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Date: 7th March 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **Cabinet** will be held in the **Sirhowy Room, Penallta House, Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach** on **Wednesday, 14th March, 2018** at **2.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation will be provided if requested.

Yours faithfully,

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

Christina Harrhy
INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

- | | Pages | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | To receive apologies for absence. | |
| 2 | 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 the agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

A greener place Man gwyrddach



To approve and sign the following minutes: -

- 3 Cabinet held on the 28th February 2018. 1 - 8

To receive and consider the following reports on which executive decisions are required: -

- 4 Proposed Public Space Protection Order at Cefn Brithdir. 9 - 26
- 5 Caerphilly County Borough Draft Regeneration Strategy - A Foundation For Success 2018-2023
Supplemented by The Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan. 27 - 186
- 6 Proposed Community Centre in Ty Sign, Risca to replace the Channel View Community Centre. 187 - 194
- 7 Council Tax Exemption for Care Leavers. 195 - 204
- 8 European Social Fund (ESF) Operations: Inspire 2 Work (I2W) Bridges Into Work 2 (BIW2) and
Working Skills For Adults 2 (WSA2) 205 - 212
- 9 Education Capital 2018/19. 213 - 220
- 10 To receive and consider the following report(s) which in the opinion of the Proper Officer may be
discussed when the meeting is not open to the public and first to consider whether the public
interest requires that the meeting should be closed to the public for consideration of this item(s):-
221 - 222
- 11 Disposal of Land at Park Lane, Caerphilly. 223 - 234

Circulation:

Councillors C.J. Cuss, N. George, C.J. Gordon, Mrs B. A. Jones, P.A. Marsden, S. Morgan, L. Phipps,
D.V. Poole and Mrs E. Stenner,

And Appropriate Officers.

Agenda Item 3



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2018 AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT

Councillor D. Poole – Chair

Councillors:

C. Cuss (Social Care and Wellbeing), N. George (Neighbourhood Services), C.J. Gordon (Corporate Services), P. Marsden (Education and Achievement), S. Morgan (Economy, Infrastructure and Sustainability) and E. Stenner (Environment and Public Protection).

Together with:

C. Harrhy (Interim Chief Executive), J. Williams (Assistant Director – Adult Services), R. Hartshorn (Head of Policy and Public Protection), M. Lloyd (Acting Head of Engineering Services), P. Lewis (Acting Head of IT and SIRO), S. Couzens (Chief Housing Officer), B. Griffiths (Service Manager – Social Services), D. Whetter (Interim Head of Regeneration), C. Jones (Youth Forum Co-ordinator) and A. Dredge (Committee Services Officer).

Also in Attendance:

Youth Forum Representatives: Curtis Gingell and Dylan Thomas.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B.A. Jones (Finance, Performance and Governance) and L. Phipps (Homes and Places), Mrs N. Scammell (Acting Director Corporate Services and Section 151 Officer), D. Street (Corporate Director - Social Services), and M. S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director - Communities).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S. Morgan declared an interest at the commencement of the meeting in relation to agenda item 10 - ERDF 4.4 Funding Opportunities - The Lawn Industrial Estate, Rhymney and Ty Du, Nelson. Details of which are recorded with the respective item.

3. CABINET MINUTES - 14TH FEBRUARY 2018

Subject to an amendment to minute no. 10 - *Amendments to Authorisation Of Officers Within The Public Protection Division*, in that it should read Budget Proposals 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018/2023, and also the recommendations referred to therein, namely:

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers Report: -

- (i) the implementation of the legislation be noted by Cabinet and refer the changes to Council for determination;*
- (ii) that the Council's Constitution and terms of reference be amended by adding the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017;*
- (iii) that Officers within the Public Protection Division be authorised under the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 in order to enforce the legislation and carry out their duties.*

Should read:

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers report it be recommended to Council that: -

- (i) the proposal that the grants be transferred/passported into the Financial Statement and the funding for new responsibilities be passed directly to those services that they relate to (paragraph 4.2.2 and 4.2.4);
- (ii) the proposed savings for 2018/19 totalling £6.736m, as set out in paragraph 4.3.3 and Appendix 3 of the report be endorsed;
- (iii) the proposal to utilise £830k of Local Management of Schools (LMS) balances to support continued investment with schools in school buildings in the short to medium-term (paragraph 4.3.6) be supported;
- (iv) it be noted that alternative savings totalling £107k will need to be identified during the 2018/19 financial year in the event that the proposed closure of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre does not proceed (paragraph 4.3.9);
- (v) the proposal to transfer (vire) £547k from Capital Financing budgets to the delegated schools budget to assist schools with anticipated additional costs from the teachers' pay award in 2018/19 (paragraph 4.4.5) be supported;
- (vi) the Revenue Budget proposals for 2018/19 of £332.043m as set out in the report and summarised in appendix 1 be endorsed;
- (vii) the proposed use of general fund balances as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report be endorsed;
- (viii) the proposed Capital Programme for the period 2018/19 to 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 6 of the report be endorsed;
- (ix) the updated MTFP as detailed in Appendix 7 of the report and the indicative savings requirement of £40.822m for the five-year period 2018/19 to 2022/23 be noted.

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 14th February 2018 were approved.

MATTERS ON WHICH EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WERE REQUIRED

4. JUNIOR AND YOUTH FORUM PRIORITIES

Cabinet welcomed representatives from the Youth Forum who informed Members of issues raised by Children and Young People via the Youth Service's Junior and Youth Fora.

An overview was provided of the Youth Forum Conference in October 2017 and the Junior Forum meeting in November 2017, where Children and Young People have identified issues important to them and have voted on Priority Issues for 2018. The previous agreed process that follows the identification of issues was set out in the report. The structure of the Junior and Youth Fora was discussed and it was explained that they are organised around the five themes of the Single Integrated Plan. The Junior Forum Representatives are aged 7-11 years and the Youth Forum Representatives are aged 11-25 years.

Cabinet were advised that at the Annual Youth Forum Conference Young People are provided with the opportunity to explore issues previously raised via borough wide consultation. From exploring all themes within the context of young people's lives, young people identify and agree on a priority issue for each theme, details of which are set out in paragraph 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 in the report. The Youth Forum Overall Priority Issue is Bullying and to increase peoples' understanding of what is classed as bullying and to help people understand how to deal with bullying. The Junior Forum Overall Priority Issue is Homelessness where it is considered more support is needed for homeless people.

It was explained that the Youth Forum have been working very hard with Officer's in particular Sarah Ellis and her Team in relation to developing a bullying prevention strategy to be introduced in all schools. Cabinet noted that there seems to be more face to face bullying than that on social media, however the Youth Forum want to make a 'dent' in cyber bullying as they feel this needs to be reduced.

Cabinet thanked the Youth Forum for attending the meeting and delivering their informative and professional presentation. Members confirmed that Cabinet will do all it can to support the Youth Forum and that the policy should be 'on show' to raise awareness and provide support. It was suggested that perhaps the Youth Forum could link in with organisations such as Stonewall Cymru, that campaigns for the equality of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people across Britain, in moving forward.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) the Youth Forum in addressing their Priority Issue of Bullying be supported;
- (ii) the Junior Forum in addressing their Priority Issue in supporting Homelessness be supported.

5. FIXED PENALTY NOTICES FOR THE UNAUTHORISED DEPOSIT OF WASTE

The report informed Cabinet of the introduction of new fixed penalty notices to deal with fly tipping under the Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalty) (Wales) Regulations 2017 (referred to in the report as the Regulations). The report sought Cabinet approval to set the level of the fixed penalty to the maximum of £400 with no discount for early payment.

It was explained that fly tipping is an offence under Section 33(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The Act prohibits, subject to certain exemptions the deposit of controlled waste or extractive waste in or on any land other than in accordance with an environmental permit. A person who commits an offence under section 33(1) is liable on conviction:

- In Magistrates court to imprisonment for 12 months and a fine to maximum of £50,000, or both.
- In Crown court to imprisonment for 5 years and an unlimited fine, or both.

The Regulations amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to insert a new section 33ZB. This enables Welsh waste collection authorities to issue a fixed penalty notice for small-scale fly tipping offences. Such fixed penalties may not be less than £150 and not more than £400. If no amount is specified the penalty will be £200. A discount may be applied for early payment. Clarification was sought in relation to the figure of £400 and if this included the cost of removal of the fly tipping, and if not could that fee be added to this figure. Members were referred to paragraph 4.7 in the report and figures provided in relation to recent court cases and the fines and costs awarded. It was explained that the figure of £400 for a fixed penalty notice would be a net benefit to the Council. Cabinet feel that a fixed penalty notice of £400 will send out a strong message to offenders.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that in addition to the recommendation in the report, a further report be brought to Cabinet in relation to recovering the costs of cleaning up fly tipping offences, be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) a fly tipping fixed penalty be implemented at the maximum level of £400 with no discount for early payment;
- (ii) a further report be brought to Cabinet in relation to recovering the costs of cleaning up fly tipping offences.

6. DECRIMINALISATION OF PARKING - STAGE 1 REPORT

The report sought Cabinet's views of the outcomes from the options appraisal undertaken to date on the implications of taking on Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) Powers and how these findings should be developed further, in order to propose the most economical, effective and efficient service delivery model for the Council.

Cabinet noted that, on 16th February 2017, Gwent Police confirmed in writing to all 5 Gwent Local Authorities that they intend "to withdraw its officers and staff from activities that involve enforcing parking restrictions" as of 1st April 2018. Gwent is the only area of Wales where the local authorities have not taken on Civil Parking Enforcement powers, and the communication from Gwent Police now forces the local authorities in the area to decide whether or not to take on these powers.

As a result, the five local authorities have subsequently commissioned a study to investigate the feasibility of creating a Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area (CEA/SEA) across each administrative area and for the whole of Gwent. The resulting financial viability of these options shows a mixed picture across the five local authorities however, for CCBC it shows that all options can generate an annual surplus but are unlikely to generate enough income to cover the set up costs after 5 years. A meeting between the Gwent Local Authorities (LA's) and Gwent Police has obtained agreement that Gwent Police will continue to undertake enforcement until December 2018. They are prepared to work closely with LA's further if they are not in a place to adopt the CPE powers at this time.

Cabinet were advised that should Caerphilly adopt Civil Parking Enforcement the relevant capital funding of £390k identified within the report will need to be made available to progress the works required to enable the relevant powers to be transferred to Caerphilly CBC. There are currently two number Engineering Services reserves in relation to the Sirhowy Enterprise Way maintenance contract and the winter maintenance contingency fund that contain approximately £800k that could be considered as funding options. An initial decision is required to progress the TRO review which is estimated at around £70k-£80k and the remaining funding could be considered within the stage 2 report that is to follow.

The report provided Members with details of the advantages and disadvantages of Caerphilly County Borough Council introducing CPE and collaboration with the other Gwent Local Authorities.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that in addition to the recommendation within the report, a further report be brought forward to outline the delivery plan including impacts, which will also include the role of Community Safety Wardens be brought forward and a decision was made to fund a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) review in order that CPE preparation could progress with funding of approximately £80k be made available from Engineering reserves to fund the review, be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) the delivery model which would be best placed to serve the needs of the county borough and its citizens be adopted and a collaborative approach with another or other Local Authorities for the back-office arrangements be undertaken, with on-street Enforcement within Caerphilly County Borough Council to be carried out in-house by Officers of the Council;
- (ii) a further report be brought forward that outline the delivery plan including impacts, which will also include the role of Community Safety Wardens;
- (iii) a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) review be approved in order that CPE preparation could progress and that Engineering reserves be used to fund the aforementioned review (approximately £80k).

7. STATUTORY DATA PROTECTION OFFICER ROLE

The report sought Cabinet's endorsement to create a new statutory role of Data Protection Officer as prescribed by the forthcoming EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Cabinet were informed that the GDPR will come into force on 25th May 2018. The GDPR will enhance existing protections for personal data, introducing new requirements and increasing the maximum monetary penalty for data breaches from £500,000 to £20 million or 4% of global annual turnover.

In addition, there is a requirement to introduce a new statutory role of Data Protection Officer (DPO) for the Council. Currently the Data Controller responsible for data protection compliance is the Council as a corporate body and not a specific employee within the Council. However, responsibility for data protection has been delegated to the Corporate Information Governance Unit (CIGU) which is overseen by the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) and the new statutory role will build on this existing sound foundation.

To assure the Council as Data Controller that information is managed consistently and risks are minimised across every Council service, the SIRO and information governance expertise provision are currently a corporate function. As this is the case, it would seem appropriate that the DPO is located within the corporate function also.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officers report, the proposal to add the Data Protection Officer (DPO) role to the responsibilities associated with the Corporate Information Governance Manager, be endorsed.

8. RE-PROFILING OF WHQS PROGRAMME AND HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/2019

The report sought Cabinet approval for re-profiling the WHQS programme with the aim of ensuring full compliance by 2020.

The report outlined that there has continued to be good progress with the WHQS delivery programme during 2017/18. However, it has been necessary to review the programme and take account of changing circumstances to ensure full compliance by 2020. Details of the reviewed programme were set out in the Officer's report.

Following the Wales Audit Office Review conducted in April 2017, a commitment has been made to complete 40% of the external works and 75% of the internal works by March 2018. At the end of December 2017, 33% of the external works have been completed and 70% of the internal works have been completed. A further commitment has been made to Welsh Government that 80% of external works and 94% internal works would be completed by March 2019. A separate programme of works was established for the sheltered housing schemes with agreement that both internal and external works would be undertaken by the in-house workforce. This work is on programme for completion by 2020 and is therefore not required to be re-profiled at this time.

The HRA Capital Programme budget has been revised based on accurate recent actual costs projected forward to the end of the programme. This data now replaces the previous Savill's estimates and demonstrates that the housing business plan and the WHQS Programme remains financially viable.

There has been a need to re-profile due to slippage, however, these issues have now been resolved and Cabinet was assured that the works would be completed within the Welsh Government timescale.

However, Cabinet were asked to consider rolling forward the properties that were planned to be undertaken by an external contractor during 2018/19 to 2019/20, whereby the in-house workforce would have capacity to undertake the work. With a marginal number of properties programmed for the final year there can be confidence that the internal works can be completed by March 2020. In addition, Welsh Government has confirmed that the deadline for achievement of WHQS is December 2020 which provides additional flexibility.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report, the WHQS Re-profiling report be amended to state that the properties planned to be undertaken in 2018/19, be rolled back to 2019/20 for the in-house workforce to carry out the work, be approved.

9. SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTED TRANSPORT POLICY

The report sought Cabinet's endorsement of the Social Services Assisted Transport Policy.

Cabinet were advised that assisted transport is the discretionary provision of transport by Social Services to enable individuals to access the community support service for which individuals have been assessed as eligible to attend (such as day services). The policy has been drafted as a result of legislation which requires Councils to change the way it works with people and to promote a focus on actively supporting people to develop lifestyles that are not reliant on statutory services.

It was explained that the aim of the new Assisted Transport Policy is to provide a clear framework for practitioners to assess and support individuals to identify methods of promoting independence when accessing transport. The policy will help identify what is available within the local community and provide a consistent approach to determining eligibility for funded transport where it has been identified as a requirement to access services commissioned by Social Services. The policy framework will also work in parallel with other Social Services policies for transport across the Gwent region.

Cabinet requested the timeframe of 28 days for assessments to be undertaken be included and the implementation date of the policy to be changed to April 2018, for all new requests for transport made to Adult Social Services. The key elements of the policy were outlined within the report.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report, the Assisted Transport Policy be endorsed.

10. ERDF 4.4 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES - THE LAWN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, RHYMNEY AND TY DU, NELSON

Councillor S. Morgan declared an interest in this item as he resides close to one of the sites referred to in the report and he left the room and did not take part in the debate.

The report provided Cabinet with an update on opportunities that exist to bid for European funding for the phased provision of employment units at two sites in the County Borough, namely, the Council owned Lawn Industrial Estate in Rhymney and Welsh Government (WG) owned land at Ty Du in Nelson.

Cabinet were informed that external grant funding under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Priority 4, Strategic Objective 4 has been sought by the Council to deliver the first phase of employment units and associated infrastructure at both sites. In order to draw down this external funding the Council is required to confirm match funding and also establish the joint working arrangements with Welsh Government at Ty Du, Nelson through entering into a formal Joint Working/Development Agreement. Details of both projects were set out in the Officer's report.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's report: -

- (i) confirms the Council's Priorities for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programme measure 4.4 as the Lawn Industrial Estate and Ty Du to create new employment opportunities in the County Borough be confirmed;
- (ii) the initial match funding of £1.07m be established to secure up to £2.58m of ERDF grant and potential £0.35m of WG funding, be approved;
- (iii) funding of £1.07m be committed from the Council's Capital Reserve, be approved;
- (iv) when the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) establish a Wider Investment Fund and allocate resources to new employment provision, that the relevant Head of Service be authorised to submit a bid for the necessary match-funding for the delivery of the Lawn Industrial Estate and Ty Du projects, be approved;
- (v) the Council's collaborative working arrangement with Welsh Government to realise the full development of the mixed use site at Ty Du, Nelson, be endorsed;
- (vi) to enter into a Joint Venture agreement with WG based on the Heads of Terms presented by WG with the approval of final Heads of Terms being delegated to the Interim Head of Regeneration in consultation with Property Services and Legal Services and the relevant Cabinet Member, and that the Head of Legal Services/Principal Solicitor be authorised to enter into the Agreement on behalf of the Council, be agreed in principle;
- (vii) should additional ERDF grant become available, the relevant Head of Service investigate opportunities to secure match funding to implement the further phases at the Lawn and Ty Du sites, be agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.14 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 14th March 2018.

CHAIR



CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER AT CEFN BRITHDIR

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet endorsement for the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order to restrict vehicle access on to Cefn Brithdir for a period of 3 years; and the restrictions be included in a draft Order and the statutory process including formal consultation is commenced with the outcome reported back to Cabinet for consideration or if there are no objections, the decision to make the Order be delegated to the relevant Head of Service.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 brought in a new power for local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour problems in a geographical area by imposing conditions on the use of an area. The aim is to ensure that the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 2.2 PSPO's replace a number of existing legal provisions including Designated Public Place Orders, Gating Orders and Dog Control Orders. It is no longer possible to make Orders under these various forms of legislation and any new orders made to control such activities should be made as PSPOs.
- 2.3 PSPOs can prohibit a wider range of behaviours than previous legislation and can be used to control a number of anti-social activities within the same order. PSPO's are subject to a consultation and notification process with stakeholders and must satisfy the required legal test before a Local Authority makes an Order and may be appealed in the High Court within 6 weeks of an order being made. An appeal may be made by an 'Interested Person' i.e. a person who lives, works in, or regularly visits the 'Restricted Area'.
- 2.4 This report outlines the rationale for introducing a PSPO restricting vehicular access over public highway at Cefn Brithdir and recommends Cabinet approval of making such an Order. If approved by Cabinet, officers will proceed with the installation of barriers across the public highway and associated works restricting vehicle access on to Cefn Brithdir.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The proposal complements a number of goals within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in particular in supporting the 'Resilient Wales' goal by protecting and enhancing the natural environment; the 'Wales of cohesive communities' goal by creating attractive and safe communities; and 'A Globally responsible Wales' goal through improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the local community.

- 3.2 The proposal also supports the implementation of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 in particular Part 1: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources through managing the landscape in a more proactive, sustainable and joined up way; and Part 2: Collection and Disposal of Waste through helping the Council better target its resources in addressing fly-tipping.
- 3.3 The proposal also complements the Caerphilly Public Services Board's draft Well-being objective to increase the contribution that the environment makes to the health and well-being of our residents. It is also consistent with the sustainable development principle as defined within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the 5 Ways of Working, through collaborating with and involving local people in decision making, and by taking a long term approach to preventing anti-social behaviour on Cefn Brithdir through an integrated approach. The proposal also directly delivers the Cwm a Mynydd Rural Development Programme's Local Development Strategy by working with communities to protect and enhance upland areas.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 allows a local authority to make a PSPO relating to the activities carried out or likely to be carried out, in a public place if it is satisfied on reasonable grounds that two conditions are met:
- (i) activities are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that they will do;
 - (ii) that the activities are of a persistent or continuing nature, are unreasonable and justify the restrictions imposed by the order.
- 4.2 As a minimum, a PSPO must set out:
- (i) what the detrimental activities are
 - (ii) what is being prohibited and/or required, including any exemptions
 - (iii) the area covered
 - (iv) the consequences of the breach
 - (v) the period for which it has an effect
- 4.3 PSPOs subsist for a maximum of 3 years following which consideration must be given as to whether they should be extended, renewed or varied. A shorter time period can be set depending on the issue the PSPO is intended to control. The proposed Order is intended to cover the maximum three year period.
- 4.4 The Council can make a PSPO on any public space within its own area. The definition of a public space is wide and includes any place to which the public, or any section of the public, has access on payment or otherwise as a right by virtue of express or implied consent, for example a shopping centre.
- 4.5 Before making a PSPO a Council must consult with stakeholders including the local police via the Chief Officer and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Also any community representatives that they think appropriate for example a residents association, as well as individual residents affected and other users or groups. Before making an Order the Council must publish a draft order in accordance with the required Regulations.
- 4.6 A PSPO can be drafted from scratch based on an individual issue being faced in a particular public space and can include multiple restrictions and requirements in one order e.g. prohibit alcohol, and placing requirements on individuals carrying out certain activities.

- 4.7 Councils should ensure that the measures are necessary to prevent the detrimental effect on those in the locality and reduce the likelihood of the detriment effect continuing or recurring.

The Proposal

- 4.8 Caerphilly County Borough Council received over 37 formal complaints regarding fly-tipping on the Cefn Brithdir area of the Gelligaer and Merthyr Common in 2017. Following these complaints and detailed documentary evidence received from a member of the public (Appendix 1), CCBC Community and Leisure Services, CCBC Environmental Health, Countryside Service, Cwm a Mynydd Rural Development Programme, and partners including Natural Resources Wales, the Gelligaer and Merthyr Commoners Association, KJ Services Ltd. and Biffa Waste Services Ltd. Trecatti Landfill Site, undertook a multi-agency clean-up day on Cefn Brithdir in early November removing over 10 tonnes of dumped material.
- 4.9 This dumped material represents a danger to the public and the livestock on the Common and is an issue that cannot be effectively managed without additional measures. Following the multi-agency clean-up day (and ongoing cleansing by CCBC Officers), further waste has again been dumped across Cefn Brithdir on almost a daily basis and recorded and reported by a member of the public.
- 4.10 Against this background, consideration has been given to the introduction of a PSPO on the Cefn Brithdir ridge of the Gelligaer and Merthyr Common and the installation of two barriers and associated works at the southern and northern entrances along an adopted Public Highway (see Appendix 2).
- 4.11 However, the gating of a public highway consisting of a carriageway is not generally permitted, since it would be at odds with the public right to pass and re-pass over the highway. PSPO's can be made for the purpose of restricting public rights of way and highways are covered by s.65 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This can include the installation of barriers operated by the Local Authority. Such orders can only be made in respect of highways which are not listed within s.65:
- (a) a special road;
 - (b) a trunk road;
 - (c) a classified or principal road;
 - (d) a strategic road;
 - (e) a highway in England of a description prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State;
 - (f) a highway in Wales of a description prescribed by regulations made by the Welsh Ministers.
- 4.12 Since the highway affected is classed as a 'Rural Lane', it is possible that a PSPO could be made.
- 4.13 Additionally, a local authority cannot make a PSPO under this section without considering:
- (a) the likely effect of making the order on the occupiers of premises adjoining or adjacent to the highway;
 - (b) the likely effect of making the order on other persons in the locality;
 - (c) in a case where the highway constitutes a through route, the availability of a reasonably convenient alternative route.

Consultation

- 4.14 In light of the above, relevant departments within the Council as well as the local community and other stakeholders including Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, have been consulted on the likely effect of making the Order. In addition to local residents who use the area, Cefn Brithdir is also used legitimately by local paragliding group, horse riders, walkers and cyclists,

the Civic Aviation Authority as well as the Gelligaer and Merthyr Commoners Association and Dowlais Top Investment Company Ltd (the landlord). Additionally, in consulting with the contractors working for the Civil Aviation Authority who maintain the aircraft beacon located on Cefn Brithdir, they are fully supportive of the proposals as the access track to the beacon is regularly blocked with fly-tipped material. It is proposed that all these users will have a key to open the barrier.

- 4.15 In consulting with local residents, many felt that fly-tipping was a significant issue and that a barrier could help address the problem. Likewise, following discussions with Gwent Police, they are fully aware of the issues and are supportive of the proposals. The Gelligaer and Merthyr Commoners Association proposed the idea in the first instance and having consulted with the full membership and those directly affected, they are fully supportive of it being implemented. In discussions with the local paragliding group, they have a similar set up in other areas whereby they access launching areas that have restricted vehicle access and are in support of the Order. In discussions with local horse riders, they are in support of the proposals as the fly tipping is a danger to them and their horses.
- 4.16 As a result of these consultations, it is proposed that the introduction of the PSPO for a 3 year period will be of benefit to residents in the area and help reduce anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping on Cefn Brithdir. There is also the potential to see this approach as a 'pilot' to address similar issues in other parts of the county borough and elsewhere and develop good practice. Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council is in support of the proposal and is looking to replicate the approach used on Cefn Brithdir if it proves successful.

