporate support for SDP process and timetable from the outset.	High Likelihood	Medium Impact
Planning Inspectorate unable to meet target dates.	Examination and/or report delayed.	Maintain close liaison with the Planning Inspectorate to ensure early warning of any potential problems.	Medium Likelihood	High Impact
Need to amend emerging Plan to align with emerging Future Wales, The National Plan 2040 and Strategic Development Plan.	Programme slippage.	Ensure involvement in progress of regional work. Keep up to date with progress on NDF.	Medium Likelihood	Medium Impact

Appendix 3 – List of Consultation Bodies

Specific Consultation Bodies as defined in LDP Regulation 2 (including UK Government Departments):

The Council will consult the following specific consultation bodies at all stages in the preparation of the LDP.

- Welsh Government
- Natural Resources Wales
- Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
- Office of Secretary of State for Wales
- Telecommunication Operators – EE, Vodafone and 02, BT, Virgin Media, Mobile Operators Association
- Aneurin Bevan Health Board
- Gas and Electricity Licensees – National Grid, Wales & West Utilities, Western Power Distribution, British Gas, SSE
- Sewerage and Water Undertakers – Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water
- Department for Transport (including Secretary of State for functions previously exercised by the Strategic Rail Authority)
- UK Government Departments – Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
- Home Office
- Ministry of Defence
- CADW

Neighbouring and other Local Authorities within the Cardiff Capital Region:

- Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Bridgend County Borough Council
- Cardiff Council
- Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
- Monmouthshire County Council
- Newport City Council
- Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
- Torfaen County Borough Council
- Vale of Glamorgan Council

Local Community and Town Councils:

- Aber Valley Community Council
- Argoed Community Council
- Bargoed Town Council
- Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council
- Blackwood Town Council
- Caerphilly Town Council
- Darran Valley Community Council
- Draethen, Waterloo & Rudry Community Council
- Gelligaer Community Council
- Llanbradach & Pwllpant Community Council
- Maesycwmmmer Community Council
- Nelson Community Council
- New Tredegar Community Council
- Penyrheol, Trecenydd & Energlyn Community Council
- Rhymney Community Council
- Risca East Community Council
- Risca Town Council
- Van Community Council

Neighbouring Community and Town Councils:

- Abertillery & Llanhilleth Town Council
- Bedlinog Community Council
- Cwmbran Community Council
- Graig Community Council
- Henllys Community Council
- Lisvane Community Council
- Michaelstone-Y-Fedw Community Council
- Pontypridd Town Council
- Rogerstone Community Council
- St Mellons Community Council
- Taffs Well Community Council
- Tongwynlais Community Council
- Tredegar Town Council

General Consultation Bodies

The Council will consult with the following general consultation bodies, where appropriate, in accordance with the Delivery Agreement. This list is not exhaustive and may be added to as appropriate:

Voluntary Bodies whose activities benefit any part of the authority's area:

- GAVO
- Caerphilly Parent Network
- Caerphilly 50+ Forum

Equalities Organisations:

Bodies which represent the interests of different Age groups in the authority's area:

- Age Cymru
- Caerphilly County Borough Youth Forum

Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the authority's area:

- Action on Hearing Loss Cymru
- Caerphilly People First
- Changing Faces
- British Deaf Association (BDA)
- Caerphilly County Borough Access Group
- Deafblind Cymru
- Disability Can Do
- Disability Wales
- Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee
- Gwent Hearing Impairment Service
- Gwent Visual Impairment Service
- Learning Disability Wales
- Mencap Cymru
- Mind Cymru
- Royal National Institute of Blind People
- The Stroke Association
- Wales Council for Deaf People
- Wales Council for the Blind

Bodies representing the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups in the authority's area:

- The Equality and Human Rights Commission
- Travelling Ahead
- Association of Gypsies and Travellers In Wales
- Cardiff Gypsy and Traveller Project
- The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain
- Race Equality First

Bodies which represent the interests in different religious groups in the authority's area:

- Church in Wales
- Siloh Christian Centre
- Catholic Church in Wales
- Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witnesses
- Muslim Council for Wales
- South Wales Baptist Association
- United Reform Church
- Salvation Army
- Cardiff Buddhist Centre
- UK Islamic Mission
- Gwent Association of the Baptist Union of Wales
- East Glamorgan Association of the Baptist Union of Wales

Bodies which represent the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups in the authority's area:

- Stonewall Cymru
- Bi Cymru Wales
- Guys and Gals
- Rainbow Group
- Umbrella Gwent

Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying out business in the authority's area:

- Caerphilly Business Club
- Careers Wales
- Business Wales (South Wales Regional Centre)
- Federation of Small Businesses in Wales
- Welsh ICE

Bodies which represent the interests of Welsh culture in the authority's area:

- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd
- Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments
- Welsh Historic Gardens Trust
- Ancient Monument Society

Bodies which represent the interests of Welsh language in the authority's area:

- Menter Iaith Caerffili
- RhAG – Rhieni dros Addysg Gymraeg
- Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion @ Coleg Gwent
- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin
- Cymraeg for Kids
- Yr Urdd
- Caerphilly Family Information Service
- Caerphilly Welsh Language Forum

Other Consultees

The Council will consult with the following other consultees, where appropriate, in accordance with the Delivery Agreement. This list is not exhaustive and may be added to as appropriate:

- Arts Council of Wales
- British Horse Society
- Bus Users Cymru
- Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales
- Capital Region Tourism
- Chartered Institute of Housing (Cymru)
- Chartered Management Institute (Cymru)
- Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Civic Trust Cymru
- Coed Cymru
- Coleg Gwent
- Coleg y Cymoedd
- Community Transport Association
- Confederation of Passenger Transport
- Crisis
- District Valuer Services
- Fields in Trust
- Freight Transport Association
- Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
- Institute of Civil Engineers
- National Library of Wales
- One Voice Wales
- Open Spaces Society
- Planning Aid Wales
- Planning Inspectorate
- Rail Freight Group
- Road Haulage Association Ltd
- Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
- Royal Town Planning Institute (Wales)
- RSPB Cymru
- Ruperra Conservation Preservation Trust
- Shelter Cymru
- South Wales Trunk Road Agency
- Sport Wales
- Stagecoach
- Sustrans
- The Energy Saving Trust
- The Georgian Group
- The National Trust
- The Older People's Commissioner for Wales
- The Woodland Trust
- Transport for Wales
- Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Welsh Language Commissioner
- Wildlife Trust
- WWF Cymru

Housing Associations

Local House Builders

Planning Consultants and Local Planning Agents

Political including Local Assembly Members and Members of Parliament

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