

Summary of Stakeholder Feedback from LDP Focus Group and Standing Conference Event

Population and Household Growth

A summary of the views of each of the events is outlined below. However, there were common themes that were raised in each of the discussions. These included the need for growth to occur, the need to ensure that the appropriate infrastructure and industry are provided to support that growth. Additionally, planning for growth was supported, as long as this was undertaken in a sustainable fashion. Overall, Scenario E (with infrastructure improvements) or H was deemed the most suitable to inform public consultation on the Preferred Strategy.

Summary of comments:

- Modest growth is needed in order to retain the balance between the economically active & ageing population.
- There is a need to retain a balance between the economically active & ageing population.
- Need to try to increase the younger profile of population.
- Need to maintain population that is currently living in the county borough.
- The modest growth scenario was felt to best achieve the corporate objectives of the Council in terms of the delivery of services and facilities and in order to sustain the area (Schools / Town Centres / Transport/ Social Services etc).
- Growth is good and planning for decline is unacceptable.
- Need to make the county borough an attractive place to live – especially noting the proximity to Cardiff.
- Housing growth can only be sustained through transport improvements.
- Transport is key, as is electrification of railways to improve connectivity to jobs and services. East/West link improvements are essential;
- Need to build housing that people can afford.
- Flat based apartments required for young that are affordable – however the price between house and flats are similar.
- Need to provide a wide range of housing that would be flexible and grow/contract as households change.
- Need to attract entrepreneurs to locate and invest here.
- County borough cannot be viewed as one – southern part of the borough needs to be dealt with differently to the north
- Poor opportunity for residents – need to reverse
- Need to rationalise land and re-align employment allocations within the borough based on need.
- Housing needs to be aligned geographically in terms of housing and employment and business opportunities.

- Growth scenarios should be aspirational as well as reflect the different strategies.
- Need to plan for success i.e. plan for economic growth.
- Recognition that economic growth is dependent on issues and market forces outside of the county borough.
- Two higher options (H and E) were the only ones that sought to retain (or gain) an element of the younger population.
- Middle option provides for a degree of constraint, and therefore environmental mitigation.