Potential Issues

- 4.17 The introduction of the PSPO may be objected to by some residents, such as those who currently use Cefn Brithdir for illegal off road vehicle driving. Vans transporting off road vehicles drive along the Rural Lane, park on the Common and then illegally use off road vehicles on the Common itself. It is an offence to use vehicles on the Common and so the Order, whilst not fully stopping all illegal off-road vehicles on the Common, will at least help reduce and discourage the activity.
- 4.18 In addition to illegal off-road vehicle users objecting to the Order, other residents may object to its introduction on the grounds of unreasonable restriction of vehicle access. The road itself is a designated Rural Lane and is unsuitable for most vehicles. Monitoring of the Lane by officers indicates that regular users include the Commoners (requiring access to tend livestock and access properties), the local paragliding club, horse riders, cyclists and walkers; all of whom will still be able to access. Similarly, emergency services may have a need to access the site and so keys will be provided to them.
- 4.19 Other regular users (evidenced by the frequency and scale of fly-tipping), are those people responsible for dumping the waste on the Common and the main purpose of the Order is to stop these using the Lane. It is likely that the Order could displace fly-tipping to other areas, however, by reducing the number of areas available for fly-tipping through these types of measures, the Order could assist in enabling the Council to focus its reducing resources on a smaller number of areas targeted by fly-tippers.
- 4.20 Officers are aware that there may be currently unknown 'legitimate' users of the Common who may be adversely affected by an Order. However, reasonable steps have been taken to identify such users and Officers will continue work with residents and groups to identify and respond to potential issues during the 3 year trial through monitoring and reviewing the Order. Fundamentally, the purpose of the Order is not to stop legitimate users of the Common doing so; it is to stop anti-social behaviour, primarily fly-tipping and illegal off-road vehicles abusing the landscape.

5. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The proposal complements a number of goals within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in particular in supporting the 'Resilient Wales' goal by protecting and enhancing the natural environment; the 'Wales of cohesive communities' goal by creating attractive and safe communities; and 'A Globally responsible Wales' goal through improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the local community.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Cefn Brithdir is an open access area of the Cadw-designated Historic Landscape of Gelligaer and Merthyr Common. Unfortunately due to the fly-tipping across the area, and off-road vehicles using the area the landscape is degrading creating a negative perception of the area and the communities.
- 6.2 The proposals will help reduce fly-tipping on Cefn Brithdir and by being led by the community will support 'Inclusive Engagement and Participation' and 'Corporate Compliance' Objectives of the Council's Equalities and Welsh Language Objectives and Action Plan. Likewise, the proposals could help create an improved living environment for visitors and residents.
- 6.3 As has been noted above, officers will work with residents and provide a telephone number at the barrier for people to contact should they need access. The barriers will only stop vehicles from accessing Cefn Brithdir along the Rural Lane, walkers, cyclists and horse riders will still have access. Additionally, in order to reduce any adverse impacts of the Order, for example access by disabled users, keys will be provided for these residents and any others which require 'legitimate' access.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The proposed costs of the PSPO are minimal other than officer time and the costs of advertising the notices, which will be covered from existing budgets.
- 7.2 Should the introduction of the PSPO be approved by Cabinet, the cost of installing the barriers will be borne by the Gelligaer and Merthyr Commoners Association with any maintenance costs covered by the Green Spaces and Transport Service.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

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

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 All responses from consultations have been incorporated in the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Cabinet is asked to endorse the proposal to introduce a Public Space Protection Order to restrict vehicle access on to Cefn Brithdir for a period of 3 years; and the restrictions be included in a draft Order and the statutory process including formal consultation is commenced with the outcome reported back to Cabinet for consideration/or if there are no objections the decision to make the Order be delegated to the relevant Head of Service.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To reduce fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour on Cefn Brithdir.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000, Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

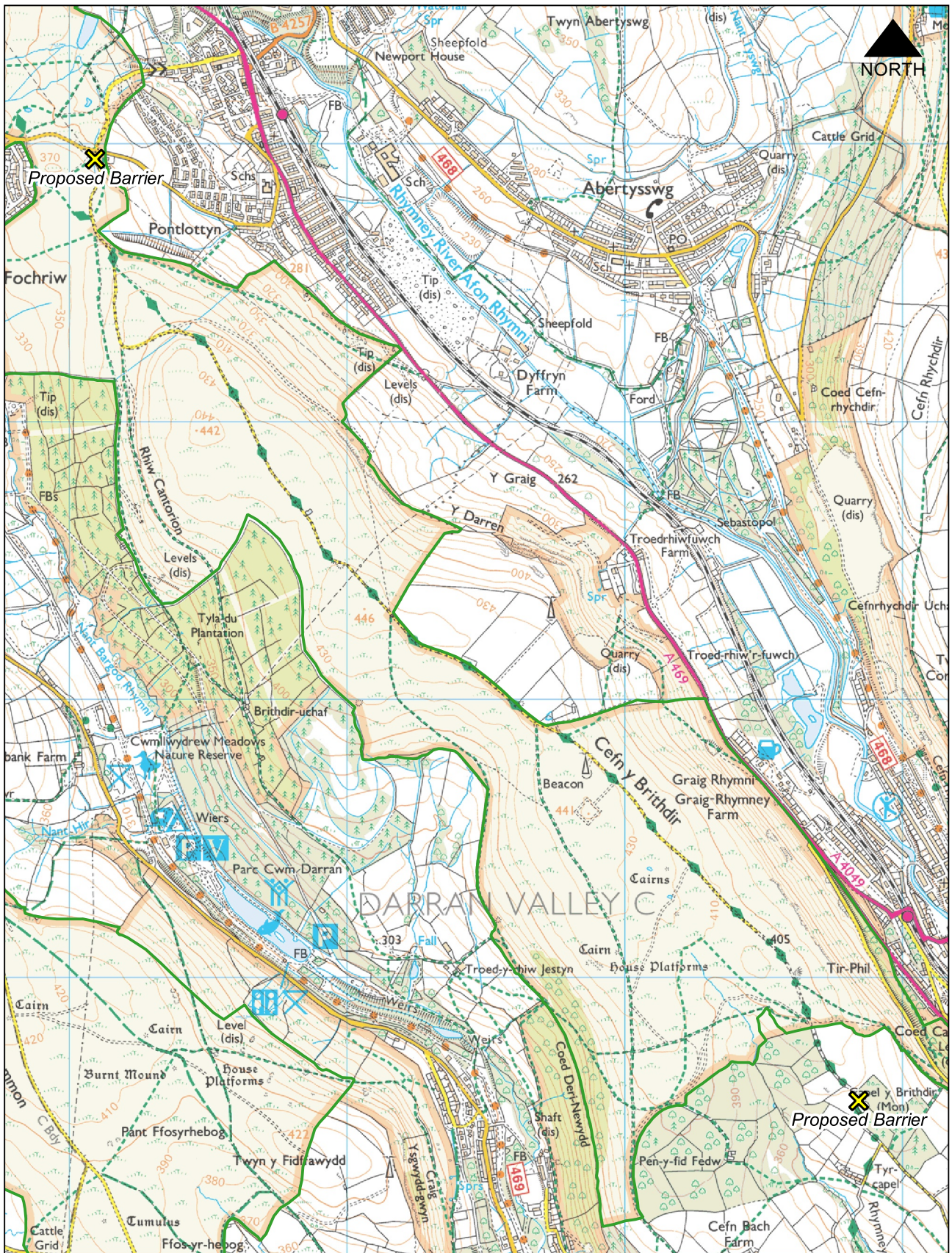
Author: Owen Ashton, RDP Manager, Green Spaces and Cemeteries
ashtoo@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Cllr David Poole – Leader of the Council
Cllr Sean Morgan – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure, Sustainability & Wellbeing of Future Generations Champion
Cllr Nigel George – Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services
Cllr Mrs Eluned Stenner – Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Protection
Cllr Carl Cuss – Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing
Cllr Mark Evans – Ward Member New Tredegar
Cllr David Hardacre – Ward Member Darren Valley
Cllr Gaynor Oliver – Ward Member Pontlottyn
Christina Harrhy – Interim Chief Executive
Mark S. Williams – Interim Corporate Director Communities
Rob Hartshorn – Head of Public Protection
Marcus Lloyd – Acting Head of Engineering Services
Richard M Harris – Acting Deputy Monitoring Officer
Richard Crane – Senior Solicitor
Lisa Lane – Corporate Solicitor
Mike Eedy – Finance Manager
Mike Headington – Green Spaces and Transport Services Manager
Phil Griffiths – Green Spaces and Cemeteries Manager
Lyndon Ross – Senior Environmental Health Officer
Tony White – Waste Strategy & Operations Manager
Rhodri Lloyd – Special Projects Officer
Graham Owen – Waste Operations Supervisor, Upper Rhymney Valley
Gareth Richards – Highways Maintenance Manager
Gavin Barry – Senior Assistant Engineer
Martin Sprackling-Jones - Assistant Engineer
Anwen Cullinane – Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
PC Simon James – Gwent Police

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Photographs of fly-tipping on Cefn Brithdir

Appendix 2 – Proposed locations of barriers on Cefn Brithdir









(Photo from 2016)













**Fly-tipped waste found and photographed on Gelligaer Common
at Cefn y Brithdir (the ridge between the Rhymney and
Darran valleys) on Saturday 3rd June 2017.**

Aluminium drinks cans.

Aerosols - various.

Asbestos sheeting.

Building waste.

Building materials - resin, plaster.

Bedding material and blankets.

Bottles.

Buckets.

Black bag waste.

Baby chair.

Chair.

Cardboard.

Childrens toys - various.

Carpets.

Cups and mugs - various.

Chemical containers.

Council waste bins.

Childs bicycle.

Clothing.

Car bumper.

Chairs - a variety.

Car tyres - many.

Drinks cans.

DVD's.

Dish washer.

Fencing.

Fridge Freezers.

Garden materials - plant pots etc.

Housing tiles.

Hose pipe.

Mattresses.

Microwave Oven.

Metal spring mattress.

Plastic.

Pillows.

Pram.

Paint containers.

Roof tiles.

Shoes.

Stone blocks.

Settee.

Televisions - CRT.

Television - LCD.

Trees and bushes.

Wood.

Wood flooring.

Wooden boards.

Wooden drawers.

Washing machine.

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CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH DRAFT REGENERATION STRATEGY – A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS 2018-2023 SUPPLEMENTED BY THE DRAFT CAERPHILLY BASIN MASTERPLAN

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 1.1 The attached report, which was presented to the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 13th February 2018, sought Members' views on the Draft Regeneration Strategy entitled 'A Foundation for Success 2018-2023' and the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan, prior to presentation of these documents to Cabinet for approval to carry out a public consultation exercise.
- 1.2 Members were advised that in order to benefit from the transformative change in the wider Cardiff Capital Region with the investment of City Deal, the Valleys Taskforce and further funding streams, it is necessary to set out the strategic priorities for the regeneration and enhancement of Caerphilly County Borough. This involves identifying opportunities that will make it more prosperous, healthier, resilient and equal, setting priorities that align and enhance regional work and are readily capable of being realised.
- 1.3 The Draft Regeneration Strategy has been developed as an overarching document to set out and achieve these aims and will be underpinned by a number of other documents, including the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan, which sets out the future development and regeneration opportunities proposed for the Caerphilly town centre within the context of the wider Caerphilly Basin.
- 1.4 The Draft Regeneration Strategy concentrates on 4 strategic themes (Supporting People, Supporting Business, Supporting Quality of Life, and Connecting People and Places) which set out the broad principles for regeneration and the strategic priorities to be tackled. Officers outlined examples of how these could be achieved. The Draft Regeneration Strategy also acknowledges the challenges that face the County Borough, seeks to identify the actions and delivery mechanisms required to address key issues, and places an emphasis on partnership working.
- 1.5 Members noted that subject to Cabinet endorsement, it was intended to undertake a 4-week public consultation exercise on the Draft Regeneration Strategy and Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan (from 26th March 2018 to 24th April 2018). A copy of both documents were appended to the report.
- 1.6 Detailed discussion took place on the contents of the Draft Regeneration Strategy and it was agreed that Officers would respond to Members directly on a number of in-depth queries following the meeting. Members referenced a need to improve educational achievement and highway infrastructure across the county borough and sought clarification on the intended lead agencies for these areas. Officers explained that the Draft Regeneration Strategy places a focus on multi-sector working and for agencies to work together to implement such improvements. Officers responded to queries regarding similar strategies in the past and the outcomes and actions that have been generated as a result. It was explained that the new

Regeneration Strategy is intended to fill the identified gaps and take a partnership approach towards meeting these aims, including the proposed establishment of a Board to co-ordinate and take forward the actions identified in the Draft Strategy.

- 1.7 Concerns were expressed that some proposals contained within the Draft Regeneration Strategy (such as the development of a Caerphilly South East Bypass) could potentially conflict with the Draft Outline Regional Transport Strategy, the Council's Local Development Plan and Air Quality Action Plan. It was emphasised that the Draft Outline Regional Transport Strategy represents a regional approach whereas the Draft Regeneration Strategy concentrates on a more county-wide approach. It was also explained to Members that the Draft Regeneration Strategy reflects the current adopted Local Development Plan and Air Quality Action Plan and that a number of proposals contained within the Draft Strategy may be reconsidered moving forward.
- 1.8 Discussion also took place regarding the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan, and Officers outlined the series of Strategic Objectives which will drive the delivery for the vision of the town and translate directly into a series of projects and actions. In response to Members' queries, it was explained that the Draft Masterplan seeks to harness the opportunities arising from the City Deal Investment Fund and will also incorporate the areas surrounding Caerphilly. It was explained that the Masterplan will be complemented by a number of other strategies, such as the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and future regional Strategic Development Plan, and Officers also provided further information on how potential City Deal funding could potentially be utilised in order to help deliver some of the proposals contained within the document.
- 1.9 Reference was made to the consultation process and Officers confirmed that following ratification by Cabinet and a period of public consultation, the proposals within both the Draft Regeneration Strategy and Draft Masterplan would be revised to take into account comments received and reported to Council. Members expressed concerns that a 4-week consultation period might not be sufficient for interested parties to fully examine the sizeable draft documents.
- 1.10 Following discussion on this matter, it was moved and seconded and unanimously agreed that it be recommended to Cabinet for the consultation period for both documents to be extended from 4 weeks to 6 weeks.
- 1.11 Following consideration of the report and subject to the foregoing amendment, the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee took each of the recommendations in turn.
- 1.12 By a show of hands and the majority present (and in noting there were 3 against with 1 abstention), it was recommended to Cabinet that the Draft Regeneration Strategy 'A Foundation for Success 2018-2023' be endorsed as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26th March 2018 for a period of 6 weeks.
- 1.13 By a show of hands (and in noting there were 4 against with 1 abstention) and following the casting vote of the Chair it was recommended to Cabinet that the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan be endorsed as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26th March 2018 for a period of 6 weeks.
- 1.14 Cabinet are asked to consider the recommendations.

Author: R. Barrett, Committee Services Officer, Ext. 4245

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Report to Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 13th February 2018 – Agenda Item 12



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 13TH FEBRUARY 2018

**SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH DRAFT REGENERATION
STRATEGY – A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS 2018-2023
SUPPLEMENTED BY THE DRAFT CAERPHILLY BASIN MASTERPLAN**

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For Members to consider the Draft Regeneration Strategy entitled 'A Foundation for Success 2018-2023'. The report is seeking the view of members prior to its presentation to Cabinet, where Cabinet will be asked to endorse the Draft Regeneration Strategy as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26 March until 24 April 2018.
- 1.2 For Members to consider the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan. The report is seeking the view of members prior to its presentation to Cabinet, where Cabinet will be asked to endorse the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26 March until 24 April 2018.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Caerphilly County Borough and the wider Cardiff Capital Region is entering a period of transformative change, the need for a strategy to coordinate regeneration initiatives and capitalise upon funding streams is urgent in order to maximise the potential benefits to the county borough.
- 2.2 The signing of City Deal and the Cardiff Capital Region Investment Fund signals an unprecedented investment of £1.2 billion, to support the region's economic growth. The investment fund will be used to take forward a wide range of projects and schemes that contribute toward economic growth. Allied to this is the commitment from the Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales Valleys, detailed in the publication of 'Our Valleys, Our Future', a high level plan that sets out strategic priorities for the region and which is supported by £100 million of Welsh Government investment over 10 years.
- 2.3 In order to benefit from the transformative change in the wider Cardiff Capital Region with the investment of City Deal, the Valleys Taskforce and further funding streams, it is necessary to set out the strategic priorities for the regeneration and enhancement of Caerphilly County Borough. This involves identifying opportunities that will make it more prosperous, healthier, resilient and equal, setting priorities that align and enhance regional work and are readily capable of being realised.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 comprises seven well being goals as follows:

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

- 3.2 'A Foundation for Success' is informed by a robust evidence base which includes the 'Assessment of Local Well-Being'. It has been produced in tandem with and informed by the emerging Local Wellbeing Strategy and the Council's Draft Well Being Objectives 2018-2022.
- 3.3 'A Foundation for Success' will complement other Council Strategies and Plans for example the Local Transport Plan and Anti-Poverty Strategy, and will assist in delivering the regeneration priorities of the county borough; making it more prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, cohesive and vibrant, whilst enabling the county borough to benefit from transformative change that is in the interests of all.

4. THE REPORT

Background

- 4.1 "People, Business, Places" is the current Regeneration Strategy for the County Borough. This is supported by an action plan that expired in 2013. As such the Strategy and Action Plan are outdated and the projects and actions contained within them have either been implemented in many instances or no longer remain relevant. The economic challenges faced by the County Borough and the wider region in the intervening period remain significant, varied and challenging. The Council is facing ever reducing resources which is in stark contrast to the need and demand for dynamic and progressive community and regeneration action to help communities and businesses prosper.
- 4.2 The signing of the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, signals the intention of the 10 South East Wales local authorities to increasingly work together through joint enterprise, on issues of long term development, infrastructure, land use, economic development and employment. It marks an unprecedented investment from the UK, Welsh Government and Local Authorities and offers the possibility of an integrated long term approach to the region, rather than a multiple and fragmented approach to initiatives as seen in the past. The City Deal Agreement sets out a series of priorities and recommendations for the future growth and investment within the Cardiff Capital Region of which Caerphilly County Borough is part.
- 4.3 As a result, there is a pressing need for an up to date, sharply focussed, robust economic development strategy which coordinates the regeneration and economic development aims and objectives for Caerphilly County Borough. 'A Foundation for Success' (Appendix 1) has been produced as part of a suite of documents in order to achieve this.
- 4.4 The Draft Caerphilly Masterplan (Appendix 2) is the second in this updated suite of documents that has been prepared in response to the Valleys Task Force Initiative (VTF), which identifies Caerphilly / Ystrad Mynach as one of seven Strategic Hubs in the South Wales Valleys. The VTF indicates that these seven Strategic Hubs will act as a focus for public money and provide opportunities for the private sector to invest and create new jobs through existing business growth and the promotion of new business start-ups. A second Masterplan for Ystrad Mynach is to be prepared and elected Members will be invited to participate in this process in due course.
- 4.5 Copies of 'A Foundation for Success' and the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan have been made available in hard copy in the Members' Library.

Evidence Base

- 4.6 'A Foundation for Success' is supported by a robust evidence base that provides the context and latest social and environmental data for the County Borough. The evidence base, builds upon, and is informed by, the work undertaken by the Public Services Board and other services within the Council. The evidence base does not seek to duplicate other relevant Council strategies and in this context it cross refers to other strategies where appropriate.
- 4.7 The evidence base (Background Paper 1) contains the baseline data set out under strategy themes, providing the context and latest economic, social and environmental data for the County Borough. This provides the benchmark from which the impact of the Strategy can be monitored and identifies the key issues that 'A Foundation for Success' needs to address.

The Draft Regeneration Strategy: A Foundation for Success 2018-2023

- 4.8 'A Foundation for Success' has been developed with the following Vision:
- "To make Caerphilly County Borough a more prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal place with strong cohesive communities where everyone is empowered to participate and make a difference, where local achievements are celebrated and visitors are welcomed and where residents are proud to say they are from."*
- 4.9 'A Foundation for Success' concentrates on 4 strategic themes, namely: Supporting People; Supporting Business; Supporting Quality of Life; and Connecting People & Places. These themes set out the broad principles for regeneration and the strategic priorities to be tackled under each, in order to meet the Vision by 2023.
- 4.10 The Draft Strategy recognises that there are many routes to realising transformational change and whilst investment in key projects in high-growth, high-visibility sectors within the region that focus on raising Gross Value Added (GVA) are important, it stresses that the role of the Foundational Economy (FE) should not be underplayed. The Foundational Economy relates to those sectors that supply our everyday economic and social needs where demand is localised, universal and permanent, such as childcare, social care, food, retail, energy and housing. Significantly, these sectors generally represent 40% of the labour market across the UK.
- 4.11 'A Foundation for Success' acknowledges the challenges that face the County Borough and seeks to identify the actions and delivery mechanisms required to address key issues and also those partners that are required to do so. There is a recognition and clear emphasis that many actions can, and will only be, delivered through partnership working with existing partners, external agencies and importantly the private and third sectors.
- 4.12 'A Foundation for Success' identifies a series of Action Plans and Strategies that are required to deliver the Strategy's Vision. Taken together these form the Delivery Plan. In the fullness of time, a comprehensive suite of documents that will deliver the actions identified in 'A Foundation for Success' will be prepared. The Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan' forms Appendix 2 of this Report and illustrates how the suite of documents will work in practice. Other examples of such Action Plans and Strategies include:
- Coalition Action Plan for Lansbury Park;
 - Revised Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy;
 - Destination Management Plan;
 - Revised Town Centre Action Plans / Masterplans for Risca, Blackwood, Bargoed, Ystrad Mynach;
 - Metro Hub Strategy;
 - Neighbourhood Plans.

Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan

4.13 Central to the Vision for the Caerphilly Basin is the ability to enhance its primary role as a sub-regional retail destination and maximise its potential as a key tourist destination. Stakeholder events have identified a number of key themes on the future role for the town, recognising the need for retail led regeneration, the role of Caerphilly as a tourist destination linked to Caerphilly Castle and balancing the need for development with maintaining and improving the quality of life for existing residents by ensuring that the appropriate level of infrastructure is in place to meet future needs resulting from population and housing growth. The Vision for the Caerphilly Basin is also linked to the Vision for the County Borough as a whole, as set out within 'A Foundation for Success'.

4.14 The Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan has been developed with the following Vision:

"To develop and enhance Caerphilly as a tourist destination in its own right. It will be a thriving, vibrant town that is well served by the Metro, with an expanded visitor and night time offer and a growing economy. It is a place where businesses want to locate, develop and grow and where people want to live, work, visit and socialise.

It will be a community where everyone is empowered to participate and make a difference, where local achievements are celebrated and visitors are welcomed and residents are proud to say they are from."

Consultation to date

4.15 Both 'A Foundation for Success' and the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan has been the subject of extensive engagement in their development. Working groups were established to utilise the expertise of officers from a number of service areas, whilst workshops have been held with elected members, businesses, local interest groups and the youth forum. However this is only the start of the process and the intention is now to publish these draft documents to enable any interested residents / groups / businesses to contribute to their further development.

4.16 The Consultation will take place 26 March – 24 April 2018. Once the consultation has been concluded, the Draft Strategy will be amended to have regard to the comments made (where appropriate) and the revised Strategy will be reported to Cabinet and then Full Council for consideration.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

5.1 The aim of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) 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 with the overall objective being to create a Wales where we want to live both now and in the future. The Act also sets a duty on public bodies to ensure that everything that they do is in accordance with the sustainable development principle (the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs). 'A Foundation for Success' and the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan aim to contribute to the Well-being Goals, this set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 respectively in each of the documents concerned.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct implications associated with this report. However the draft working Vision for 'A Foundation for Success' is: *"To make Caerphilly County Borough a more prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal place with strong cohesive communities where everyone is empowered to participate and make a difference, where local achievements are celebrated*

and visitors are welcomed and where residents are proud to say they are from.” To this end the actions within the strategy collectively aim to make Caerphilly County Borough a ‘more equal place’.

- 6.2 Consultation with the public on these documents will be undertaken in line with the standards set out in the Public Service Board Communications and Consultation Strategy, ensuring that all minority groups in the community have the opportunity to take part in the consultation exercise.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The purpose of ‘A Foundation for Success’ is to coordinate and prioritise regeneration initiatives in order to capitalise on existing and future funding streams. The Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan provides an indication of regeneration schemes that could be pursued in partnership with others. Any financial implications for the Council arising from future actions/schemes will be subject to detailed reports as and when necessary.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 ‘A Foundation for Success’ includes actions that if endorsed by the Council in the longer term may result in personnel implications, that will need to be the subject of further detailed reports.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 All responses from consultations have been incorporated in the report

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To consider the Draft Regeneration Strategy ‘A Foundation for Success’ and to provide any recommendations on the document to Cabinet. Cabinet will be asked to endorse the Draft Regeneration Strategy as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26 March until 24 April 2018.
- 10.2 To consider the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan and to provide any recommendations on the document to Cabinet. Cabinet will be asked to endorse the Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan as the basis for a public consultation exercise commencing 26 March until 24 April 2018.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To provide an up to date economic development strategy, which coordinates the regeneration and economic development efforts for Caerphilly County Borough.
- 11.2 To provide a Masterplan for Caerphilly Basin in order to prioritise regeneration activity.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Kelly Collins, Principal Planner, Strategic & Development Plans
Consultees: Cllr David Poole, Leader
Cllr Carl Cuss, Cabinet Member for Social Care & Wellbeing
Cllr Nigel George, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services
Cllr Colin Gordon, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services
Cllr Barbara Jones, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Governance
Cllr. Phillipa Marsden, Cabinet Member for Education & Achievement
Cllr Sean Morgan, Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure, Sustainability & Wellbeing
Cllr. Lisa Phipps, Cabinet Member for Homes and Places
Cllr. Eluned Stenner, Cabinet Member for Environment & Public Protection
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Liz Lucas, Head of Procurement
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property
Shaun Couzens, Chief Housing Officer
Mark S Williams, Interim Corporate Director - Communities
Marcus Lloyd, Acting Head of Engineering Services
Jo Williams, Assistant Director Adult Services
Gareth Jenkins, Assistant Director Children's Services
Robert Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection
Lisa Lane, Corporate Solicitor
Tim Stephens, Interim Head of Planning

Background Papers:

Evidence Base – A Foundation for Success
[copy available in the Members' Library]

Appendices

Appendix 1 Draft Regeneration Strategy 'A Foundation for Success 2018-2023'
Appendix 2 Draft Caerphilly Basin Masterplan

A Foundation for *Success*

Page 35

Draft Regeneration Strategy 2018 - 2023

Consultation Draft February 2018





Executive Summary

A Foundation for Success has been developed to provide a platform for the continuing transformation of Caerphilly County Borough for the next 5 years up to 2023.

Caerphilly County Borough and the wider Cardiff Capital Region is entering a period of transformative change, the need for a strategy to coordinate regeneration initiatives and capitalise upon funding streams is urgent in order to maximise the benefits to the county borough.

The signing of City Deal and the Cardiff Capital Region Investment Fund signals an unprecedented investment of £1.2 billion, to support the region's economic growth. The investment fund will be used to take forward a wide range of projects and schemes that contribute toward economic growth. Allied to this is the commitment from the Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales

Valleys, detailed in the publication of 'Our Valleys, Our Future', a high level plan that sets out strategic priorities for the region and which is supported by £100 million of Welsh Government investment over 10 years.

In order to benefit from the transformative change in the wider Cardiff Capital Region with the investment of City Deal, the Valleys Taskforce and further funding streams, it is necessary to set out the strategic priorities for the regeneration and enhancement of Caerphilly County Borough, identifying opportunities that will make Caerphilly more prosperous, healthier, resilient and equal and setting priorities that align and enhance with regional work and are readily capable of being realised.

The strategy recognises that there are many routes to realising transformational change and whilst investment in key projects in

high-growth, high-visibility sectors within the region that focus on raising gross value added are important, the role of the Foundational Economy (FE) should not be underplayed. The Foundational Economy relates to those sectors that supply our everyday economic and social needs where demand is localised, universal and permanent, such as childcare, social care, food, retail, energy and housing. Significantly, these sectors generally represent 40% of the labour market across the UK.

This Strategy concentrates on 4 strategic themes, namely: **Supporting People; Supporting Business; Supporting Quality of Life; and Connecting People & Places.** These themes will set out the broad principles for regeneration and the strategic priorities to be tackled under each, in order to meet the strategy vision by 2023.

February 2018





Background

“People, Business, Places” is the Regeneration Strategy that was produced for the County Borough by Navigant Consulting on behalf of the Council in 2010. This was supported by an Action Plan that expired in 2013. The Strategy and Action Plan are now outdated and the projects and actions contained within it, have either been implemented or are no longer relevant.

The economic challenges faced by the County Borough and the wider region in the intervening period have been significant and varied. The continually changing economic landscape, including the implications of Brexit on trade and European funding are yet to be fully known. However, the need for a dynamic and progressive community and regeneration action plan to help communities and business prosper is critical, with local government facing ever decreasing resources. The need for a new Regeneration Strategy therefore has become urgent.

This new strategy entitled “A Foundation for Success” is set amidst a changing landscape of unprecedented investment opportunities on one hand and austerity measures on the other, where there is a pressing need to ‘do things differently’ with limited resources. The Strategy provides the opportunity not only for the Council to coordinate its own activities to support the regeneration of the county borough, but equally as important it involves a multi agency approach and a commitment from partners to coordinate activity in order to achieve cost effectiveness, reduce duplication and maximise the benefits to the County Borough.

Introduction

A Foundation for Success provides a framework for the future regeneration of Caerphilly County Borough. It ensures that maximum regeneration impact is realised from any major development projects and programmes, making certain that individual proposals are developed so that they contribute to the effective regeneration effort and benefit of the County Borough. It will ensure that links are forged with the opportunities that are being created in the Cardiff Capital Region, and that mainstream Council services are orientated to best serve regeneration objectives, whilst linking with the well-being goals identified in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; the aim being to make Caerphilly County Borough a more prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal place with strong cohesive communities.

This is only the beginning; the draft strategy will be subject to a wide ranging consultation

with the community, business and key stakeholders. Once there is agreement on the strategy, further work will commence to deliver the detailed Delivery Plan.

A strategic vision and an up to date, sharply focussed, robust policy framework with clear priorities will help partners, government, neighbouring local authorities, regional bodies, the business community and residents understand how we can work together to coordinate the regeneration and economic development efforts for Caerphilly County Borough.

A Foundation for Success translates strategic priorities into an operational document, enabling the Council and its partners to exploit funding opportunities as they arise. It is supported by a robust evidence base that provides the context and latest social and environmental data for the County Borough. The evidence base, builds upon, and is

informed by, the work undertaken by the Public Services Board and other departments within the Council. A Foundation for Success' has been developed and has regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and has been informed by the five ways of working (see Appendix 1)

The strategy is one of a family of documents and does not seek to duplicate other relevant Council strategies. The context and evidence base is illustrated in Figure 1, which demonstrates the change in both the local and regional policy context from 'People, Business, Places 2010' to the new strategy '*A Foundation to Success 2018*'.

The Strategy is one of a suite of documents which includes:

- **The Evidence Base:**
This is the document containing the baseline data, set out under strategy

themes, providing the context and latest economic, social and environmental data for the County Borough. This provides the benchmark from which the impact of the Strategy can be monitored.

- **The Draft Strategy:**

Entitled: *A Foundation to Success* (The operational document that sets out the strategic priorities for regeneration).

- **The Delivery Plan:**

This contains projects, initiatives and strategies aimed at delivering the actions identified under each theme of the strategy. The nature of the actions and interventions differs considerably, from small scale projects through to major and complex capital programmes. The purpose of the delivery plan is to develop programmes and projects to make them more readily implementable in order to fully exploit funding opportunities as they arise.



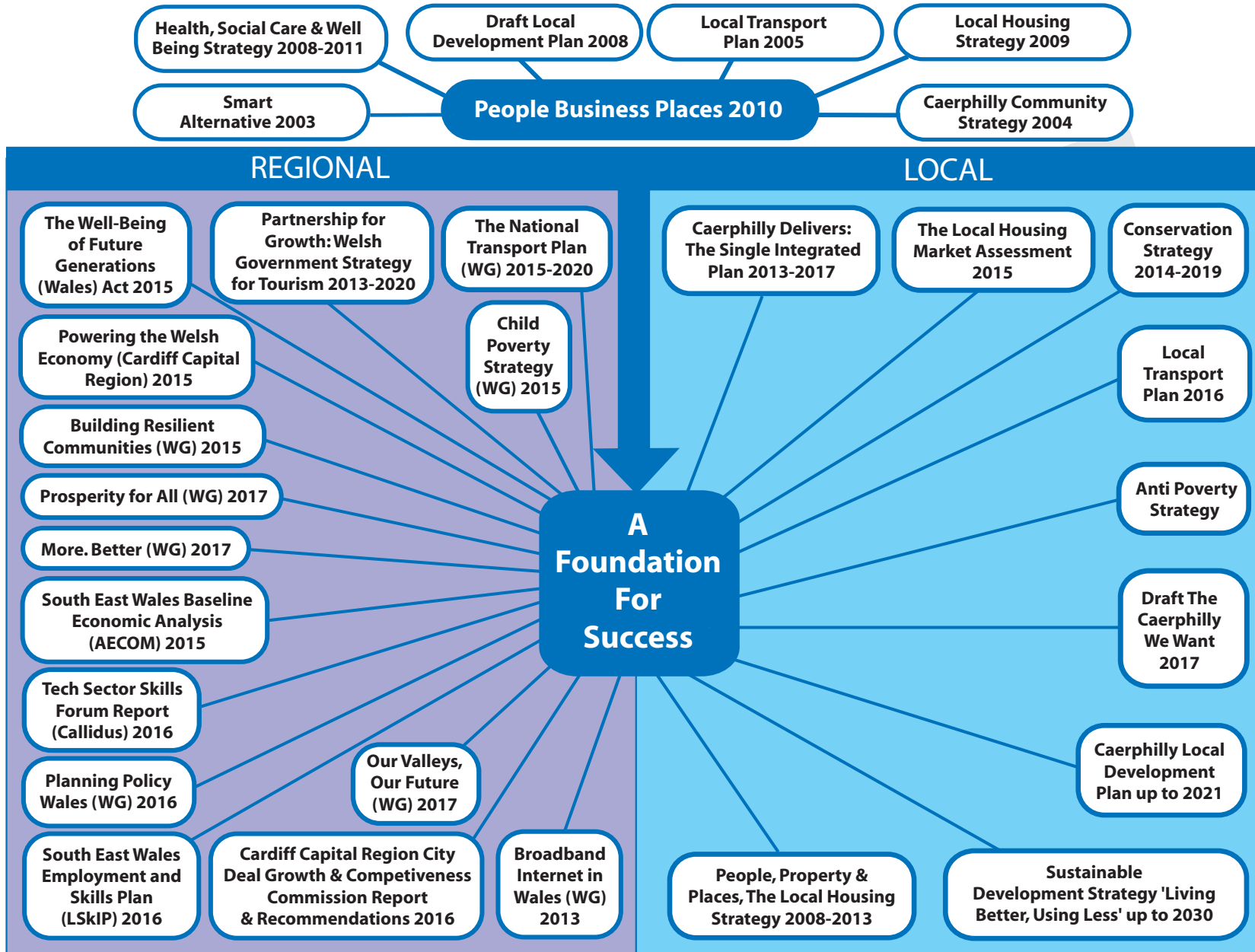


Figure 1: Changing Policy Context

The Challenges

Whilst significant progress has been made in terms of regenerating the physical infrastructure of Caerphilly County Borough, there is still a need for progress to be made to address the long term structural socio-economic problems of the area. The challenge is how to generate growth in the economy that benefits every one of our citizens and which in turn eradicates low pay, inequality and worklessness.

A strategically coordinated approach to investment is required that: links investment decisions with targeted outcomes; and focuses on an unwavering approach to tackle some of the most deep seated issues that the county borough is facing.

The continuing challenges for Caerphilly are:

- Reducing poverty, Caerphilly County Borough has 110 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs), 14 of which are within the most deprived 10% in Wales;

- High levels of workless households;
- High level of people who depend on benefit; including incapacity benefits;
- Improving health. There remains a health inequality, with those living in the least deprived areas living 18 years longer compared to those living in the most deprived areas;
- Low levels of qualifications and skills amongst working age population;
- Below average educational attainment;
- Lower income levels. Caerphilly County Borough ranks 5th highest out of the 10 South East Wales Authorities in terms of income;
- Need to improve gross value added (GVA). Whilst GVA for Wales as a whole is low relative to the UK, there is a disparity in earnings between the Gwent Valleys and Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area when compared to that of the south of the county borough;
- Business start ups. Although the number of active firms within Caerphilly has risen,

its proportion of regional businesses has gently declined as the region as a whole has established active firms at a faster rate;

- Maintaining and enhancing our existing town centres as a focus for activity, investment and regeneration;
- Increasing and diversifying housing stock through the delivery of new homes whilst maximising the potential for the delivery of affordable housing;
- Improving the quality of the existing housing stock;
- Congestion on the strategic highway network at peak rush hour periods at 2 locations, i.e. the A472 mid-valleys east-west strategic route through Maesycwmmmer; and the Caerphilly Northern Bypass junctions;
- Capacity, availability and cost of public transport.

The Opportunities

Our long term aim is to build a county borough that is prosperous, resilient, healthy and more equal with strong cohesive communities. In taking the county borough forward there are a number of key opportunities:

Cardiff Capital Region City Deal: Cardiff Capital Region has secured a deal worth £1.2 billion. Over its lifetime, local partners expect the City Deal to deliver up to 25,000 new jobs and leverage in an additional £4 billion of private sector investment. City Deal will provide an unprecedented level of funding for projects with the aim of promoting economic growth and job creation across the region, and a significant part of the £1.25 billion funding will be utilised to realise this aim. However, the largest proportion of the funding will be used to deliver the Cardiff Capital Region Metro. The Metro

concept is for a regional transport system that provides a high-quality, reliable, efficient and economically sustainable transport network to support the economic growth of Cardiff Capital Region. Caerphilly's location in the heart of the region, together with its economic and transport opportunities, places it in a strong position to deliver on the aims and objectives of both City Deal and the Metro and derive significant benefits from this funding.

Our Valleys, Our Future: The Ministerial Valleys Task Force Vision for 2021 is to close the employment gap between the South Wales Valleys and the rest of Wales by helping an additional 7,000 people into work, with thousands of new, fair, secure and sustainable jobs created in the Valleys. Further, people living in the Valleys will have access to the right skills to gain work and businesses will

be fully supported to grow and thrive in the South Wales Valleys. The Taskforce has identified Caerphilly, together with Ystrad Mynach, as a Strategic Hub focusing on residential, office, tourism and industrial development, where public money is focused to provide opportunities for the private sector to invest and create new jobs.

Coalition Working Groups: Our most deprived communities deserve the support that a multi-agency approach could bring to tackle poverty. Targeted action plans and partnership coalitions between the community, public, private and third sector should be established to address the issue of poverty within them and reduce inequality within the county borough. The aim should be to reduce the number of lower super output areas that fall within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales.

The Foundational Economy (FE): A sharper focus should be on those key sectors that supply economic and social needs, where demand is localised and permanent (such as childcare and social care, food, retail, energy and housing). A thriving FE would encourage the development of small and medium enterprises, tap into and strengthen resilient local supply chains, and enable economic value to be reinvested within the locality whilst generating employment opportunities across the county borough.

Targeted Action Plans & Strategies: To capture regeneration opportunities and develop opportunities for key sites and premises throughout the county borough an updated set of plans and strategies will be required. Some of these strategies will be delivered at a regional level, whilst others will be local in scale. Such plans should set

out a programme for investment that will help unlock resources from a wide range of funding sources, including for example Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, Welsh Government and European Funding.

Examples of such Action Plans & Strategies include:

- Revised Heritage Lottery Fund Strategy;
- Destination Management Plan;
- Revised Principal Town Centre Action Plans/Masterplans (Risca, Bargoed, Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood, Caerphilly);
- Metro Hub Strategy;
- Neighbourhood Plans;
- Coalition Action Plan for Lansbury Park;
- Rhymney Deep Place Study.



The Vision

The Vision for the strategy is:

“To make Caerphilly County Borough a more prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal place with strong cohesive communities where everyone is empowered to participate and make a difference, where local achievements are celebrated and visitors are welcomed and residents are proud to say where they are from.”

The Strategy is set out under 4 Strategic Themes, each with a slightly different focus, these are:



A Foundation to Success

Supporting People

Poverty has a deep and long-lasting effect on people's lives, affecting everything from how long people live, their risks of domestic violence or their attainment at school.

Employment, Education and Up-skilling is the best protection against poverty and its impacts. It is important to help people out of poverty and help people into employment as well as supporting those for whom employment is not possible. Despite the worrying rise of in-work poverty, work is still considered to be the best way to help people out of poverty.

There is a real need, to boost enterprise and employment within the County Borough and to link people with business and create a stimulating environment for both people and business. Whilst there are different economic challenges faced in different parts of the County Borough, the key principles of

protecting jobs, developing the economy, and increasing growth apply equally across the whole of the County Borough. Working in partnership with business and industry, the Council will seek to increase the availability of quality jobs and identify opportunities to enhance access for residents to those jobs.

The availability of a workforce with a wide range of skills and education levels can help business grow and also attract new business. Ways need to be found to improve confidence and build a culture of learning in the workforce with a particular focus on workers who may have few, if any, qualifications and yet who have valuable, transferable skills and experience. In addition, children and young adults need to be given appropriate career support to aid their understanding of the type of employment available to them in the region; and help them make the right

choices to lead them into the world of work. Specifically, it is important to ensure that they have the soft skills and technical skills necessary to undertake the work that is available. It is also important to give young people the confidence and skills to encourage entrepreneurship and to make them realise that they can be the business people of the future.

Our aim is to make a difference to the lives of our residents. 'Supporting People' is about equipping people to help break the cycle of poverty, spreading opportunity, enabling people to fulfil their ambitions and enhance their wellbeing, reducing inequality, improving health, educational attainment, upskilling and helping people to secure employment.

This theme is underpinned by the concept that economic growth should not be



perceived in isolation, as it underpins the aspirations we have for every person and community within the county borough, with employment being central to providing better health and life prospects for all.

The main objectives of the Supporting People theme are:

- *Increase employability and pathways into work by ensuring that services are coordinated, with appropriate support provided;*
- *Increase skill levels and educational attainment;*
- *Reduce worklessness;*
- *Improve the health of our residents;*
- *Improve resilience through the development of the Foundational Economy;*
- *Reduce the number of people living in disadvantaged communities by tackling inequalities.*

Our key priorities are:

SP1: Increasing employability of residents by working with partners to encourage skills providers to link their training/education to opportunities created by investments and business growth areas within the Cardiff Capital Region, encouraging education and skills providers to become more responsive, aligning courses to meet employer needs and forging stronger links between the Private, Public and Third Sector and Training Providers.

SP2: Raising educational attainment in schools to ensure that people have the skills and aptitude necessary for work. This involves acknowledging the importance of vocational training in addition to academic qualifications and providing support and career advice to ensure the best learning route for individuals.

SP3: Reducing worklessness through improving the coordination and delivery of services between organisations, empowering workless residents, supporting mechanisms

that encourage pathways into employment, working with partners to commit to placements, apprenticeship provision and encouraging stronger links between education & training providers, the business community and the public and third sector.

SP4: Improving resilience in the economy through the support and development of the foundational economy.

The foundational economy makes a substantial contribution to GVA in Wales, and Caerphilly is no exception. Moreover, it provides essential services within communities and is well spread throughout the county borough, which means that support for this sector could make a significant impact on the economy of the area as a whole. Importantly, supporting business in the FE would stimulate development outside of the M4 corridor.

SP5: Developing skills in key growth areas. The Cardiff Capital Region Skills and Employment Board has been created

(building on existing arrangements) to ensure skills and employment provision in the region is responsive to the needs of local businesses and communities. The focus by Welsh Government is on the following growth areas: Advanced Materials & Manufacturing, Construction, Financial and Professional Services, ICT, (cyber security, internet-of-things and data analytics) and the Human Foundation Economy. It is important therefore to improve the skills of local people in these key areas, to ensure that they are able to take advantage of existing and emerging employment opportunities created by significant regional investment in these growth areas and encourage and support a culture of learning and ongoing development within the existing and emerging workforce.

SP6: Targeted intervention of key groups.

Certain groups are more predisposed to poverty and the effects of experiencing a lifetime of economic disadvantage. In order to break the 'cycle' of poverty there is a need to

tackle key groups that include NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). Building resilience at a young age and improving a young persons health and wellbeing will not only improve the life chances of these individuals but also reduce the likelihood of negative associated behaviours being passed on to future generations.

SP7: Ensure a clear co-ordinated 'package of services' is available in order to

reconnect people to employment. There are a significant number of training schemes and initiatives operated by numerous training and service providers that cover the County Borough. There is currently no coordination between different service providers to ensure that the needs of participants are met or that opportunities to access employment are maximised locally and regionally. This not only covers programmes that encourage pathways in to work, but also relates to advice in respect of benefits, childcare provision and other mainstream services, all of which need

to be clearly focussed on the challenges associated with worklessness; and support people in employment to remain in employment.

SP8: Support Interventions to improve health,

address diet, physical activity or any lifestyle behaviours that may predispose people to behave in a certain way where there are complex social and environmental factors at play. Many health problems demonstrate a strong social gradient, meaning that there is a higher prevalence of lifestyle related and social harms, illness and early death in more economically disadvantaged groups. In order to reduce health inequalities and in order to prevent ill health it is necessary to tackle the wider social determinants that impact upon health. Many social determinants impact upon health, including a person's early life chances, their education, and employment opportunities, homes that they live in, and diet. In order to prevent ill health

it is necessary to tackle these wider social determinants.

SP9: Reduce inequality by reducing the number of lower super output areas within the top 10% most deprived areas within Wales.

Support our most deprived communities through a multi-agency approach to eradicate poverty and create vibrant communities where people want to live and work and proud to say where they are from. There is a need to deliver targeted action plans through true partnership working between the community, public, private and third sector to tackle poverty and its associated issues

SP10: Ensure that Cultivational Procurement is a key consideration in the procurement of services.

Long term social value should be prioritised over best price in the knowledge that this itself will reap benefits by building local economic resilience which in turn will take longer term pressures off local public services and government.

SP11: Tackle in-work poverty. Whilst employment is acknowledged as being the best way out of poverty there is also a growing rise of in-work poverty. A multi level policy approach and government intervention is required to address this issue, however at a local level, the Council and its partners should be promoting prosperity by seeking improvements in the pay and conditions and quality of life for those in low-paid and insecure employment. The Council currently pays the living wage and will encourage its partners and supply chain partners to prioritise the procurement of goods and services from ethical businesses that: pay the living wage; do not operate zero hour contracts; and offer fair terms and conditions for its employees.



SP1 Increase Employability	Action	Delivery
<p>Provide training opportunities that afford pathways to employability and increases the number of people that are economically active.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish stronger links between the Regional Partnership (LSkip) and local providers and services to align provision and prevent the duplication of effort in the provision of training opportunities. 2. Develop a co-ordinated programme of volunteering, maximising it as a route to personal well-being and employment, including promoting corporate volunteering. 3. Establish an all age apprenticeship programme across PSB member organisations in line with City Deal priorities and linked to Welsh Government Employment Support Programmes with co-ordinated points of access. 4. Provide support and training for people who are long-term unemployed and economically inactive to gain skills to secure a job through the Communities for Work Programme and Communities for Work Plus Programme. 5. Ensure that employment and skills programmes which support those furthest from work are joined-up and work with employers to develop social clauses to ensure this happens. 6. Ongoing support for employment initiatives, including: Bridges into Work; Working Skills for Adults 2; Inspire 2 Work; Youth Engagement and Progression of the Progress Scheme and develop ongoing solutions to fund initiatives post European Funding. 7. Explore new workforce models with partners to incorporate a wider variety of professionals with different skills and expertise to reflect the employment needs of the population. 	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 WG/ LSkip/Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region</p>

SP1 Increase Employability	Action	Delivery
<p>Address the mismatch between the skills needed to access jobs in the region (digital, technical and soft) and the training provided through the curriculum and by training providers.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Facilitate the engagement between businesses and local education providers and Careers Wales to ensure that people have the appropriate employability and entrepreneurial skills. 9. Encourage entrepreneurship within schools by getting all schools to participate in the Young Enterprise Programme (currently 50% of schools in the county borough participate in the programme). 10. Work with business to understand current and future needs to ensure skills and apprenticeship schemes meet their needs. 11. Provide targeted careers advice to help young people to access jobs in the county borough and the wider region and develop a resource to support work experience. 12. Work with training providers to ensure that courses are aligned to meet employer needs. 13. Strengthen industry-led engagement in schools and local communities to encourage all people to consider careers in growth sectors including digital industries. 	<p>8,9,10,11,12,13 WG/ LSkiP Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region</p> <p>14 WG, Learning Skills & Innovation Partnership /Private and Public Sector, Universities and Education providers (Coleg Gwent, Coleg y Cymoedd)/Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet</p>
<p>Provide accreditation for certain skills which have traditionally been dismissed as a formal qualification.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Work with business and education providers to provide work based training qualifications to encourage progression and release entry level jobs. 	



SP2 Raise Educational Attainment	Action	Delivery
Improve the links between schools and local business.	15. Strengthen industry-led engagement in schools and local communities to encourage young people to consider careers in growth sectors including digital industries.	15, 16, 17 WG/LSkiP/ Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region
Provide young people with better advice in respect of employment opportunities and the educational/skills needed to access them.	16. Provide targeted careers advice to help young people to access jobs in the county borough and the wider region. 17. Work with training providers to ensure that courses are aligned to meet employer needs.	
Reduce the percentage of working age population with no qualifications and improve literacy and numeracy levels throughout the population.	18. Establish an all-age training programme that supports and provides opportunities for people to gain qualifications by supporting programmes such as Communities for Work and Communities for Work Plus.	18 WG/LSkiP/Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region
	19. Widen the opportunities for learning through integration of activities associated with culture, sports and leisure.	18, 19 WG/LSkiP/ Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region/ Council

SP3: Reduce worklessness	Action	Delivery
Align interventions by identifying any gaps in the provision of employment support services.	20. Work with public, private and third sector organisations to undertake provision mapping of existing employment support. This will prevent duplication of efforts and simplify the path to employment support, whilst establishing a common approach, removing barriers, and ensuring that people are being referred to the most appropriate support mechanism based on their individual needs. Develop a single point of entry so that people are directed to the most appropriate support service through the Communities for Work and Communities Plus Programme.	20 WG/LSkiP/Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers (Coleg Gwent, Coleg y Cymoedd)/Cardiff Capital Region

SP4: Improve Resilience and Support the development of the foundational Economy	Action	Delivery
<p>Improve resilience by maximising job opportunities in the local foundational economy - businesses we use every day and see all around us.</p>	<p>21. Consider bespoke support for services targeted at micro and small businesses, business start up and self employment within the county borough by reinvigorating and resourcing local business support to coordinate and maximise the opportunities arising at the Regional level through City Deal.</p> <p>22. Work with businesses to increase understanding and opportunities afforded by the FE and expand business support to include key sectors, including construction, energy, health and social care, tourism, retail, and food.</p> <p>23. Work with training and education providers to improve awareness of careers within the FE and the skills provision and training required to fulfil opportunities.</p>	<p>21, 22, 23, 24 WG/LSkiP /Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers (Coleg Gwent, Coleg y Cymoedd)/Cardiff Capital Region</p>
<p>Support the FE by developing resilient local supply chains.</p>	<p>24. Work with Partners to support local jobs through the use of procurement measures that support local supply chains.</p> <p>25. Seek to ensure that we maximise the benefits to our communities by using our procurement processes to spend budgets locally where ever possible.</p> <p>26. Work with partners to secure the maximum community benefits from the contracts we let.</p>	<p>24, 25, 26 Council/PSB</p>



SP5: Develop skills in key growth areas.	Action	Delivery
<p>Develop skills in key growth areas and develop a co-ordinated training/skills programme that equips people to be able to benefit from investment in these opportunities.</p>	<p>27. Work with partners and use labour market intelligence from the Regional Skills Plan and LSkiP to identify future growth demand and skill requirements.</p> <p>28. Target investment to support apprenticeship delivery in Regional growth and shortage sectors.</p> <p>29. Provide targeted careers advice aligned to current and future job opportunities by coordinating careers advice and engaging with employers to strengthen employability skills and careers.</p>	<p>27, 28, 29 WG/LSkiP/ Private and Public Sector/Universities and Education providers/ Cardiff Capital Region</p>
SP6: Targeted Intervention of key groups	Action	Delivery
<p>Target key groups in order to break the 'cycle' of poverty as certain groups are more predisposed to poverty and the effects of experiencing a lifetime of economic disadvantage.</p>	<p>30. Support for reducing the number of NEETS with early interventions, including earlier career advice and increased training opportunities.</p> <p>31. Reducing the number of ACEs by improving the awareness of the importance of early life experiences on the long term health, social and economic prospects of children within PSB organisations, schools and communities. Also by sharing and exploring best practice amongst PSB organisations to understand and highlight the long term impact of ACEs on individuals, their families, their future children and grandchildren and examining how the PSB can deliver its services through an ACE informed lens.</p>	<p>30 WG/LSkiP/Universities and Education providers/ Private Sector/Careers Wales</p> <p>31 Council/PSB</p>

SP7: Ensure a clear co-ordinated 'package of services' is available in order to reconnect people to employment	Action	Delivery
Support mechanisms that encourage pathways in to work and improve the employability for people by removing 'barriers' to employment.	32. Explore affordable and variable childcare initiatives that enable parents to work and examine support for working parents. 33. Improve access to affordable and variable transport .	32,33 Council/PSB/WG, Department for Work & Pensions, Jobs Growth Wales/Careers Wales/ Coleg Gwent, Coleg y Cymoedd/LSkiP
SP8: Support Interventions to improve health	Action	Delivery
Support Interventions to address diet, physical activity or any lifestyle behaviours that may predispose people to behave in a certain way where there are complex social and environmental factors at play.	34. Increase the understanding of the benefits of preventative work in relation to health within partner organisations. Investigate and identify mechanisms for addressing and resourcing this issue in areas of deprivation (especially in the absence of Communities First). 35. Education and the promotion of healthy behaviours within schools/workplace. 36. Promote the benefits of physical activity through the use of the environment and leisure services.	34 Council/PSB 35, 36 Council/PSB/Public Sector/Private Sector/ Third Sector

SP9: Reduce inequality by reducing the number of lower super output areas within the top 10% deprived within Wales.	Action	Delivery
<p>There is a need to close the gap between the most deprived communities within the county borough and others by aligning all public sector provision to meet the needs of those in the most deprived communities.</p>	<p>37. There are programmes designed to tackle poverty and support children, young people and families across the borough. These anti poverty strategies are cross-cutting and transcend a number of policy areas. The Council should continue to support and align the anti poverty programmes to achieve maximum impact.</p> <p>38. The Council will work with the local community and its partners by setting up a coalition board for Lansbury Park to develop a methodology that can be adopted for working within the other deprived communities within the borough. Specifically the 8 areas that have been agreed by the Council and PSB including Rhymney, Fochriw, Phillipstown, Park Estate Bargoed, Graig y Rhacca, Lansbury Park, Ty Sign and Cefn Hengoed which are the most deprived communities within the county borough.</p>	<p>37, 38 Council/PSB/Coalition Working Groups</p>
<p>Address fuel poverty as 25% of households within the county borough are experiencing fuel poverty.</p>	<p>39. Work with partners to explore and support where possible energy efficiency initiatives, renewable energy generation, community energy generation projects and energy cooperatives.</p> <p>40. Examine the role of the foundational economy in terms of energy conservation and energy generation.</p>	<p>39, 40 Council/PSB Coalition Working Groups /Private Sector/Energy Providers/Housing providers.</p>
<p>Reduce the number of workless households with children as employment is the best protection against poverty.</p>	<p>41. Work with partners to explore initiatives for childcare support and early year's intervention.</p>	<p>41 Council/PSB/WG</p>

SP10 Ensure that Cultivational Procurement is a key consideration in the procurement of goods and services	Action	Delivery
Ensure that local businesses and supply chains benefit from investments made by the public sector.	42. Ensure that community benefits are maximised by using procurement processes to spend budgets locally where ever possible.	42, 43, 44, 45, Council/ PSB/Public Sector
Maximise the value of procurement to the economy of the county borough and recognise that the long term social value of procurement decisions should be prioritised over best price.	43. Work together to maximise the value for money through joint procurement. 44. Secure the maximum community benefits from contracts and incorporate the use of social clauses in all major contracts, e.g. exploit the job creation from major infrastructure investment, including for example the Metro and the ongoing work to dual the A465. 45. Ensure that where possible, the goods and services procured reflect the sustainable development principle by being sustainable, low carbon and ethically responsible.	
SP11 Tackle in-work poverty	Action	
Tackle in-work poverty. The Council and its partners should be promoting prosperity by seeking improvements in the pay and conditions and quality of life for those in low-paid and insecure employment.	46. The Council currently pays the Living Wage and will encourage its partners and its supply chain partners to prioritise the procurement of goods and services from businesses that: pay the living wage; do not operate zero hour contracts; and offer fair terms and conditions for its employees. 47. Promote and support in-work training within PSB partner organisations and local businesses to encourage upskilling and progression to release entry level jobs.	46, 47 Council/PSB/ Public Sector/Private Sector.



Supporting Business

In order to build prosperity and create greater economic resilience, there is a need not only to support business but also a need to create an environment that: nurtures businesses of the future; promotes entrepreneurship through business support; and realises the economic opportunities available.

Supporting and expanding existing business, attracting new business, and encouraging new small and medium enterprise start ups is critical to Caerphilly County Borough's future economic development.

It is critical to have an understanding of the current composition and location of businesses, jobs and services offered across the county borough. This information can help reveal how well business serves local residents and how it contributes to quality of life. Importantly it will also indicate which industries have the most potential to drive

economic growth in the future. Targeting key economic sectors for growth directs economic development efforts in a strategic manner and targets limited resources wisely.

The main objectives for Supporting Business are:

- *To build a more resilient and diversified economy for the county borough;*
- *To support economic growth, innovation and enterprise;*
- *To create an environment that nurtures business;*
- *To enhance the competitiveness of the county borough;*
- *To boost business support;*
- *To identify key business investment sites;*
- *To improve the links between business, schools and education and training providers.*

Our key priorities are:

SB1: Building a more resilient and diversified economy

to be able to withstand shocks in the wider economy through the development of: the foundational economy, new businesses, SMEs and anchor institutions that generate employment opportunities closer to home and ensure the re-circulation of finance within the local economy.

SB2: Supporting economic growth and innovation.

Innovation is a key priority for Caerphilly County Borough. We must encourage private sector growth and innovation if jobs and prosperity are to be created during a period whilst the public sector contracts. Encouraging innovation throughout the County Borough in both the private and public sectors will be a central element to future success in strengthening

and diversifying the economy and critically in improving GVA. There is a need to ensure that businesses innovate by developing new products, processes and management practice, maximising the use of ICT; enabling strong links between business and educational institutions; strengthening the technology base of educational institutions; and enabling the successful commercial exploitation of those new ideas. In order to stimulate greater innovation improved links need to be forged between the public and private sectors and the educational institutions in the county borough and the region, in particular universities and FE colleges.

SB3: Creating an environment that nurtures business. The Council and key partners will need to ensure that the market conditions are created that enable businesses



to flourish within Caerphilly County Borough. Developing a greater understanding of the demands and requirements of business; from their physical needs in terms of the size, quality, cost and location of land and premises; to their training and skills requirements for staff is necessary if employment opportunities within the county borough are to be maximised. Good quality sites are in short supply and there is now a very limited availability of all sizes and types of speculative, ready to occupy premises ranging from space for small businesses and start-ups right through to large scale manufacturing projects. This needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

The importance of thriving town centres for business to flourish and grow is also critical to the local economy. The Council has relentlessly sought to strengthen and revitalise its Principal Town Centres over successive decades. In recent years there has been unprecedented investment in Ystrad

Mynach, Blackwood, Risca, Caerphilly and Bargoed, however further investment is necessary if town centre businesses are to succeed and flourish. Moving forward, the changing nature of the types of business that wish to locate in town centres, needs to be recognised and accommodated if the needs of business are to be met.

SB4: Key Sites and Infrastructure for employment opportunities.

It is important that market signals are recognised and that economic development is guided to the most appropriate locations. This requires a responsive planning environment that ensures that there is an appropriate range and mix of good quality, well located employment sites available for business to develop and expand. Opportunities to create better and more competitive business locations, that respond to the requirements of business and fill identified gaps in land supply within

Caerphilly County Borough, need to be pursued through the identification of new sites for employment use throughout the county borough.

The complexities of structural change make it difficult to be confident about the true scale or nature of future employment land needs, especially when the evidence suggests that what is actually happening on the ground is contrary to expected forecasts, specifically, industrial demand continues to outpace office demand. There is a need therefore to recognise the redundancy of poor quality employment sites and premises and to encourage the recycling/redevelopment of less suitable older stock (particularly that owned by the private sector) to make way for premises better suited to meet modern requirements.

There is also an urgent need to make provision for enabling infrastructure to bring forward existing sites identified for employment use. This includes the provision

of: transport and road infrastructure; services such as utilities and broadband; drainage and other high value enabling works.

Planning has a pivotal role to play in identifying and assembling land for employment/commercial use to capitalise on the unprecedented investment opportunities presented by City Deal, Metro and from the Valleys Task Force. Whilst the key driver behind each of these is to improve the economy; improving accessibility and enabling people to access employment has the potential to redefine existing settlements within the County Borough. Focussing employment/commercial development at key metro nodes and strategic hubs, whilst capitalising upon place making and development opportunities, is central to the future economic success of Caerphilly County Borough.

SB5: Boost Business Support and

Enterprise. Scale up targeted business support and promote enterprise and self employment to grow economic output

and raise activity rates. There is already a strong platform on which to build in terms of business support, including the work of the Caerphilly Business Forum and Welsh ICE. With some more focused activities and more joint working, the business support system may be used more effectively to meet the needs of local business and provide the supportive and responsive environment which modern business demand. Public sector business and enterprise support services are however complex and potentially confusing to service users and there is a need to improve the coordination and delivery of services between organisations. There is also a need to develop a focussed client-centred network amongst service providers to increase the take up of business support with a much higher penetration of the local business sector. Pivotal to this will be targeted support to improve business survival rates beyond 2 years.

SB6: Improve the links between business, schools and education & training providers.

The Learning Skills & Innovation Partnership (LSKIP) identify and encourage engagement and collaboration between industry and schools as currently there is a clear mismatch between employer skills demand and expectations and pupil capability arising from choice of subject areas, career knowledge, basic and essential skills. With the fast changing demands of business and industry it is important for teaching staff and education providers to maintain currency with their needs. Improving the links between business, schools and education & training providers will facilitate this and enable pupils to gain experience and knowledge of changing career opportunities.



SB1: Building a more resilient & diversified Economy	Action	Delivery
<p>Improve resilience through the development of the Foundational Economy and support the growth of local businesses that generate employment opportunities closer to home.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximise job opportunities in the local foundational economy i.e. businesses that are used every day such as retail, social care, health and the food industry; 2. Increased alignment of education and training with relevant business sectors to raise awareness of the variety of career opportunities in the foundational economy including in the tourism and hospitality industry and in the health and care sector in order to ensure that businesses have the skilled staff to operate. 3. Increased provision of fit-for-purpose business premises across all sectors with a focus on new start-ups and businesses that want to expand. 	<p>1, 2, 3, Private Sector/ Cardiff Capital Region/ WG/Council/Education and training providers/ LSkiP</p>
SB2: Supporting Economic Growth and Innovation	Action	Delivery
<p>Build upon existing, prominent economic sectors within the county borough and the region, and encourage new participants within these sectors to offer higher value-added outcomes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Identify sites for the development of incubator and innovation centres, with a vision to develop growth accelerator hubs as part of a connected Cardiff Capital Region. 5. Work with recognised leaders in their field and anchor companies to identify supply chain opportunities which could develop key clusters of innovation. 6. Explore the opportunities afforded by the potential automotive cluster in Ebbw Vale for the Heads of the Valleys and the Upper Rhymney in particular. 7. Target and try out new ways of working in partnership with the private sector and academia to find innovative ways of working to improve the delivery of core services, such as housing, transport health and social care and energy. 	<p>4, 5, 6 Cardiff Capital Region/WG/Council/ Private Sector</p> <p>7, Cardiff Capital Region/ Council/Private Sector/ Academia</p>

SB3: Creating an environment that nurtures businesses	Action	Delivery
<p>Improve the rate of emergence of new indigenous businesses within the county borough.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Respond to existing and future demand for business premises within the borough and seek to invest in properties to meet that demand. Investigate the feasibility of developing start up units within Caerphilly Basin where there is already a very high demand with over 100 businesses in search of premises 9. Develop a greater understanding of the nature of the demand for business premises within Caerphilly and adopt a targeted marketing approach on this basis. 10. Ensure that council owned land suitable for employment use is pro-actively marketed. 11. Increased alignment of education and training with relevant business sectors. 	<p>8, 9, 10, 11 Council/Cardiff Capital Region/WG/ Education and training providers/LSkip</p>



SB4: Key Sites and Infrastructure for Employment Opportunities	Action	Delivery
<p>Ensure that there is an appropriate range and mix of good quality, well located employment sites available for business to develop and expand.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Identification of new land for employment through the planning system, particularly within the South of the county borough where supply is limited and demand is high. 13. Identify new sites that are potentially of regional significance that could benefit from investment via City Deal (e.g. Oakdale Business Park, Capital Valley, Rhymney, Caerphilly Business Park/Ness Tar, Heads of the Valleys); 14. Encourage the reconfiguration and redevelopment of existing employment sites to provide modern, energy efficient units to replace some of the older larger units that are underutilised or vacant. 15. Identify mechanisms and potential funding sources for unlocking existing employment sites and making them more attractive to investors and new businesses within the county borough. 16. Maximise the economic investment in employment sites either through employment (number of jobs created) or supply chain opportunities or both. 17. Ensure easy and affordable access to digital networks, including broadband to support everyday business needs. 18. Maintain the diversity of uses on employment sites within the county borough. 19. Identify employment opportunities around metro hubs to encourage modal shift and to reduce the high level of out commuting for work. 	<p>12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 WG/Private Sector/ Cardiff Capital Region/ Council</p>

SB5: Boost Business Support & Enterprise	Action	Delivery
Scale up targeted business support and promote enterprise and self employment to grow economic output and raise activity rates.	<p>20. Develop and resource a hub of business support functions for Caerphilly County Borough that widens business support and compliments the work of City Deal and Valleys Taskforce.</p> <p>21. Encourage and provide support for environmentally sustainable business models that seek to improve sustainability through measures such as energy efficiency, waste management, use of sustainable transport modes (public transport/electric vehicles).</p> <p>22. Improve the coordination and delivery of employment and business support services between organisations.</p>	20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 WG/ Cardiff Capital Region/ Education and training providers/Council/Private Sector
Improving business survival rates beyond 2 years, working with partners to provide the relevant support.	<p>23. Develop a focussed client-centred network amongst service providers to increase the take up of business support with a much higher penetration of the local business sector.</p> <p>24. Strengthen linkages with relevant organisations such as Welsh ICE and the public sector where necessary, in order to provide a more robust support structure capable of fostering entrepreneurship.</p> <p>25. Examine mechanisms to improve business survival rates beyond 2 years.</p>	



SB6: Improve the links between businesses, schools and education & training providers	Action	Delivery
<p>In order to improve access to job opportunities and increase the gross weekly earnings of workers within the borough better integration is needed between education and skills providers and the needs of business sectors.</p>	<p>26. Improve focus on education and training and better align this process with those business sectors identified as being targeted for growth. This will also help maximise the potential of greater accessibility to job opportunities elsewhere, brought about by Metro.</p> <p>27. Reduce the disparity in earnings within the Gwent Valleys and Heads of the Valleys Regeneration Area in comparison to the south of the county borough by examining measures to address this issue such as tailored education and training to align with relevant business sectors in the Heads of the Valleys, promotion of job opportunities within SE Wales afforded by greater accessibility to job opportunities elsewhere brought about by Metro, stronger linkages between business and schools, targeted business start-up support etc.</p> <p>28. Engage anchor companies within the county borough and improve the links between business and schools by exploring work experience and training opportunities associated with these companies.</p>	<p>26, 27, 28 Cardiff Capital Region/LSKip/WG/ Education and training providers/Private Sector/ Council.</p>

Supporting Quality of Life

Quality of life is the general perception of well being, of both communities and business within our county borough. A variety of factors can improve the perception of quality of life, for example having access to; good housing; a thriving town with a wide range of community and cultural facilities and services; access to quality green and open space; access to excellent care services, all set in the context of a well respected and looked after natural and built environment. All have a part to play in creating the right conditions for better health, well-being and greater physical activity. The contribution made by the environment to quality of life and good health cannot be overstated.

Aesthetic improvements enhance the perception of quality of life and this component will focus on identifying key locations for development and redevelopment in the county borough

including: key brownfield sites, opportunities provided around metro hubs and key interchanges, town centres, redevelopment of prominent and underutilised buildings and improvements to the public realm/green infrastructure to enhance the sense of place and contribute to the sustainability and well being of the area.

Supporting quality of life is about creating a sustainable environment for current and future generations to enjoy by improving and maintaining features of the physical and natural environment and joining up things that most affect people's lives.

The main objectives of the Supporting Quality of Life are:

- *Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development,*

protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing;

- *Improve access to culture, leisure & the arts;*
- *Enhance opportunities for physical improvement and investment through active place making;*
- *Capitalise upon the assets of the county borough to fully exploit the county borough's tourism potential and establish Caerphilly as a major tourism destination within Cardiff Capital Region and Wales;*
- *Improve the delivery and diversify the housing stock across all tenures within the county borough to meet housing need and create strong cohesive communities;*
- *Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention, particularly in terms of Council owned stock;*
- *Develop a unique and complementary role for each of the Principal Towns in the County Borough to serve the wide reaching needs of residents and business.*

Our key priorities are:

SQL1: Managing the natural heritage and its resources appropriately by balancing the needs of development against the protection of the landscape and the need to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

The natural heritage and open space are important elements in the lives of those who live, work and relax in the county borough. They are important factors for mental and physical well-being and their ongoing maintenance and improvement will continue to have beneficial effects for future generations.

It is essential that new homes, jobs and services are developed to meet the needs of future generations. However, it is equally necessary to protect important landscapes and areas of biodiversity importance from adverse impacts or loss through inappropriate development. Landscapes need

to be maintained and enhanced through diversification and developing key artisan skills to maintain landscape features, whilst maximising the potential of landscapes to provide tourist and recreational opportunities.

The historic landscape is equally as important as the natural landscape. It provides valuable information about how our area was used over time. Historic landscapes provide some of the very best examples of how land was used throughout our history and it is important that these landscapes are protected and, even more importantly, interpreted to broaden knowledge of their importance.

Balancing the development needs of the current and future generations with the protection of open space, countryside and landscape is a key element in securing a high quality of life for those who live, work and enjoy the county borough, and all it has to offer.



SQL2: Improve access to culture, leisure and the arts in order to improve social and economic wellbeing. Culture, the arts, sports and leisure are important elements of vibrant and viable communities. They provide people with opportunities to learn, to relax, to innovate, to exercise, and to enjoy themselves, as well as providing a valuable education and learning resource. They are vital in creating a sense of community, in attracting new people and families, in encouraging inward investment and in providing jobs and opportunities for entrepreneurship and enterprise. They also encourage people to look at their locality in a different way, raise aspirations and improve the life experiences of local people. Arts, sports and cultural approaches to regeneration have additional potential for engaging children and young people, releasing creativity and innovation, and potentially creating positive role models for communities.

SQL3: Active Place Making provides the vision and framework for proactively exploiting major development opportunities and setting out a programme of investment to help unlock funding. The importance of active place making cannot be underestimated with potential funding opportunities created through both City Deal and the Valleys Task Force. Whilst City Deal presents significant opportunities around strategic metro hubs, the Valleys Task Force identifies Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach as a strategic hub, where public sector funding can realise positive change leading to private sector investment.

SQL4: Maximise the tourism potential of the County Borough to become an established tourism destination. Tourism is an important area in terms of ongoing, long-term growth. Jobs, visitors and spend are all on upward trends and tourism is worth an estimated £122m for the local economy and is responsible for an estimated 1632 jobs in

Caerphilly and 68,700 jobs within the Cardiff Capital Region. At a time when budgets are under severe pressure, investments in tourism infrastructure, particularly Council owned facilities, may be perceived as low priority; however the importance of tourism to the local economy should not be understated.

The County Borough has many valuable tourism assets which contribute greatly to the economy, not least Caerphilly Castle, Cwmcarn Forest and Llancaiach Fawr Manor. There is a need to develop and exploit these existing tourism assets further in order to increase visitor numbers and improve their economic performance and that of the County Borough.

Improvements to accommodation and the leisure and night time economy (including pubs, restaurants and accommodation) remain essential, coupled with ongoing town centre and environmental improvements. The clustering of these services around key tourist hubs and sites should remain a key aspiration.



It is essential that opportunities to increase the dwell time within the County Borough are explored. This can be achieved by: developing the local offer to complement the regional network of leisure and tourism facilities; building on existing events such as the Big Cheese; effective marketing; and developing the South East Wales Destination Investment Plan.

SQL5: Improve the delivery of new housing and diversify housing across all tenures.

Poor housing and a limited choice of homes, particularly in the northern parts of the County Borough, directly affect quality of life and health. It also has many undesirable side effects, including forcing affluent local people or those forging new careers to leave to find better homes, thus depriving communities of role models and potentially active residents. More significantly, expansion of the housing stock and improvements to existing property also provide both business (start up and expansion) and employment opportunities.

Widening the housing choice north of the Mid Valleys Corridor and in town centres should make a significant contribution to delivering the objectives of the strategy.

Good quality homes form the foundations of good communities and the basis for individuals and families to flourish in all aspects of their lives. The delivery of modern, good quality affordable homes across the whole of the county borough will improve quality of life and create stronger and more cohesive communities. In the southern part of the county borough many sites are attractive to the private sector and will be delivered largely without any public sector intervention. Conversely, in the more marginal market areas, or on difficult industrial legacy sites, the private sector is reluctant to invest where they perceive there is a high risk. The Council and its partners need to find innovative ways to deliver much needed modern housing even on those sites that are higher risk. To this end, all innovative housing solutions and funding

options will be explored; from innovative finance models, public sector land release, council house building and alternative forms of delivery through innovative construction methods. Also the Council will continue efforts to bring empty homes back in to beneficial use. Collectively these actions will deliver more housing and diversify the housing stock.

There is also a need to incentivise housing providers to build homes which respond to the challenges of an ageing population and which enable people to down size to suitable accommodation to meet their needs. All housing developments (over 10 units) that are delivered through the release of Council land will in future be required to make provision for housing that is suitable for older people.

SQL6: Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention; particularly in terms of Council owned housing stock. Investment in improving the quality of housing is proven

to reduce pressures on other public services; notably health and social care. There is significant evidence showing links between cold, damp homes and respiratory disease and asthma. These health problems can contribute to adverse childhood experiences as well as having a negative impact on children's ability to learn.

Providing secure, affordable housing is the strongest basis for supporting vulnerable individuals to overcome mental health and substance misuse. Investing in housing quality and energy efficiency brings significant economic benefits, creates jobs, and builds stronger communities.

The Council has a housing stock of 10,822 properties and 13,000 tenants and is currently investing over £200m in bringing all these homes up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) by 2020.

The WHQS investment will bring about substantial physical improvements to both

houses and the environment. It is recognised that some of the Council's estates have high levels of deprivation, poverty, unemployment, and social exclusion therefore the delivery of this ambitious investment programme is not just to improve homes, but to also transform people's lives and the communities in which people live.

SQL7: Refocus on town centres to serve the needs of residents and business. Town Centres are powerful economic hubs and have the capability to drive economic growth and provide a focus for local economic activity. The vitality and viability of town centres should be enhanced by working in partnership with the business community in order to attract new investment and sustain confidence. In recent years there has been unprecedented investment in Ystrad Mynach, Blackwood, Risca, Caerphilly and Bargoed, however continued investment by both the private and public sector is necessary if town centre businesses are to succeed and flourish.



The changing nature of the types of business that wish to locate in town centres, needs to be recognised and accommodated if towns are to diversify to meet the differing demands placed on them in the 21st Century. There is a pressing need to increase footfall and dwell time in all of the town centres and opportunities to increase the variety of retail, leisure, entertainment and cultural venues to attract and hold customers in the town and enhance the night time economy need to be explored further. In addition opportunities for new office space and events space needs further consideration, particularly in and around Metro Hubs and tourist and leisure facilities e.g. Caerphilly Castle, Blackwood Miner's Institute.

New homes in town centres can also serve to address a number of key objectives including: addressing the acute shortage of homes; increasing expenditure in local retailing, adding life in the evenings/ weekends and putting buildings to use

when they might otherwise stay derelict or generate little income for the owners. Town centres should help drive regeneration and greater consideration needs to be given to individual town centre sites that are appropriate for modernisation, refurbishment, or redevelopment to provide office accommodation and town centre living.

Town Centre Action plans will therefore be produced to coordinate major development opportunities and enhancement, in order to inform a programme of investment which will be supported by a retail strategy that will examine measures to enhance and diversify the existing offer within Town Centres in order to retain more expenditure within the local economy. The Council already has Town Centre Action Plans for all of its Town Centres; however these will be updated to reflect the new opportunities afforded by City Deal/ Metro and the Valleys Task Force Initiatives. The first plan for Caerphilly Basin is being prepared in tandem with this strategy.

A more pro-active and radical approach to town centres may be required moving forward, one which involves the use of CPO powers where necessary, greater partnership working with the Welsh Government, and closer links with funding institutions and the private sector. New and creative approaches will need to be utilised to fund these proposals.

SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing	Action	Delivery
Balance the need for development and protection of the Landscape.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a Countryside Strategy/Green Infrastructure Strategy for the County Borough 2. Protect farming, forestry and tourism whilst maximising benefits from the development opportunities they present. 3. Address the three main threats to upland landscape, namely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Illegal off-roading ● Fly-tipping ● Arson. 4. Appoint a Landscape Partnership officer with a role of integrating rural spaces into urban projects and developments, linking urban and rural places. 5. Ensure that future much-needed development and the need for that development does not adversely impact upon important landscapes. 6. Ensure developments integrate the existing landscape and new landscaping features as an integral part of their proposals, respecting and enhancing the important elements of their settings. 7. Establish training and qualification courses on rural artisan skills, such as dry stone walling, landscape master planning and tree planting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Council/NRW/ WG 2 Council/NRW/ WG 3 Council/NRW/WG, Police 4 Council/South East Caerphilly Partnership 5 Council/NRW/WG/ 6 Council/NRW/WG/ Commoners Associations 7 Council/NRW/Other Partners

SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing	Action	Delivery
	<p>8. Integrate open access land into the wider open space and movement networks through the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan.</p> <p>9. Enhance existing and develop new country park events to encourage outdoor recreation.</p> <p>10. Promote commercial and economic (tourist/recreation) proposals through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unlocking the potential of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal ● Delivery of a visitor and Education centre at Parc Penallta ● Delivery of a visitor and education facility and accommodation at Penyfan Pond Country Park ● Delivery of the North Sirhowy Valley Country Park and Hub ● Delivery of a conference and education centre at Markham Colliery 	<p>8 Council/NRW/WG/ Commoners Associations</p> <p>9 Council/NRW/WG/ Other Partners</p> <p>10 Council/WG/EU/Other Partners</p>

SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing	Action	Delivery
<p>Maximise the tourist potential of the Historic and Natural Landscape.</p>	<p>11. Maximise the tourist potential of the county borough's historic environment, Including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consider the potential for providing visitor accommodation at key heritage assets for example Caerphilly Castle, Llancaiach Fawr etc. ● Linking Historic landscapes to country parks as part of themed walks. ● Improve interpretation and awareness of Manmoel and Gelligaer historic landscapes. 	<p>11 Council/WG/CADW/ Commoners Associations, Welsh Historic Gardens Trust/Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings/GGAT/Georgian Group/ Victorian Society/ Ancient Monuments Society</p>

SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing	Action	Delivery
<p>Balance the need for development and protection of Green Infrastructure.</p>	<p>12. Balance the need for development against the loss of non-protected sites of importance.</p> <p>13. Development and management of an integrated and connected green infrastructure.</p> <p>14. Improve the management of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) to minimise the detrimental impacts of human interaction.</p> <p>15. Promote the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rolling out the Country Parks Healthy Hearts programme ● Improve interpretation of benefits of country parks for mental health ● Enhance health service grounds through landscaping to provide to benefit ● Increase the cardio rehab programme <p>16. Protect and manage important rural spaces such as Mynydd Maen, Caerphilly Mountain, Twmbarlwm and the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal as regeneration objectives to maximise their tourist and recreational benefits.</p> <p>17. Diversify the recreational use of important green infrastructure accommodates to enhance their protection and importance.</p>	<p>12 Council/NRW/WG</p> <p>13 Council/NRW/WG</p> <p>14 Council/NRW/WG</p> <p>15 Council/NRW/WG/ Aneurin Bevan Health Board Lottery</p> <p>16 Council/NRW/WG</p> <p>17 Council/NRW/WG</p>

SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing	Action	Delivery
<p>Maximise the economic benefits of Country Parks.</p>	<p>18 Actively promote country parks for outdoor recreational activity and their benefits for physical and mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>19 Develop an enhanced corporate events strategy for the country parks to maximise their benefits.</p> <p>20. Diversify the Country Parks to capitalise on tourism opportunities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of a water Recreation Strategy ● Building on the Urban Beach at Penyfan Pond <p>21. Integrate country park management and enhancement into regeneration objectives to support their economic future, including.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of the Valleys Landscape Park ● Implementation of Landscape Strategies ● Development of the Uplands Project <p>22. Ensure that green infrastructure is an integral issue in the development of regional plans and strategies (economic, tourism and land use).</p>	<p>18 Council/NRW/WG, Aneurin Bevan Health Board/Lottery</p> <p>19 Council/NRW/WG/ Other Partners</p> <p>20 Council/NRW/ WG/Aneurin Bevan Health Board/Lottery/ Community Groups</p> <p>21 Council/NRW/WG/ Cardiff Capital Region</p> <p>22 Council/NRW/WG/ Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet</p>



SQL2: Improve access to culture, leisure and the arts	Action	Delivery
Improving access to culture and the arts and recreation, leisure and open space provision throughout the county borough.	<p>23. Ensure development/redevelopment within settlements does not result in overdevelopment or the unacceptable loss of open space.</p> <p>24. Establish a wider programme of interpretation for the historic landscape of the county borough from Stone age to present day.</p> <p>25. Develop further visitor facilities including the RDP Conference and Education Centre.</p> <p>26. Increase the level of outdoor recreation and leisure facilities to meet future demands and FIT standards, particularly in the Caerphilly Basin.</p> <p>27. Improve the provision, quality and accessibility of play and sports pitch provision throughout the county borough.</p> <p>28. Examine the feasibility of increasing public access to school based sports facilities outside of school hours.</p> <p>29. Increase provision and quality of useable allotment space throughout the county borough through new provision and minimising unusable space on existing sites.</p>	<p>23 Council, NRW, WG, Developers</p> <p>24 Council/NRW/WG/GGAT</p> <p>25 Council/NRW/WG</p> <p>26 Council/WG/Private Sector</p> <p>27 Council/WG/Private Sector</p> <p>28 Council/WG</p> <p>29 Council/WG/Private Sector</p>

SQL3: Active Place Making	Action	Delivery
<p>Proactively encourage Active Place Making to exploit major development opportunities and set out a programme of investment/masterplan to help unlock funding.</p>	<p>30. Prepare a masterplan for Caerphilly Basin that sets out development and investment opportunities for the comprehensive regeneration of the area.</p> <p>31. Prepare Masterplans for the strategic hub of Caerphilly/Ystrad Mynach (as identified by the Valleys Taskforce) to inform investment decisions.</p> <p>32. Prepare Masterplans for Rhymney/Bargoed Strategic Hub, Oakdale/Blackwood Strategic Hub, Ebbw Valley/Risca Strategic Hub to coordinate major development opportunities and enhancement and inform a programme of investment.</p> <p>33. Enhance and diversify the offer within county borough's town centres to retain more expenditure within the local economy.</p> <p>34. Promote the county borough as a hub for countryside recreation, with the country parks as an essential component, to serve the needs of adjoining authorities.</p>	<p>30 Council</p> <p>31 Council</p> <p>32 Council</p> <p>33 Council/private sector</p> <p>34 Council/NRW/WG/ Other Local Authorities</p>

SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic, natural environment and heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents.	Action	Delivery
<p>Develop more diversified tourism employment opportunities in the Cardiff Capital Region. This requires a co-ordinated approach that links the city in its role as the Capital with the wider city region, including Caerphilly.</p>	<p>35. Work with neighbouring local authorities and key stakeholders to develop a Destination Investment Plan to exploit the network of tourism facilities within the region for the benefit of the regional economy.</p>	<p>35 Visit Wales/Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet/Council/Private Sector</p>
<p>Work with partners to build on, and add to, the existing tourist attractions in the County Borough in order to increase the attractiveness of the area for visitors, increase dwell time and footfall and increase tourist expenditure.</p>	<p>36. Develop a positive narrative for tourism in the Valleys and identify projects to meet current and future tourism demand, focusing on those areas of competitive advantage such as mountain biking, cycling, walking, heritage and activity tourism.</p> <p>37. Work with the private sector to develop new high quality attractions and activity products, particularly those providing distinctive and unique experiences that can attract visitors all year round.</p> <p>38. Develop Caerphilly's reputation as a destination for Activity and Heritage holidays.</p> <p>39. Work with NRW to assess the options for and develop the Activity and Adventure Hub offer at Cwmcarn Forest Drive.</p>	<p>36, 37, 38 Visit Wales/ Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet/Council/Private Sector/Local History Groups/Natural Resources Wales.</p> <p>39 Council/Natural Resources Wales.</p>



SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic, natural environment and heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents.	Action	Delivery
	<p>40. Promote increased access to Llancaiach Fawr Manor in order to capitalise upon the recent Heritage Lottery Investment works.</p> <p>41. Develop visitor amenities at the Welsh National Mining Memorial Site at Senghenydd in conjunction with Aber Valley Heritage Group to increase visitors and dwell time within the area.</p> <p>42. Develop a long-term regeneration masterplan for Navigation Colliery which will provide a fully costed framework and programme for the restoration of the site and buildings, including cost estimates, potential end uses, soft market testing of proposals and a full Business Plan.</p>	<p>40, 41, 42 Council/Private Sector/Local</p>
<p>Facilitate the development of good quality, well located, visitor accommodation in the county borough to address the current shortage.</p>	<p>43. Work with the private sector to identify sites suitable for new visitor accommodation to serve a wide range of demands, from quality high end accommodation to glamping.</p> <p>44. Identify prime sites for new high quality accommodation in close proximity to existing and proposed Metro Hubs.</p>	<p>43, 44 Council/Private Sector</p>

SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic, natural environment and heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents.	Action	Delivery
Develop existing attractions to cater for Business and Events to enhance their commercial viability and sustainability and increase employment opportunities.	45. Investigate opportunities to make use of underused venues and locations to cater for business users and events. 46. Promote and capitalise upon Caerphilly's high profile to attract and deliver nationally significant events in partnership with Welsh Government's Major Events Unit and local authorities. 47. Build on past and current positive engagement with local art, craft and food and drink producers – promoting opportunities to add value through co-operation, support and networks.	45 Council/Other Public Sector/Third Sector/Private Sector 46 Council 47 Council, Private Sector
Develop the night time economy to attract visitors to stay in the county borough overnight.	48. Support initiatives which promote a mixture of uses including commercial leisure and tourism uses such as restaurants, theatres, art galleries, museums, visitor centres etc., within town centres to increase dwell time, footfall and the night time economy and enhance the attractiveness of the area as a destination in its own right.	48 Visit Wales/Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet/Council/Private Sector
Provide young people with better advice in respect of employment opportunities in the tourism sector and the educational/skills needed to access them.	49. Work with the training providers and in particular the education sector to provide the skills necessary to exploit the economic opportunities that can be derived from a thriving tourism sector.	49 Council/WG/Careers Wales/Coleg Gwent/Coleg y Cymoedd/LSkiP

SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic, natural environment and heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents.	Action	Delivery
Use the opportunities provided by the Metro to improve the connectivity and visibility of the County Borough as a key tourism destination within the Cardiff Capital Region.	50. Promote the accessibility and connectivity of the county borough in order to increase visitor numbers by means of public transport. 51. Work with Transport for Wales and the Metro operator to ensure that the county borough has a fast reliable Metro service in the evening and at weekends. 52. Continue to develop the National and local cycle network through the county borough to link to tourism attractions.	50 Council/WG/City Deal/ Valleys Task Force 51 TfW/Metro operator / Council/WG/City Deal/ Valleys Task Force 52 Council/WG/Sustrans



SQL 5: Improve the delivery of new housing and diversify housing across all tenures.	Action	Delivery
There continues to be a shortage of good-quality, affordable housing.	53. Use the opportunities provided by the South Wales Metro to reinvigorate housing in the north of the County Borough;	53, 54, 55, 57, 58 59
There is a need to improve the delivery of new housing across the whole of the county borough.	54 Widen housing choice by unlocking stalled housing sites;	Partnership between Housing associations/ volume and local house builders/public sector /landowners/Cardiff Capital Region/WG
The housing stock across all tenures needs to diversify.	55. Support local builders to build the homes people need e.g. plot shop, custom build, local development orders;	56, WG, Council/ Cardiff Capital Region/ developer partners
	56. Use innovative Finance models and the release of public sector land to increase housing land supply;	56, WG, Council/ Cardiff Capital Region/ developer partners
	57. Encourage the development of housing for the elderly on Council owned sites;	60, WG/Council/ Cardiff Capital Region/ developer partners
	58. Improve the viability of housing development in marginal areas (particularly in the north of the county borough) through innovative delivery mechanisms;	60, WG/Council/ Cardiff Capital Region/ developer partners
	59. Work with housing partners to pilot projects that contribute to sustainable communities.	
	60. Work in partnership with the RDP Team and Coed Cymru to explore the feasibility of local timber and hardwood in the construction of new homes.	

SQL6: Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention; particularly in terms of Council owned housing stock.	Action	Delivery
Investment of £200 million to ensure that all local authority homes are improved and maintained to achieve Welsh Housing Quality Standard.	61. Continued implementation of the WHQS to improve the quality of Council owned housing stock and the use of the investment as a catalyst to achieving wider objectives of new jobs and training opportunities for local people whilst strengthening local supply chains.	61 WG/Council
Support initiatives that seek to improve the energy efficiency of homes as 25% of households within the borough are experiencing fuel poverty.	62. Work with partners and energy providers to improve the energy efficiency of homes.	62 WG/Council/Energy Providers

SQL 7: Refocus town centres to serve the needs of residents and businesses.	Action	Delivery
There is a need to retain more expenditure within the local economy.	63. Work with Town Centre Management Team to attract National Retailers and quality independent retailers to locate in Town Centres.	63,64,65,66,67,68 Council/Private Sector
There is a need to identify redevelopment opportunities to enhance and diversify the existing offer within Town Centres to make them attractive places to live, work and visit.	64. Prepare a revised suite of town centre action plans that challenge the traditional model of town centres, based on what communities want and need. 65. Support initiatives which promote a mixture of housing, retail, business and leisure within town centres to increase dwell time, footfall and the night time economy.	
There is a need to develop the night time economy to attract people to live and work in the county borough.	66. Explore the opportunities provided by the transfer of parking enforcement to the Council from the Police. 67. Work with business to explore opportunities to initiate and attract new cultural and leisure events in town centres, such as Music Festivals e.g. Proms in the Park, Big Cheese.	
There is a pressing need to increase footfall and dwell time in Town Centres.	68. Examine feasibility of providing opportunities for local producers to trial sale of produce within Town Centres.	

Connecting People & Places

Regeneration and investment should address both social and physical exclusion whilst improving employment rates. A key element required to achieve this is increasing connectivity between people and places. Connectivity, or accessibility, in this respect is not a single issue, but a complex series of interconnected issues relating to both the circumstances of the residents of the county borough as well as the barriers to accessing places, facilities and services.

This section addresses connectivity in terms of the physical accessibility to services facilities, employment and places. However, it is important to note that connectivity should also reflect the fact that there are barriers that prevent people's accessibility to employment, services and facilities that are beyond physical accessibility. In terms of employment a lack of skills and poor educational achievement decrease accessibility to higher paid jobs.

It is, therefore, important to ensure that people can access services, jobs, training and education to enable them to gain the skills, particularly the digital skills, necessary to access those opportunities that are available.

City Deal, the £1.25 billion funding package for the Cardiff Capital Region, seeks to promote economic growth throughout the region. A key element, and significant part of its committed funding, relates to the Capital Region Metro, whose aim is to provide an expandable and sustainable transport system that delivers a high-quality, reliable, efficient and economically sustainable transport network that links communities with all major commercial, social and leisure attractors. The Metro represents the single biggest investment in transport infrastructure in Wales. The Metro will underpin the region's future economic growth and facilitate the spread of jobs and prosperity throughout the

Region. A corollary of the development of the Metro will be the potential for Metro stations and interchanges to become focal points for new economic developments that will benefit from the increased accessibility and connectivity that these locations will have.

Given its location, with excellent connectivity to Cardiff and potential for increasing connectivity east to Newport and north to the Heads of the Valleys area, Caerphilly County Borough is in an excellent position to support and accommodate the anticipated regional economic growth, some of which is currently located in Cardiff. Attracting both people and businesses into the county borough will only have a positive impact on the local economy, as it will encourage people to spend their disposable income in the commercial centres within the county borough.



The Connecting People & Places theme reinforces the need to maximise the economic benefits and opportunities that arise as a result of the unprecedented level of investment that City Deal brings. It highlights and considers opportunities for redevelopment and the co-location of facilities in order to capitalise on the Metro and maximise its positive impacts on local communities. Identifying and capitalising upon Metro opportunities will be central to fostering labour market participation and increasing integration within the city-region economy.

There is a real need to connect people with business and the wider community and the role of digital connectivity is central to this theme. However, whilst achieving digital inclusion is central to embracing opportunities, ensuring access alone is not enough. Take-up is not necessarily increased by a rollout in digital services. Research has shown that access to the internet itself, no matter the speed of connection or ubiquity

of access does not solve inequalities in how people make use of the opportunities available online. Use of the internet is more dependent on underlying socio-economic and socio-cultural issues than might initially be apparent. Therefore, providing training that will enable residents to embrace the opportunities digital technology provides is as equally as important as improving accessibility and digital inclusion.

Our key priorities are:

CPP1: Promote and identify major highway projects that would significantly improve connectivity.

Despite the continued move towards more sustainable forms of transport, the car remains the principal mode of transport for the majority of trips. As a result the efficient operation of the road network is essential to maintaining and improving physical connectivity and accessibility. Congestion on the county borough's highway network results in increased travel times that have negative impacts on the economy, whilst also impeding bus transport, one of the more

sustainable forms of transport. Improving the efficiency of the county borough's highway network is essential to assist in delivering the levels of economic growth to meet the aims of City Deal.

CPP2: Promote Public Transport Integration and Connectivity.

The objective of the Metro is to deliver an integrated, sustainable transport system that comprehensively links the communities throughout the region. Improving the connectivity and integration of the bus transport element, the easiest mode to increase and expand, is a fundamental factor in delivering this objective. Since bus deregulation in 1986, bus service integration has been significantly hampered due to the lack of overall control over services and the numbers of independent service providers that have arisen. It is essential that bus services are integrated more fully between service operators, and with rail services, and the issue of how this is delivered is currently being considered at the regional/Wales level.

Bus serves both local and regional travel needs and, where they link to the rail network, national and international travel needs as well. Integration at all levels will, therefore, have significant positive impacts in improving connectivity and accessibility throughout and beyond the county borough.

CPP3: Promote place-making development around key transport hubs and nodes.

The increased accessibility brought by the implementation of the Metro scheme will make the main interchanges and nodes on the network more attractive to investors and developers. This increased attractiveness provides the opportunity to develop new sites and redevelop existing sites for uses that will complement the settlement and be focussed on the transport node. For smaller nodes this will inevitably mean looking at sites in close proximity to the node. However, for the key transport hubs, sites across a wider distance could be developed/redeveloped to reinforce the economy of the settlement and

maximise the benefits of the transport hub, e.g. development to enhance and expand the retail and commercial offer in Caerphilly town centre can be realised with the increase footfall that the interchange could bring. Economic development around transport hubs and nodes will assist in delivering the economic growth required by City Deal.

CPP4: Actively promote rail improvements and the reinstatement of new links.

The rail services through the county borough are generally well used and there is a significant out-commute each day from the county borough to employment centres at Newport and Cardiff in particular. In order to address the transport requirements associated with the levels of economic growth sought by City Deal, it will be necessary to increase the capacity of the rail system and expand it to maximise opportunities to expand the network to link to settlements currently outside of its reach. The reinstatement of former rail routes will be a key element of

this and the lesser impacts associated with light rail/tram systems would be best suited to deliver these improvements. Another significant part of increasing rail capacity is increasing capacities at park and ride facilities, which will also have the benefit of taking traffic off the strategic highway network for part of their journeys.

CPP5: Reduce the level of out commuting.

Caerphilly county borough's main transport pattern is the daily net out-commute to employment centres outside of the county borough, most notably to Cardiff. The majority of this movement is car-borne and results in significant congestion on the strategic highway network, particularly in the Caerphilly Basin and through Maesycwmmmer. The Metro seeks to deliver a fast and efficient transport system that will, as a corollary, reduce the numbers of cars on the roads and measures to do this are outlined under other headings. However, providing increased employment opportunities within the county borough and

promoting mixed-use development, that will realise linked trips, will assist in reducing the number of car borne trips

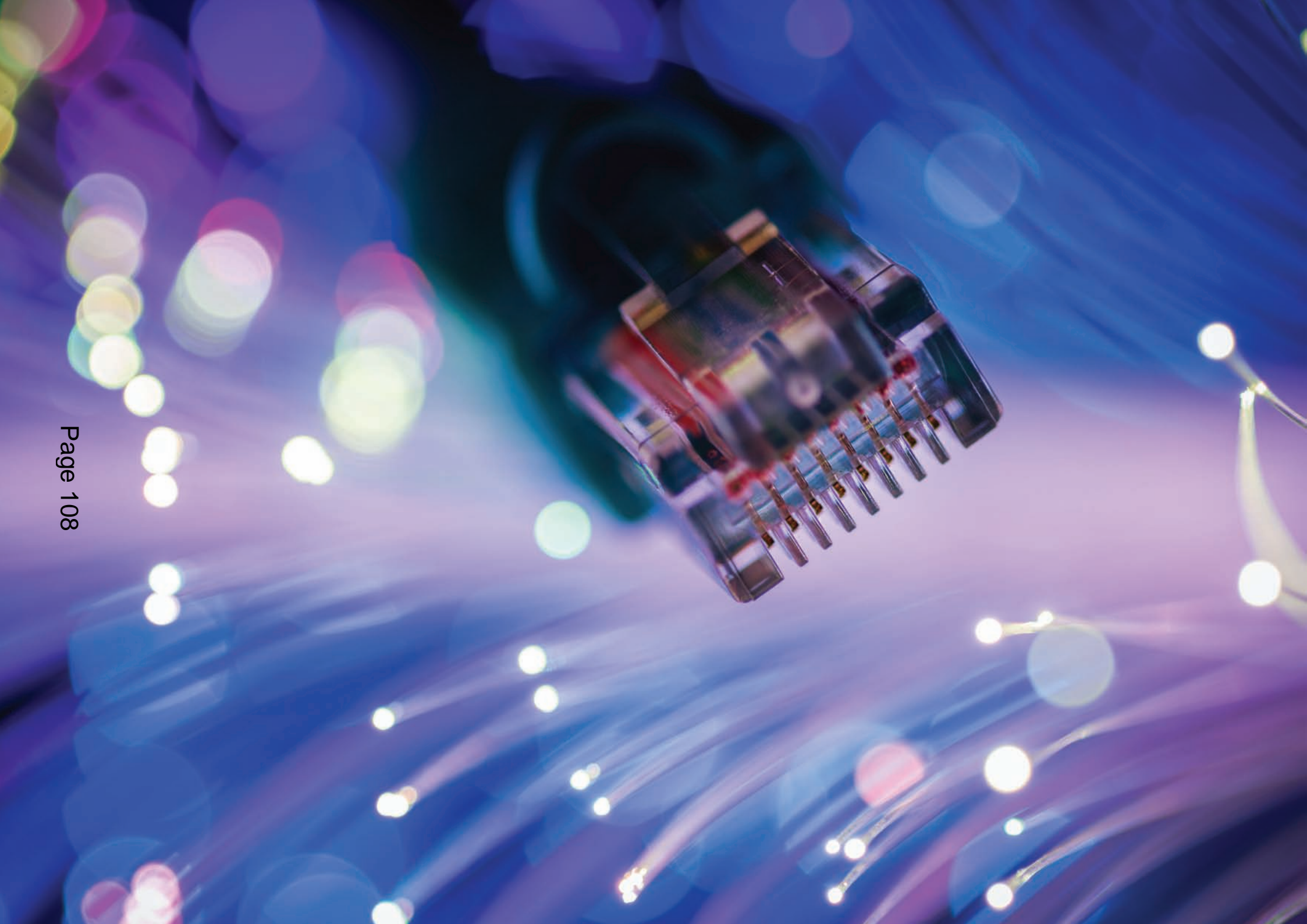
CPP6: Promote digital connectivity. The use of digital technology for business and recreation and leisure uses is continuing to increase which is having significant impacts upon how the settlements of the county borough are operating. This trend towards increasing use of technology is unlikely to stop in the foreseeable future and, as a result, it is essential that the county borough maximises its ability to benefit from increasing digital services. Supporting schemes to increase the extent and speed of super fast broad band (SFBB) is a fundamental part of this. However, it is not the only part as it is equally important that the residents of the county borough have opportunities to upskill so that they not only have the skills necessary to take advantage of the benefits that digital technology brings, but also the skills to be involved in the digital technology business.



CPP1: Promote and identify major highway projects that would significantly improve connectivity and accessibility	Action	Delivery
Improve the efficiency of the highway network.	1. Improve the resilience of the strategic highway network, particularly the A469 to Rhymney.	1 WG/Valleys Task Force/ Council
Reduce Congestion on the Strategic Highway Network.	2. Promote strategic highway and junction improvements on the A472 at Maesycwmmer;	2, 4 WG/City Deal/ Private Sector/CCBC
Improve Air Quality.	3. Promote strategic highway and junction improvements on the A468/A469 Caerphilly Northern Bypass. 4. Early delivery of the Caerphilly South East Bypass; 5. Promote projects that would support and facilitate the early delivery of the Caerphilly South East bypass; 6. Increase the use of electric vehicles and provide the necessary infrastructure to support them.	3 Council (CIL) Private Sector 5 Council/Private Sector/ Metro Place-Making 6 PSB, Council, WG

CPP2: Promote Public Transport Integration and Connectivity.	Action	Delivery
Improve Integration.	7. Improve the integration of bus and rail services at interchanges to improve travel times and connectivity;	7, 8, 9 WG/City Deal/Bus Service Providers
Improve service distribution.	8. Improve public transport services to the principal employment centre of Oakdale, particularly to Blackwood and Crumlin through improving connections and promoting new links and services;	10 WG/Council/Private Sector/Metro/City Deal/Bus Service Providers
New Interchange provision.	9. Provide a new bus interchange on the A472 mid valleys strategic route at Maesycwmmmer to facilitate transition between east-west and north-south services; and 10. Provide a new bus interchange on the A465 Heads of the Valleys road to facilitate transition between east-west A465 bus services and north-south bus routes and the Rhymney rail station.	

CPP3: Promote place-making development around key transport hubs and nodes	Action	Delivery
Focus development on Transport nodes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Promote economic development at key locations on the transport network to realise significant place-making change; 12. Focus development at Caerphilly Business Park/Ness Tar centred on a new metro hub; 13. Maximise the opportunities arising from the reinstatement of Ebbw Vale rail services to Newport. 14. Maximise the development opportunities for economic development arising from the reinstatement of the Cwmbargoed rail line. 15. Maximise development opportunities arising from the reinstated Caerphilly-Newport rail line. 16. Build upon the success of rail by focussing development, particularly employment based development, at rail nodes. 17. Promote economic development around the proposed Llanbradach Park & Ride. 	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 Council/WG/City Deal/ Metro Place-Making programme/Developers



CPP4: Actively promote rail improvements and the reinstatement of new links	Action	Delivery
Improve existing rail services.	18. Provide a major new park and ride facility to serve a relocated Llanbradach rail station, catering for up to around 1000 cars. 19. Seek to increase capacity and availability of rail based park & ride. 20. Promote park and ride/park & share facilities in Nelson to complement development at Ty Du and service a new rail station. 21. Seek to increase carrying capacities on public transport.	18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 WG/City Deal/Metro/ Successful Rail Franchise Bidder/Bus service operators/Council
Reinstatement of former rail route to passenger services.	22. Reinstatement of Cwmbargoed rail line. 23. Reinstatement of the Caerphilly-Newport rail line.	
CPP5: Seek to reduce the level of out commuting	Action	Delivery
Reduce the need to travel.	24. Promote development that would reduce the distance travelled for work.	24, 25 Council/Cardiff Capital Region Cabinet/ WG/Developers
Reduce out-commuting by car.		

CPP6: Promote digital connectivity	Action	Delivery
Increase Broadband speed.	25. Promote initiatives to increase the speed of SFBB;	25 Ofcom/Welsh Government/Broadband infrastructure providers/ ISPs/Local businesses
Increase take up of digital services.	26. Increase SFBB take-up within communities who have high proportions of people outside of categories AB and C1 - achieving this requires more tacit considerations such as education, training and up-skilling with regard to society generally be focused upon;	26 Cardiff Capital Region/City Deal/Welsh Government/Council/ Education and training providers/Relevant business sectors/ Voluntary sector

What happens next?

It is intended that the Draft Strategy will be reported to the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 13 February and Cabinet on 14 February 2018, prior to a full public consultation exercise in March/April 2018. This document will form the basis of discussion for a series of targeted workshops that will take place during the consultation period with both PSB Partners and both the private and voluntary sector, providing all interested parties with an opportunity to participate in the consultation.

Following the consultation, the Draft Strategy will be amended and reported to Council for approval in June 2018

The Delivery Plan

Once approved, work will commence on the Delivery Plan. This contains projects, initiatives and strategies aimed at delivering the actions identified under each theme of the strategy. The purpose of the Delivery Plan is to develop

programmes and projects to make them more readily implementable and able to exploit funding opportunities more readily.

The Delivery Plan will contain a suite of documents capable of delivering the actions identified in the Strategy, the first of which is 'The Caerphilly Basin Masterplan' that will be reported alongside the Draft Strategy and consulted upon simultaneously.

How will it be delivered?

A multi agency Regeneration Advisory Board will be set up to facilitate and prioritise the implementation of 'A Foundation for Success'. The Regeneration Advisory Board will consist of representatives from the Council, PSB Partners and identified private sector representatives in order to ensure actions are not only implementable, but have a commercial appreciation and are understood in the context of the evolving Regional and Sub-Regional agenda.



Appendix 1 - Well-being of Future Generations

The Strategy has had regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Goal	How it will be achieved by 'A Foundation for Success'
A prosperous Wales	Employment, Education and Up-skilling is the best protection against poverty and its impacts. A number of the actions identified will increase employment, education and up-skilling and boost enterprise within the County Borough. Working in partnership with business and industry the strategy seeks to increase the availability of jobs and identify opportunities to enhance access for residents to those jobs.
A resilient Wales	'A Foundation for Success' seeks to equip people to break the cycle of poverty, spread opportunity and enable people to fulfil their ambitions and enhance their wellbeing, reducing inequality, improving health, educational attainment, upskilling and helping people secure employment.
A healthier Wales	'A Foundation for Success' seeks to support Interventions to improve health, address diet, physical activity or any lifestyle behaviours that may predispose people to behave in a certain way where there are complex social and environmental factors at play
A more equal Wales	'A Foundation for Success' supports our most deprived communities through a multiagency approach to eradicate poverty and create vibrant communities where people want to live and work. The actions identified will increase employment opportunities whilst recognising the challenges experienced in the more deprived communities in order to improve equality.
A Wales of cohesive communities	'A Foundation for Success' recognises that regeneration and investment should address both social and physical exclusion. A key element required to achieve this is increasing connectivity between people and places, and supporting quality of life. Supporting quality of life is about creating a sustainable environment for current and future generations to enjoy by improving and maintaining features of the physical and natural environment and joining up things that most affect people's lives.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	'A Foundation for Success' seeks to improve access to culture, leisure and the arts in order to improve social and economic wellbeing. It recognises that culture, the arts, sports and leisure are important elements of vibrant and viable communities. The strategy will be made available in Welsh.
A globally responsive Wales	The actions proposed will all contribute towards improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of those living, working or visiting Caerphilly.

The development of 'A Foundation for Success' has also been informed by the five ways of working.

Involvement - 'A Foundation for Success' has been developed through engagement workshops with a number of key stakeholders, including businesses, Elected Members, the Youth Forum Cabinet and key representatives. A full public consultation will also be carried out to obtain the views of wider stakeholders.

Collaborate – The development of 'A Foundation for Success' has drawn upon the expertise from key representatives from across local authority departments. The delivery of the actions identified within the strategy will involve collaboration between the public, private and third sectors.

Long term – The objectives identified, and the actions that will deliver these objectives, are part of a longer-term vision of enhancing Caerphilly County Borough and builds upon the long term vision to make the County

Borough more prosperous, resilient, healthy and more equal with strong cohesive communities.

Integration – 'A Foundation for Success' builds upon and is informed by the work undertaken by the Public Service Board and other departments within the Council. It does not seek to duplicate other relevant Council strategies but it does take account of and will deliver against the Council's own Well-being Objectives for 2017/18 by identifying actions that will:

- lead to job creation and training opportunities
- help address poverty
- promote more active and healthy lifestyles
- reduce the carbon footprint through improved active travel routes and facilities locally

Prevention – 'A Foundation for Success' recognises that there are a number of challenges that need to be addressed in order

to achieve the Vision. The actions identified aim to address key issues so that they do not worsen. 'A Foundation for Success' is set out under 4 strategic themes, each with a slightly different focus; these are Supporting People, Supporting Business, Supporting Quality of Life, and Connecting People and Places. The actions identified under each of these themes will improve the quality of life for those living, working and visiting Caerphilly.

Caerphilly Basin *Masterplan*

Consultation Draft
February 2018



The Caerphilly Basin Masterplan

Section 1: Introduction

- 1.1 This masterplan sets out the future development and regeneration opportunities proposed for the Caerphilly town centre within the context of the wider Caerphilly Basin. It seeks to build on the existing strengths of Caerphilly to ensure that the town enhances its role as a retail, tourist and employment centre, supported by new housing development in sustainable places.
- 1.2 There is an exciting opportunity to facilitate significant change through the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal, which will provide resources to unlock significant economic growth in the region, delivering jobs and private sector investment. This Masterplan identifies a number of projects within Caerphilly town centre and the wider Caerphilly Basin that could benefit from City Deal or other potential funding mechanisms to deliver substantial economic benefits.
- 1.3 The City Deal Investment Fund will also facilitate the delivery of the South East Wales Metro, which will make substantial improvements to connectivity by public transport across the region. Caerphilly has the potential to be a key metro hub due to its central location in the region and the masterplan sets out how this opportunity can be maximised.
- 1.4 Furthermore, the area of Caerphilly and Ystrad Mynach has been identified as a Strategic Hub by the Valleys Task Force as an area where public money is focused to provide opportunities for the private sector to invest and create new jobs.
- 1.5 The key aim of this masterplan is therefore to harness these exciting opportunities and provide a framework for taking Caerphilly forward into the future. This masterplan is flexible and has the ability to adapt to changing economic and market conditions and meet the requirements and aspirations of both the private and public sector over this period through regular review. It is recognised that there are some projects that can be delivered within the short to medium term. However, in order to deliver long term regeneration goals, there is an aspiration to redevelop a number of key sites within the town.
- 1.6 The masterplan has been prepared within the context of the adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP), which sets out the Council's land use objectives for the county borough in the period up to 2021, but it also sets longer term goals to ensure that the momentum of change extends into the next decade.
- 1.7 The Council has also prepared 'A Foundation for Success' - the Regeneration Strategy for the county borough, which sets out four key themes that need to be addressed - Supporting Business, Connecting People and Places, Supporting People and Supporting Quality of Life. The Caerphilly Basin Masterplan is the first of a number of area-specific strategies that identify projects that will help address key issues and objectives set out within the wider Regeneration Strategy.

Section 2: The Vision for Caerphilly Basin

- 2.1 Central to the Vision for Caerphilly is the ability to enhance its primary role as a sub-regional retail destination and maximise its potential as a key tourist destination. Stakeholder events have identified a number of key themes on the future role for the town, recognising the need for retail led regeneration, the role of Caerphilly as a tourist destination linked to Caerphilly Castle and balancing the need for development with maintaining and improving the quality of life for existing residents. The Vision for the Caerphilly Basin is also linked to the Vision for the county borough as a whole, as set out within the Council's Regeneration Strategy.
- 2.2 The Vision is as follows:

“To develop and enhance Caerphilly as a tourist destination in its own right. It will be a thriving, vibrant town that is well served by the Metro, with an expanded visitor and night time offer and a growing economy. It is a place where businesses want to locate, develop and grow and where people want to live, work, visit and socialise.

It will be a community where everyone is empowered to participate and make a difference, where local achievements are celebrated and visitors are welcomed and residents are proud to say they are from.”

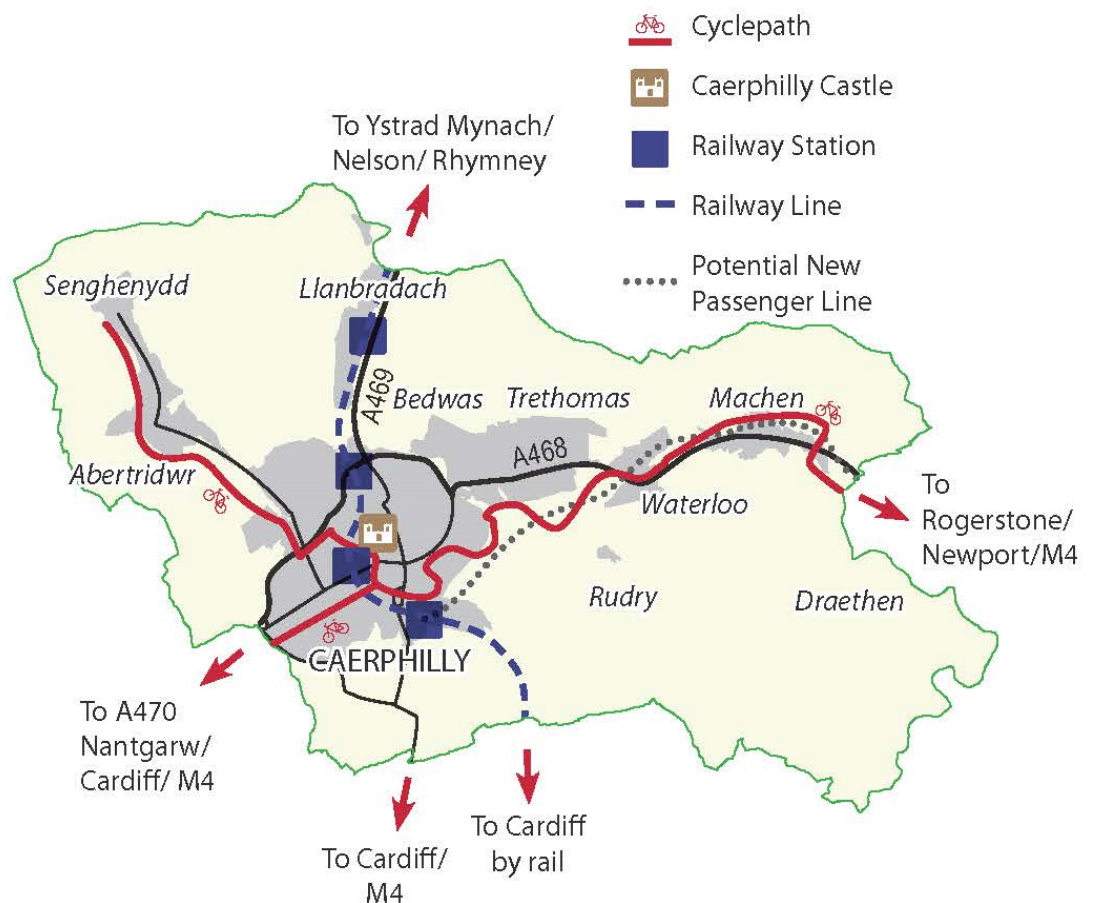
- 2.3 The Vision for the town will be supported by a series of Strategic Objectives which will drive its delivery and translate directly into a series of projects and actions that:
- A. **Enhance the retail offer in the town** – build on the existing retail base and identify opportunities to develop new modern retail units to attract new retailers and opportunities to enhance the town centre offer;
 - B. **Create a vibrant and accessible visitor destination** – identify opportunities to broaden the tourism offer within the town and create a town centre that has a strong day and night time economy which is accessible by all modes of transport with clear signage and enhanced parking and cycling facilities;
 - C. **Maximise the presence of Caerphilly Castle** – exploit the presence of the castle and create a more diverse and unique town centre that attracts residents to shop in the area and results in visitors' increased dwell time, including quality accommodation for short breaks;
 - D. **Improve the key gateways** – focus on key buildings and approaches into the town and diversify the mix of uses which also incorporates quality town centre accommodation that is attractive to young professionals;
 - E. **Create the conditions for the area to become a thriving Metro Hub** – optimise the use of the area around Caerphilly Station to create a thriving hub of enterprise and a modern, well designed arrival point for residents and visitors to the town;
 - F. **Improve connectivity within the Caerphilly Basin and to other areas** – improve connections by all modes of transport across the Caerphilly Basin and to other area;
 - G. **Provide the conditions to strengthen employment opportunities** – provide support to businesses and organisations within the local economy to expand and provide a range of jobs, and build capacity to enhance the contribution of the foundational economy;

- H. **Support the development of housing, including affordable housing, together with the necessary infrastructure on previously developed land and in sustainable locations within settlements** – identify key residential opportunities that can be unlocked on brownfield sites and other sites that accord with planning policy, including as part of mixed use developments;
- I. **Provide a suitable level of community leisure and education facilities to support the potential level of population and housing growth in the Caerphilly Basin** – identify the key facilities that provide important services to the population including the leisure centre, outdoor recreational and play space and schools and ensure that these facilities meet future needs;
- J. **Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes** - a cross-cutting objective that recognise that people are disabled more by poor design, inaccessible services and other people's attitudes than by their own impairment.
- K. **Ensure all of Caerphilly's communities are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan** - ensure that the proposals identified in the Masterplan has positive outputs for those that are living in the most deprived communities in Caerphilly Basin, particularly Lansbury Park, and that these residents can engage in the process.

Section 3: The Study Area

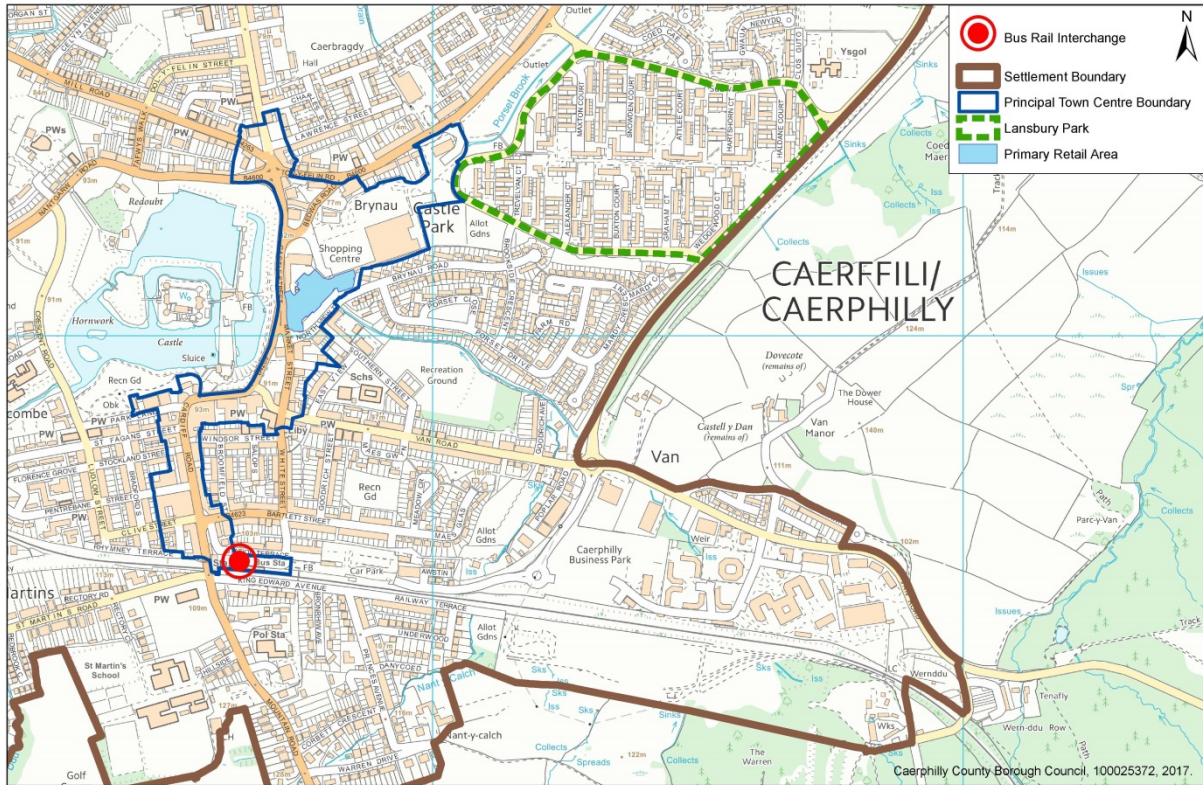
- 3.1 The Caerphilly Basin is located in the southern part of Caerphilly County Borough, comprising the town of Caerphilly (incorporating the wards of Morgan Jones, St James, St Martins and Penyrheol), together with the Aber Valley (Abertridwr and Senghenydd) to the north west of the town, Llanbradach to the north and the communities of Bedwas, Trethomas, Machen, Graig y Rhacca, Waterloo, Rudry and Draethen to the east. The 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates indicated that the Caerphilly Basin had a population of 56,300 people.
- 3.2 The town is located directly north of Cardiff, with good connectivity by road (A469/A470) to Cardiff and the M4 and a frequent rail service (every 15 minutes) to Cardiff. There are four railway stations in the Caerphilly Basin, which is part of the Rhymney Valley line - Llanbradach, Energlyn and Churchill Park, Aber and Caerphilly, with the latter two stations offering large park and ride facilities. There is also a road link to Newport (via A468) and there are proposals identified as part of Phase 3 of the Metro project to re-instate the Caerphilly to Newport railway line for public transport.

Figure 1: Map of Caerphilly Basin



- 3.3 Whilst the study area of the Masterplan is the wider Caerphilly Basin, many of the key regeneration and development opportunities are located within the town centre. The insert below identifies the town centre boundary as identified within the adopted LDP, where the primary function is currently retail, together with immediate surrounding areas where a number of other regeneration and development opportunities exist.

Figure 2: Map of Caerphilly Town Centre



Section 4: The Context

- 4.1 In providing the context to the masterplan it is important to understand the key opportunities that currently exist in Caerphilly Basin.

Opportunities

- **Cardiff Capital Region City Deal:** The City Deal for the region will provide an unprecedented level of funding for projects with the aim of promoting economic growth and job creation throughout the region, including addressing skills gaps and shortages. Whilst the overall aim is to generate economic growth, and a significant part of the £1.25 billion funding will be utilised to realise this aim, the largest proportion of the funding will be used to deliver the Capital Region Metro. The Metro concept is for a regional transport system that provides a high-quality, reliable, efficient and economically sustainable transport network to support the proposed economic growth within the region. Caerphilly's location, in the heart of the region together with its economic and transport opportunities, places it in a strong position to contribute to the delivery of the aims and objectives of both City Deal and the Metro and which would deliver significant benefits from this funding.
- **Our Valleys, Our Future:** The Ministerial Taskforce for the South Wales Valleys identifies Caerphilly, together with Ystrad Mynach, as a Strategic Hub focusing on housing, tourism and cultural development, town centre redevelopment and the creation of employment hubs linked to Metro. This will be an area where public money is focused to provide opportunities for the private sector to invest and create new jobs.
- **Retail Floorspace:** The existing town centre retail floorspace in Caerphilly is estimated at 50,000 gross sq m with a further 24,000 gross sq m at Gallagher Retail Park. Caerphilly has representation from a number of national retailers including Argos, Sports Direct, Superdrug and Peacocks and annual footfall rates over the last three years has remained steady at 1.5 million per annum. The number of national retailers that can locate within the town is constrained by the size and nature of the existing retail units, but there is the potential to expand the range of multiple retailers within the town centre through the reconfiguration and redevelopment of existing land.
- **Retail Expenditure:** The proximity to Cardiff means that there is a high leakage of retail expenditure outside of the county borough. The Shopper Attitude Survey (2014) indicates that there is a massive outflow of expenditure on goods, such as clothing and footwear, and furniture and carpets. Only 20% of residents shop at centres within the county borough boundary for non-bulky goods and only 33% for bulky goods. There is potential for Caerphilly town to strengthen its position as a sub-regional centre by increasing the opportunity for shopping within the town in order to retain spend.
- **Tourism:** The town's 13th Century Medieval castle is the largest in Wales and second largest in Europe, and is a significant tourist draw, attracting 130,000 visitors in 2016. However, the dwell time for visitors is low and there is significant opportunity to expand the tourism offer to increase that dwell time and increase visitor spend in the town. Caerphilly regularly hosts a number of successful events that attract visitors including the Caerphilly Food Festival, The Big Cheese and the Caerphilly 10k. There are opportunities to expand the events programme further and develop additional event space in the town.
- **Night Time Economy:** Improvements to accommodation and the leisure and night time economy (including pubs, restaurants and accommodation) remain essential,

coupled with ongoing town centre and environmental improvements. The clustering of these services around the key tourist hub, in this case the castle, presents an opportunity to increase the dwell time within the town.

- **Leisure Facilities:** The existing leisure centre is ageing and in need of refurbishment or replacement to enhance the building fabric, reduce ongoing maintenance liabilities and importantly to ensure that the customer offer is modernised, varied and capable of meeting future demand (i.e. future proofing). Opportunities to refurbish or redevelop the Centre will be explored. New outdoor recreation and play space will also be provided within Caerphilly as an integral part of new housing developments.
- 4.2 In order to promote change, it is important to recognise the challenges that the town faces in achieving the Vision. These challenges have been identified through consultation with stakeholders.

Challenges

- **'Two towns':** There are two distinct parts to Caerphilly: the Castle Court shopping centre, which opened in the 1990s and offers a range of larger units that are mainly occupied by national retailers; and the Cardiff Road 'top of town' area, which comprises a number of smaller shop units together with a range of services and A3 uses. There is a disconnect between the two areas; as a steep hill is seen to be a physical and psychological barrier to movement between them. Planning permission was granted in 2007 for a new mixed use development at the 'top of town' comprising 6,000 sq m of A1 retail floorspace, A3 uses, offices, leisure and apartments. This was not implemented as a result of changing economic circumstances and there has been little interest in locating on Cardiff Road from national retailers since.
- **Connectivity:** Many visitors travelling to the town will arrive at Caerphilly Interchange without a sense of arrival as the relationship between the Interchange, the town and the castle is extremely poor.
- **Funding:** Many regeneration schemes will need to be supported by grant funding, which is limited. The loss of EU funding as a result of Brexit will reduce the opportunities for funding bids. It is unclear at this stage how this will be offset by the UK Government.
- **Night time economy:** The current night-time economy is poor. Whilst there are several pubs, there is no regular evening entertainment within the town such as a cinema, theatre or bowling complex and only a limited choice of restaurants.
- **Air Quality:** Part of Caerphilly Town Centre is designated an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) due to high levels of nitrogen dioxide, primarily as a result of queuing traffic. An Air Quality Action Plan has been prepared, which sets out options for mitigation. The impact of any proposals on traffic movement and potential consequences for the AQMA will need to be given due consideration.
- **Parking:** There are a number of car parks serving the town. The general use pay-and-display car parks at Crescent Road, The Twyn, Bedwas Road and Station Terrace provide a total of 287 spaces, of which 19 are for disabled use. In there is also a limited waiting free car park at Castle Court, although this is only for the use of customers of Castle Court. There is limited on-street parking in the Cardiff Road area, whilst parking in the side streets off Cardiff Road is in conflict with residents parking. The lack of available car parking within the town centre is perceived to have a significant impact on town centre footfall.

- **Out of town retailing:** The Gallagher Retail Park on the edge of Caerphilly is currently designated for retail warehousing (bulky goods). However, there are a number of empty units on the site and there is pressure to relax the current restrictions to allow a wider choice of retailers to locate on the site. Whilst investment in the Caerphilly Basin would be welcomed, there may be unintended consequences of relaxing any restrictions at Gallagher, as some existing town centre retailers may choose to relocate out of town, where there is more sufficient, better located and free car parking, resulting in increased vacancy rates in the town centre.
- **Pressure for housing:** Caerphilly Basin is an area where housing demand is high. Due to the lack of a 5 year supply of land for housing (as required by national planning policy) the area is currently vulnerable to applications for housing on sites that are not allocated in the local development plan.
- **An ageing leisure centre which is not fit for purpose in the long term context:** As outlined above the existing leisure centre is ageing with high maintenance liabilities and in its current form is incapable of offering the varied range of services demanded in the 21st century. Investment in the centre is required if the service delivered is to be responsive to a changing population and its modern demands.

Section 5: The Development Strategy

What should the Caerphilly Masterplan be aiming for?

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

Retailing

- 5.2 Retailing is fundamental to the role and function of the town, and a major source of employment. There is evidence of latent demand for additional retailing in Caerphilly to stem the leakage of expenditure outside of the county borough. The analysis in Section 4 acknowledges the challenges for the location of future retailing. Castle Court shopping centre, Cardiff Road and Gallagher Retail Park all have the potential to expand the retail offer, but it is important to understand the role of each of these areas:

- **Castle Court** - this is the primary retail area of the town with a number of national retailers with low vacancy rates. This core area should continue to be the focus for major retailers with options to provide additional units that meet the requirements of modern occupiers being explored.
- **Cardiff Road** - this area currently contains a mix of service providers, A3 uses and independent retailers or multiples selling low value goods. Vacancy rates are higher in this part of town. The size of the units would be more suited to smaller businesses and it is unrealistic for this area to try to compete with Castle Court. It is therefore considered that there should be a consolidation of the role of this part of town, and a focus on developing a mix of thriving independent shops, service provision and cafes/restaurants, together with apartments. The Indoor Market in particular, will have a greater role to play in achieving this.
- **Gallagher Retail Park** - the primary function of this area should remain for retail warehousing to ensure that the role and function of the town centre is not undermined. However this will need to be balanced against the benefits of investment from national retailers who are unable to locate within the town centre by virtue of the lack of available, suitable units.
- **Neighbourhood retailing** - in accordance with national and local planning policy, the strategy does not promote the provision of major retail development outside of designated retail areas, but the development of smaller retail units to support local needs is a key part of promoting sustainable development.

Tourism

- 5.3 There is a need to work more closely with Cadw in order to transform the visitor experience of Caerphilly Castle to be much more immersive and interactive, in order to increase the attractiveness of the castle to a wider range of visitors and to increase dwell time in the castle, the castle grounds and importantly within the town centre.
- 5.4 The Masterplan also seeks to expand the tourist offer in the town centre to encourage day visitors to stay longer and spend more in businesses within Caerphilly. It also seeks to explore new opportunities for additional accommodation within the heart of the town so that visitors have options to stay for short breaks.

- 5.5 There is also the potential to exploit the strong activity tourism market in South Wales through the provision of appropriate accommodation and facilities within the wider Caerphilly Basin.

Leisure and Community Uses

- 5.6 There are a number of key formal and informal open spaces protected for leisure use, and opportunities should be explored to maximise the potential of these areas for recreation and community benefit and to broaden their attractiveness to visitors to the area. Consideration is currently being given to the refurbishment or replacement of Caerphilly Leisure Centre, which is located at Virginia Park, and there should be suitable flexibility to allow the development of a leisure centre on an alternative site if this is considered to be appropriate.

Transport

- 5.7 Opportunities to encourage active travel through improved pedestrian and cycle routes are important and the Masterplan will consider the improvements identified as part of the Active Travel Integrated Network Map. In addition to this the inability of the rail services to carry bicycles, particularly at peak times, means that cycling to work using rail is generally not a viable option. The Masterplan will need to consider improving provision for secure cycle parking and possibly the introduction of an on-street/at station bike hire facility to allow cyclists to leave bikes and use hire bikes to facilitate their movement by rail.
- 5.8 The South East Wales Metro is fundamental to the improvement of public transport and the Masterplan will look to exploit opportunities to create jobs and improve the visual amenity of the town's primary Metro hub at Caerphilly Interchange. It also looks to maximise park and ride opportunities at existing stations.
- 5.9 The adopted LDP safeguards a highway corridor for the possible future construction of a Caerphilly South East Bypass. The construction of a bypass is a potential option to alleviate traffic congestion, and the Caerphilly Air Quality Action Plan references it as a measure to improve air quality within the AQMA. It is important that any future development linked to the redevelopment of land around the Ness Tar site does not prejudice any future route for the bypass.
- 5.10 In addition, the adopted LDP identifies a number of other improvements to the strategic highways network that are necessary to alleviate traffic congestion.

Employment

- 5.11 Caerphilly Business Park, Western, Trecenydd, Pontygwindy, Bedwas House and Pantglas Industrial Estates will continue to be protected for employment use. There are opportunities however to rationalise and redevelop areas within these estates to provide modern units and maximise their use. This will support job creation in a range of industries and provide the potential to increase skills including in those areas where there are identified skills gaps.
- 5.12 The Masterplan also identifies additional land for employment in and around the Metro hub at Caerphilly Station and at Aber Station. It is envisaged this will be through the provision of new commercial and office development that meet the needs of modern businesses. The creation of jobs in close proximity to the town centre will have economic benefits for businesses within the town and importantly will provide employment for people living within the area.

Residential

- 5.13 The adopted LDP promotes a strategy in the Caerphilly Basin of consolidating development within existing settlement boundaries and exploiting brownfield sites where appropriate. This strategy has proved successful and many significant brownfield sites have been redeveloped for housing. There are still brownfield sites remaining, including most notably Windsor Colliery, Waterloo Works, Bedwas Colliery and Ness Tar, and these should continue to be identified as development opportunities, with the latter two sites requiring significant investment to unlock them due to remediation costs and infrastructure requirements.
- 5.14 In addition to these major sites, the redevelopment of sites within the town centre may offer the opportunity for mixed use development, including apartments. The development of new residential units within the town centre will: help diversify the existing housing stock in the town; promote housing in sustainable locations that are well served by public transport; and increase footfall in the town centre. This type of accommodation is likely to appeal to young professionals who may be unable to afford the house prices for similar accommodation in Cardiff.
- 5.15 The Masterplan acknowledges that there is development pressure on a number of greenfield sites in the Caerphilly Basin. The suitability of each site will need to be considered on its merits, having regard to all material planning considerations, including the sustainability of the location and the need to increase the housing land supply.

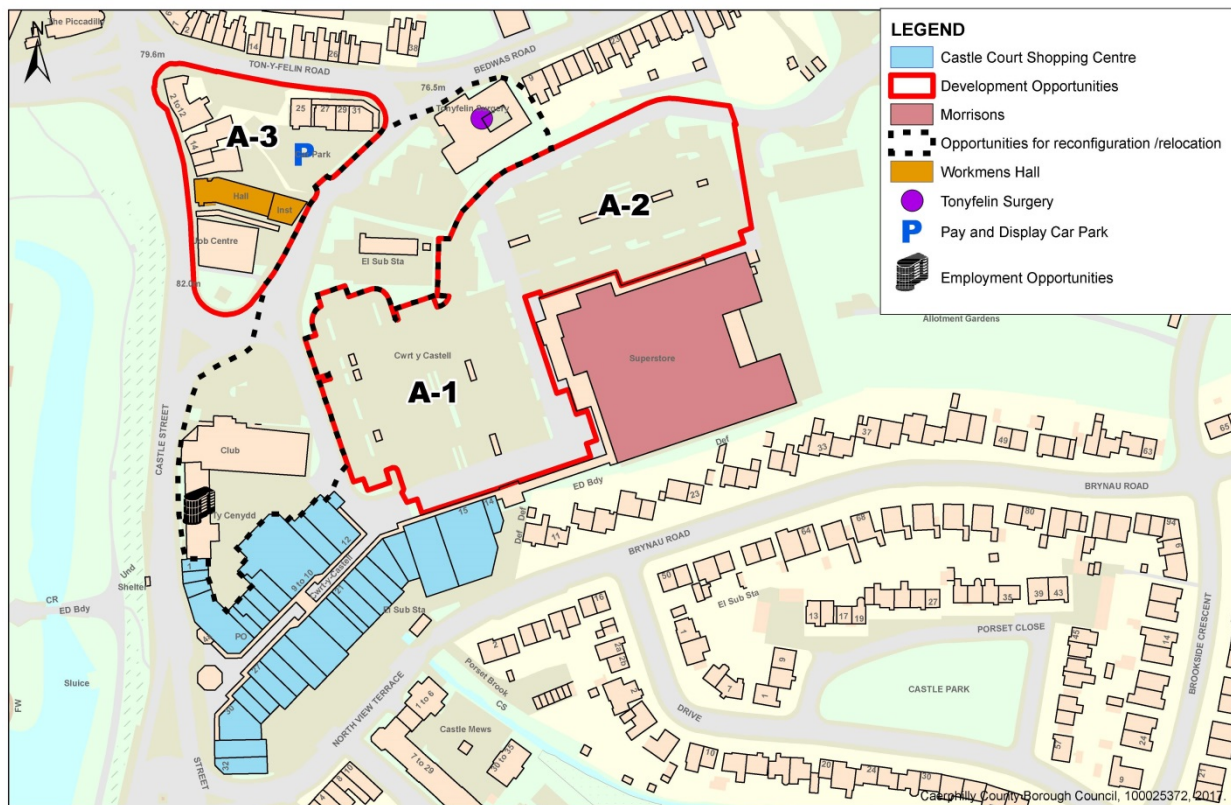
Section 6: The Masterplan Framework

A Enhance the retail offer in the town centre

NORTHERN TOWN CENTRE

6.1 The northern part of the town centre offers a significant opportunity to maximise the use of land, increase retail floorspace and create attractive modern landmark buildings in a prominent position opposite Caerphilly Castle. This could be achieved through the redevelopment of several key sites.

Figure 3: Map of the Northern part of the Town Centre



Morrisons Car Park (A-1 and A-2)

6.2 The Morrisons superstore anchors the northern edge of Caerphilly Town Centre. The superstore car park, which is in private ownership, currently accommodates 540 spaces, extending from the east of Castle Court shopping centre to the north of Morrisons with a total area of 1.52 Ha.

Development Principles

- Castle Court (A-1) to be developed for modern retail units of an appropriate size that could attract multiple retailers into the town centre.
- Opportunity to develop a modern multi-storey car park as a key design feature on the northern part of the car park (A-2) providing increased parking provision for the superstore and wider town centre. The car park should be part of an attractive landscaped environment that encourages footfall from Lansbury Park and the other housing areas to the north and east of the town centre.
- Explore the opportunity to maximise the size of the development site through the relocation of other under-utilised buildings or land in the area.

- A development brief setting out the details should be prepared to support the proposals.

Ton Y Felin Road and Castle Street Triangle (A-3)

6.3 A key redevelopment opportunity is around the triangular site at the apex of the junctions of Ton Y Felin Road, Bedwas Road and Castle Street. There are currently a mix of commercial properties and businesses in the area, together with a pay and display car park, but the development is disjointed and the existing units do not complement the setting of the castle or provide an attractive gateway into the retail centre.

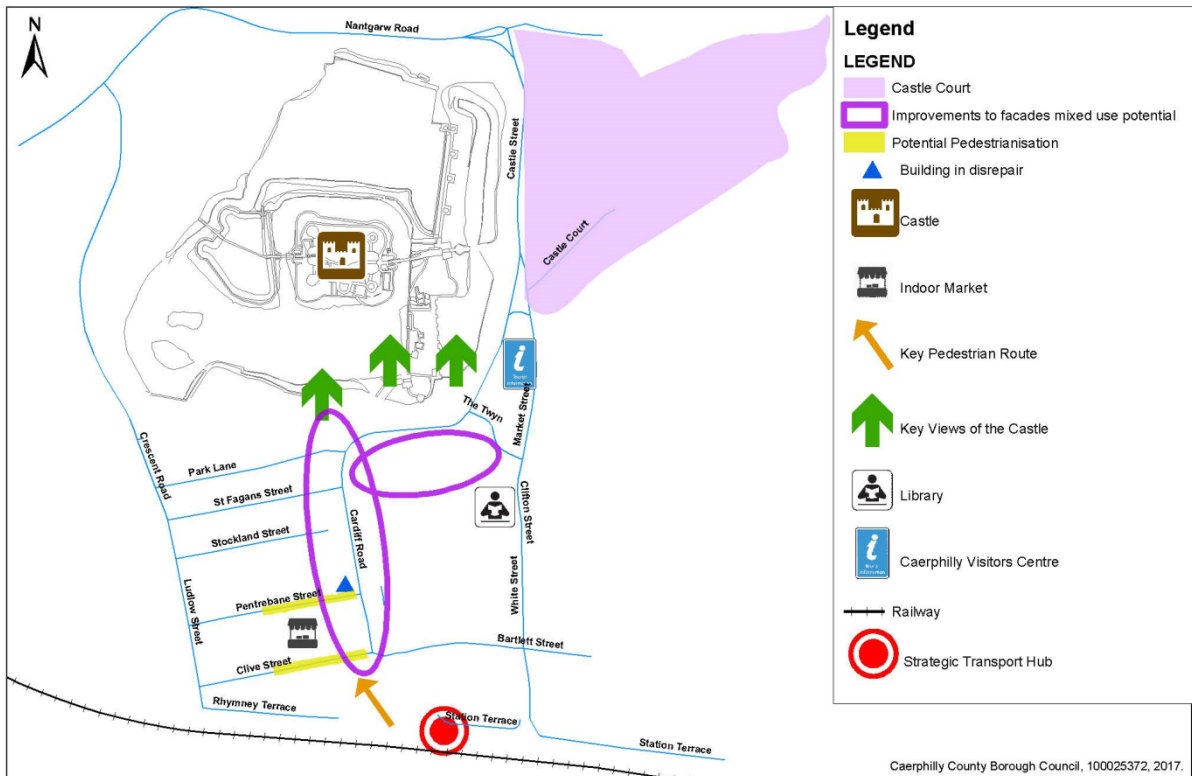
Development Principles

- Opportunity for a high quality landmark building offering a mix of uses – ground floor A1/A3 and offices/apartments above.
- Improve the public realm and prioritisation of routes for pedestrians.
- The listed Caerphilly Workmen’s Hall and Institute would need to remain as an integral focal building.
- Investigate opportunities to relocate Tonyfelin doctors’ surgery and adjoining car park to increase the size of the development site.

CARDIFF ROAD AND THE TOP OF TOWN

6.4 The Cardiff Road area has the potential to become a thriving mix of independent retailers supported by a range of service providers and A3 cafes / restaurants, but significant investment is required to improve the urban fabric of this part of the town and create an environment that people want to visit and spend time and money in.

Figure 4: Map of Cardiff Road and the Top of Town



Caerphilly County Borough Council, 100025372, 2017.

Cardiff Road (Blocks between Clive Street and Park Lane) (A-4)

- 6.5 Cardiff Road is the key thoroughfare between the station and the castle and the buildings on the western side of the road are visually unattractive and lack coherence.
- 6.6 The three storey former Ladies Lounge store at the junction of Pentrebanne Street and Cardiff Road is a landmark building within the town centre, which has fallen into serious disrepair and now detracts extensively from the street scene. There is a current planning permission to convert the upper floors to apartments but the condition of the building is very poor. The Council have begun the process of taking action under section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act, which gives the Council the power to require the proper maintenance of the property. Investment in the refurbishment of this important property will significantly improve the appearance of Cardiff Road.

Development Principles

- In the short term, opportunities to improve the visual appearance of the facade of buildings on Cardiff Road through tailored facade treatments in different textures and colours will be encouraged.
- Where shops are vacant, explore opportunities with the owners to utilise the properties for temporary uses, such as pop up shops or art galleries.
- In the longer term, the comprehensive redevelopment of units on Cardiff Road would significantly improve the visual richness and offer the opportunity to create a high quality mixed use development encompassing ground floor A1 uses suitable for small to medium size retailers, cafes/restaurants and service providers, together with a mix of small offices and/or apartments on upper floors.

1-20 Cardiff Road (A-5)

- 6.7 The retail units directly south of Caerphilly Castle are of a low quality design and provide an uninviting and unattractive backdrop to the castle. Whilst a successful restaurant has recently opened above the Principality Building Society, other units are not exploiting the opportunities presented by their position overlooking the Castle. Significant areas within and behind the buildings are under-utilised as servicing and /or parking areas.

Development Principles

- In the short term, there is a need to improve the facades of existing properties fronting the castle.
- The longer term redevelopment of 1-20 Cardiff Road as a parade of shops would allow for higher standard of design to reflect their prominent location and visual proximity to the castle.
- There is the potential to redevelop the area as an arcade style shopping complex similar to the Castle Quarter Arcades¹ in Cardiff, comprising small independent shops or cafes on the ground floor, complemented by restaurants, offices or residential on the upper floors, exploiting the views overlooking the castle. This type of retailing is likely to appeal to tourists and will offer opportunities for start up businesses in iconic premises.

¹ <http://castlequarterarcades.co.uk/>

- Ground floor A1 uses in units that meet the requirements of national retailers should be complemented by A3 use on the upper floors or residential, exploiting the views overlooking the castle.
- Improvements to the physical environment and retail offer in the locality will improve the connection between Castle Court and Cardiff Road.

Caerphilly Indoor Market (A-6)

- 6.8 The indoor market has been in Caerphilly since 1927 and is seen as a key part of the history of the town. This privately owned building offers the low rent accommodation that many start-up retail businesses require and is an important part of the foundational economy. However, footfall is low due to its edge of high street location, changing shopping demand and poor access. It also lacks the architectural value and prominence that other town indoor markets possess (e.g. Cardiff, Abergavenny, Pontypridd). There is therefore a need for significant refurbishment or redevelopment of the building itself, and a rebranding and marketing exercise which could be based on a specific theme or niche (for example artisan products, vintage clothes, vinyl, etc.) in order to emulate the success of markets elsewhere. The market could also offer additional seasonal events including late night markets, street food markets, toy fairs etc. to diversify the retail offer within the top of the town.
- 6.9 The existing fabric of the market is poor and its redevelopment is essential to ensure its longevity within the town. Any redevelopment will need to address the access constraints associated with the difference in levels between the two entrances, which could also offer an opportunity to maximise the use of the space that is available.

Development Principles

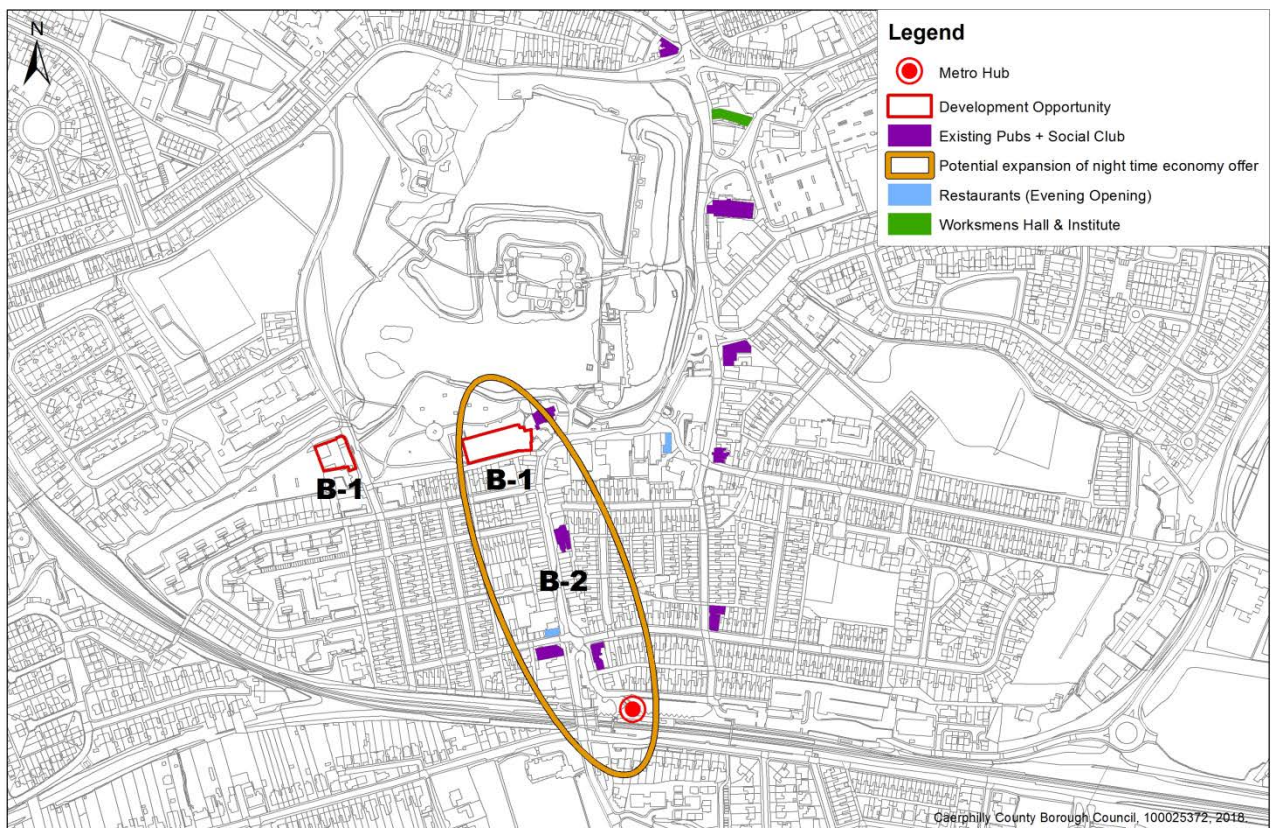
- In the short term, improvements to the poor facades of the building, particularly along Pentrebane Street.
- The redevelopment of the building on its existing footprint could include the creation of a mezzanine floor to exploit the difference in levels and maximise the use of the internal space. There is also potential to increase light levels through appropriate roofing materials to give the space a lighter, brighter feel.
- Give detailed consideration to the potential for the pedestrianisation of a section of Clive Street and / or Pentrebane Street to increase footfall to the market, which could provide space for pop up stalls and events.
- Improved signage to the Indoor Market from Cardiff Road is necessary as a means of increasing footfall.

B Create a vibrant and accessible visitor destination

FOOD, DRINK AND ENTERTAINMENT

- 6.10 If Caerphilly is to attract young, creative or technology led businesses into the town, it is important to consider how the night-time economy might help support this growth. Whilst there are a number of pubs within the town centre, there is a limited range of restaurants, wine bars or business / family friendly eateries, which are fundamental to enhancing Caerphilly's role as a business and visitor destination. Such facilities are also important if the area is to attract young affluent professionals to spend money in the town centre.
- 6.11 It is recognised that there is the potential for conflict between town centre residents and expanded town centre provision for A3 food and drink establishments linked to anti-social behaviour, noise or odour. The Council's Planning, Environmental Health and Licensing functions will ensure that the appropriate protection is given to the amenity of residents when considering the appropriateness of proposals for specific properties/sites.

Figure 5: Night-time economy opportunities



Crescent Road / Park Lane (B-1)

- 6.12 There is an opportunity to develop a family restaurant overlooking the castle, linked to Crescent Road, Dafydd Williams Park and Park Lane. This could be achieved through the redevelopment of the Llys Ifor office building for a use that complements

tourism, together with the reconfiguration of the Crescent Road car park, or as an integral part of a tourism led development on Park Lane.

Cardiff Road and the area around the station (B-2)

- 6.13 There are opportunities to expand the night-time economy around the station and the top of town as part of the development of a thriving metro hub. Opportunities to allow for the development of al fresco dining and wine bars as have developed around stations in other towns and cities, e.g. Mill Lane in Cardiff, should be explored. A study into the potential to improve the night-time economy would be important in ensuring that there is an appropriate offer.

Caerphilly Workmen's Hall and Institute (B-3)

- 6.14 Unlike other towns of a similar size, Caerphilly does not have an active cinema, although the castle does host occasional film events. The listed Caerphilly Workmen's Hall and Institute, which is in a prominent position opposite the castle, is under-utilised. There is a substantial opportunity to upgrade and enhance the building and its facilities, following the success of examples such as the Newbridge Memo and the Maxime Cinema in Blackwood. The building already has a cinema room and, with investment, this could be enhanced. The existing theatre offer can also be expanded.

Bedwas Workmen's Hall (B-4)

- 6.15 There is also the potential to upgrade and enhance the facilities at Bedwas Workmen's Hall to ensure that this prominent listed building is better utilised and can contribute towards both the day and the night time entertainment offer in the Basin.

Enhanced Parking Facilities (B-5)

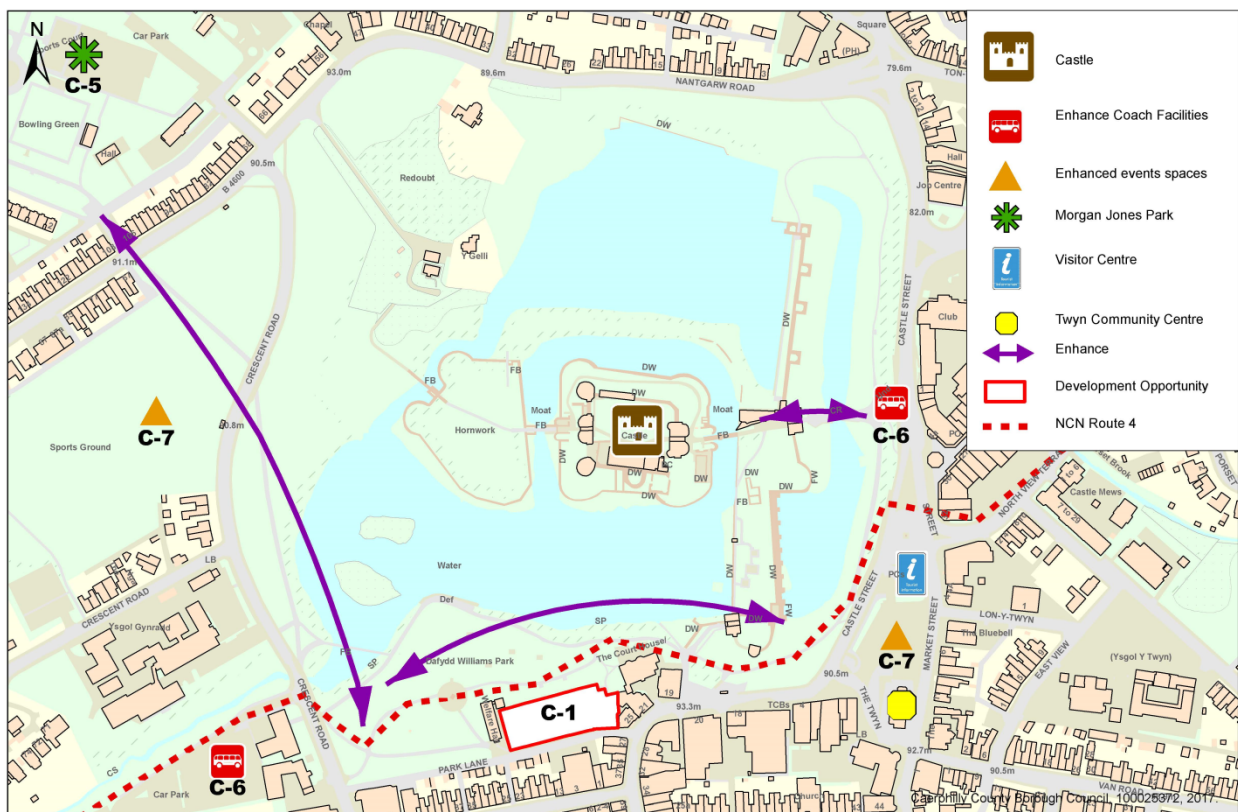
- 6.16 Whilst it is envisaged that the enhancements to public transport as part of the Metro will increase the number of people travelling to Caerphilly town centre by public transport, there is still a need for car parking to serve the town centre. The availability of quality parking in the right locations plays a key role in the perception and attractiveness of the town centre and in turn is fundamental to increasing footfall, particularly in the top of the town.
- 6.17 It will be necessary for a Town Centre Parking Plan to be prepared to address the following key elements:
- The likely increase in footfall in the town centre and the number and location of car parking spaces that will be required to cater for it;
 - The potential to locate car parks to intercept cars prior to them entering the Caerphilly Town Centre AQMA, to assist in improving air quality within the centre;
 - Ensure that car parking is well designed and secure. The Masterplan promotes the development of multi-storey car parks at Morrisons and potentially at the station, in order to maximise the use of scarce land within the town centre. It is important that these car parks are well designed and are secured through good surveillance and CCTV;

- Charges are a disincentive to using car parks so the need for charging, the level of charge and the processes for payment will need to be carefully considered against the regeneration objectives;
- Balance the need for residents only parking with the need for short term parking to serve local businesses;
- The strict enforcement of residents only parking areas to deter illegal parking. It is likely that Civil Parking Enforcement will be introduced over the next 2 years;
- Opportunities for electric vehicle charging points within existing or proposed parking areas.

C Maximise the presence of Caerphilly Castle

- 6.18 Caerphilly Castle, surrounded by extensive artificial lakes, is the key tourism attraction and the unique selling point for Caerphilly. However, whilst this is an excellent draw, there is a need for the castle to develop its offer further to widen its appeal.
- 6.19 Additional tourism, leisure and commercial attractions are also needed to provide a stronger offer within the town and the wider area, in order to encourage people to stay for longer. Whilst there are several budget hotels on the periphery of the town, Caerphilly does not have a high quality hotel within the heart of the town centre that could add value to the tourism experience and increase trip length. A well located quality hotel would support the potential for the castle to facilitate more weddings and events by offering high end accommodation for visitors. It could also provide conference facilities for use by businesses which will be encouraged to increasingly cluster around the important Caerphilly Metro hub.
- 6.20 There are a number of key initiatives throughout the town, therefore, which are outlined below that could: increase the benefits of the castle from a tourism perspective; help raise the profile of Caerphilly as a tourist destination in its own right; increase expenditure in the area; and importantly create employment opportunities for local residents.

Figure 6: Tourism Potential



Park Lane (C-1)

- 6.21 The Council owns a prominent site overlooking Dafydd William Park and the castle, which is identified within the LDP for tourism and commercial development. Given its elevated position above the castle, the site offers a real opportunity to create a high quality development overlooking the castle that will increase the tourism offer in the

town, which will in turn increase visitor spend and provide job opportunities in the service sector.

Development Principles

- Research indicates that the site would lend itself to a boutique/independent 'destination' hotel potentially including a high end restaurant (B-1).
- Park Lane is a key pedestrian gateway into the town from the west. However it is also a service lane for retail units on St Fagan's Street and as such the functional nature of the area means that the area is unsightly. An enhancement to the appearance of the rear of the existing properties and the public realm along this service lane is essential if a scheme for a new hotel is to succeed at this location.
- In the short term, the Council should work with businesses to explore opportunities to upgrade and enhance the rear elevation and boundary treatments for the properties that back onto Park Lane.

Tourism Attraction (C-2)

- 6.22 There is a need for additional visitor attraction (such as a museum) to expand on the tourism offer within the town. It will be necessary to identify a suitable building in close proximity to the town centre to accommodate the use.
- 6.23 One possibility is to utilise a part of the Twyn Community Centre, which overlooks the castle and which has close links with Caerphilly Cheese. Erected in 1791 as the Twyn Methodist Chapel, it became a community centre in 1974 and today is also home to Caerphilly Town Council. Behind the building was a hall (now demolished) which hosted a cheese market, with local farmers selling traditional Caerphilly cheese to the public.

Tourism Trail (C-3)

- 6.24 A tourism trail that links the key sites and buildings of interest within Caerphilly Basin should be an integral part of the tourism strategy. Within the town itself this should provide a link between Caerphilly Castle, Tommy Cooper Way, the Visitors Centre and the museum, but also explore places in the wider area including the Dovecote and Van Mansion, Ruperra Castle, Morgan Jones Park and the National Mining Memorial and Garden in Senghenydd. The trail could also link to other places in the county borough, including Llancaiach Fawr and the Country Parks that form part of the Valleys Landscape Park.

Activity Tourism (C-4)

- 6.25 Activity tourism is a key driver of the tourism industry in Wales and Caerphilly Basin is well positioned to capitalise on this through the provision of accommodation and facilities to support walking, cycling, horse riding and mountain climbing. National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 4 (Fishguard to London) travels through Caerphilly, Bedwas, Machen and Draethen. The Basin is also well placed to serve the mountain bike centres at Cwmcarn Forest Drive and Bike Park Wales in Merthyr Tydfil, as well as other facilities including Mountain View Ranch and Rockwood Riding Centre, both on Caerphilly Mountain. The provision of a wider range of accommodation such as lodges, camping / glamping etc. in appropriate locations within the Caerphilly Basin should be encouraged and supported.

Morgan Jones Park (C-5)

- 6.26 Morgan Jones Park is a large public park, which has Green Flag status which is located north west of the castle. The Park to the west of the town centre offers an extensive area of formal sports facilities, a playground, splash pad and community café in easy walking distance of the castle and Owain Glyndwr Field. Despite their proximity, there is poor connectivity between these areas and visitors to the town are not necessarily aware that this attractive Park is so close. There is a need therefore to strengthen their relationship through improved signage, improved footpath and cycle path links, and through their marketing and promotion through the tourism trail.

Improvements to Coach Facilities (C-6)

- 6.27 Crescent Road car park is currently the primary drop off point for coach trips to Caerphilly Castle. Whilst the route between the car park and the castle is attractive, signage is poor and it does not encourage visitors who are unfamiliar with the area to visit the town centre. The provision of a coach lay-by opposite the entrance to the Castle will improve the relationship between the castle and the retail centre and potentially increase dwell time.
- 6.28 Opportunities to include a dedicated visitor coach stop at the improved Caerphilly Metro Hub should also be fully explored.
- 6.29 Whilst a small number of local businesses do offer free refreshments, the facilities available for long stay coach drivers within the town are limited, which is a hurdle in maximising the tourism offer. Limited parking for large vehicles is available at the Crescent Road car park, but there are no toilets or opportunities for refreshments. There is a demand for a small kiosk serving the needs of those using the car park.

Events (C-7)

- 6.30 Like the castle, Caerphilly Cheese has long been synonymous with Caerphilly. There are a number of successful events within the town each year, including the Big Cheese, Caerphilly Food Festival, monthly farmer's market and Caerphilly 10k, which have generated significant footfall and expenditure within the town. The town has a number of event spaces at Owain Glyndwr playing field and around the Twyn, but opportunities to expand the programme of events and the number of event spaces in the town and wider area, particularly as a means of increasing footfall on Cardiff Road area should be promoted.
- 6.31 Improvements in accessibility to the Caerphilly Basin and the town centre will have significant benefits in accommodating increasing numbers of people attending events in the town. Increased park and ride provision at Llanbradach and further provision at halts on the proposed reinstatement of the Machen line provide significant scope for expanding the level of park and ride facilities to events, whilst a faster more efficient transport link to Newport (the first direct link to Newport from the Caerphilly Basin) will in the longer term, increase the catchment population for such events.

D Improve the key gateways

WESTERN GATEWAY

6.32 The western approach to the town via Nantgarw Road is the key route used by many visitors from outside of the county borough due to the links with the A470. The Crescent Road car park provides parking for those approaching the town centre from the west, with NCN Route 4 also passing through the car park, and Aber station to the north west. The area between the car park and the town centre is a key gateway into the town for both pedestrians and cyclists. The gateway into the town has significant potential to be enhanced to increase the tourism offer and improve the environment. The following proposals would support this:

- The two storey Lllys Ifor office building at the entrance to Crescent Road car park is currently vacant. Whilst the building could be re-occupied for employment purposes, the site has an attractive view of the castle and the redevelopment of the site for a use such as a family pub/restaurant or bed and breakfast accommodation would increase spending within the area, enhance the day and night-time economy and create employment opportunities (B-1).
- Enhancements to pedestrian linkages through Dafydd Williams Park, including improvements to footbridges, soft landscaping, seating and other facilities (D-1).
- The redevelopment of the Council owned site at Park Lane for a quality bespoke hotel including restaurant (B-1, C-1).
- Improved signage and infrastructure (soft landscaping, planters, boundary treatments) in the Crescent Road car park (D-2).
- Improved signage and footways between Aber station and the town centre (D-3).

Figure 7: Western Gateway

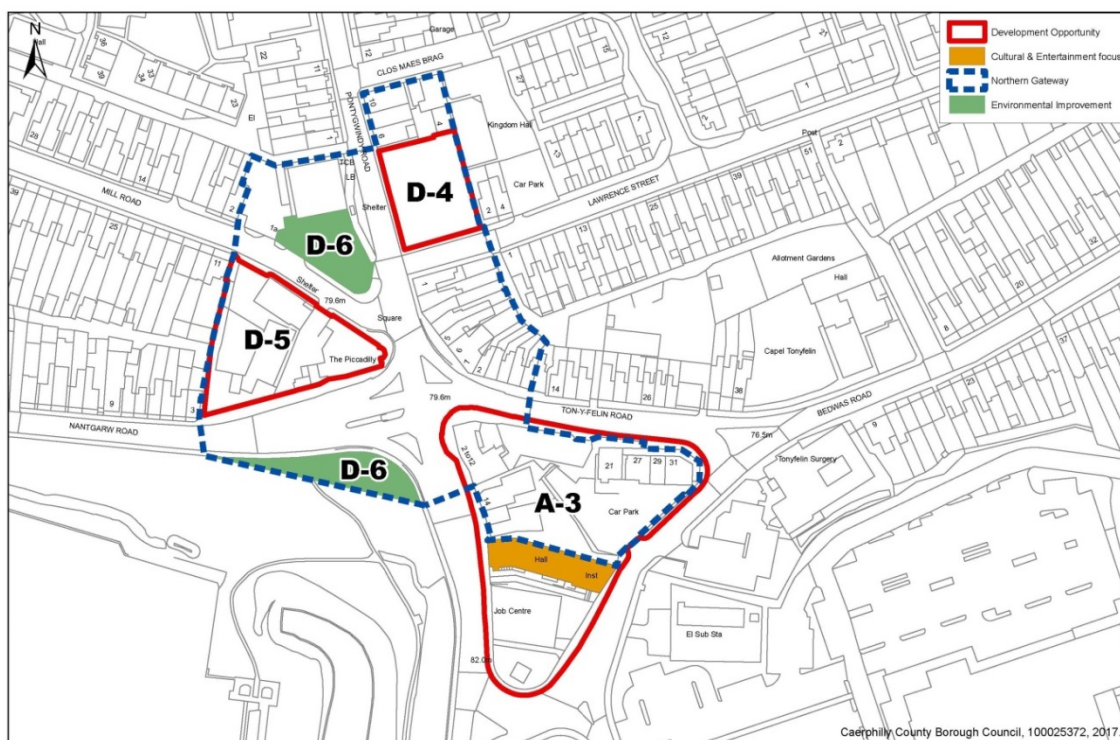


NORTHERN GATEWAY

6.33 The gateway into the town from the north is dominated by traffic to the detriment of pedestrians. The area suffers from significant traffic congestion due to the concentration of several major road junctions in a small area, and does not provide the gateway feature or focal points that should frame the entrance to the castle and town centre. There are several under-utilised or vacant sites that could offer key opportunities for redevelopment and environmental enhancement:

- The redevelopment of the Ton Y Felin Road and Castle Street Triangle as a retail/A3 led mixed use scheme (A-3).
- The site of the former Beulah Church on Pontygwindy Road has planning permission for a mixed use development comprising retail on the ground floor and offices above. This use, or alternatively, a residential development comprising high end well designed apartments, would create an attractive focal building on this derelict site and significantly improve the visual amenity of the area. There may be the opportunity to include additional under-utilised land adjoining the site to expand the developable area (D-4)
- Redevelopment of the prominent Piccadilly Public House and adjoining tool hire/builders yard for offices or mixed use development could be explored with the owners. Opportunities to open out the junction to allow views of the castle should be considered as part of any redevelopment scheme (D-5)
- Potential to undertake environmental improvements around the setting of the castle and the Piccadilly Square car park to increase the attractiveness of the area, potentially stimulating investment (D-6).
- Schemes should be supported by a strategic approach to traffic management across the Caerphilly Basin to reduce the traffic dominance and improve air quality.

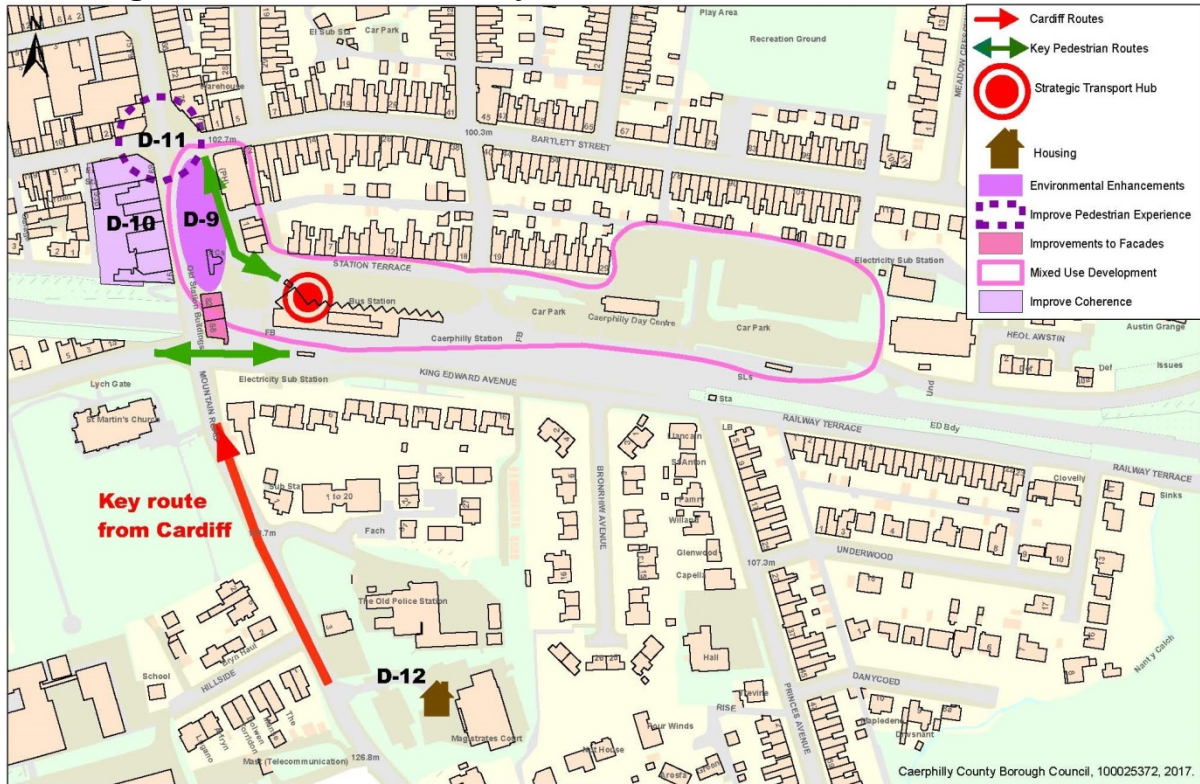
Figure 8: Northern Gateway



SOUTHERN GATEWAY

- 6.34 The entrance into the town from the south via the A469 Mountain Road is a key arterial route between Caerphilly and Cardiff and is another major gateway into the town centre. There are several notable buildings on the entrance into the town, but the approach is dominated by vehicles due to the convergence of several roads – (Clive Street, Cardiff Road, Bartlett Street and Station Terrace) at the start of the one way system through the town centre. The proposals set out within Section E regarding the Metro hub around the bus and rail interchange are a critical part of transforming the Southern Gateway, but there are also a number of key opportunities to improve the road network through this gateway. These opportunities include:
- Enhancements to the facade of the former station building on the bridge over the railway, which is dominated by signage and detracts from the character of the building (D-8).
 - Introduce soft landscaping in the area between Cardiff Road and Station Terrace, which is dominated by paving and railings (D-9).
 - Improve the coherence of Units 89 to 97 Cardiff Road, where shop units are currently a mix of heights and styles, through redevelopment or refurbishment. These units should be an attractive focal point at this key transport node should be explored (D-10).
 - Consider measures to improve the pedestrian experience and reduce car dominance (D-11).
 - Redevelopment of the former magistrate’s court and the site of the police station, for residential use. Both sites are being promoted for older persons housing, which would assist in diversifying the housing stock in this area, potentially releasing family homes that are under-occupied within the town (D-12).
 - The proposals set out under Section E will also fundamentally ‘reimagine’ the station area, which will act as a key Metro Investment Hub.
 - If the Caerphilly South East Bypass is delivered, the potential to close Mountain Road to through traffic to Cardiff should be considered in the longer term.

Figure 9: Southern Gateway

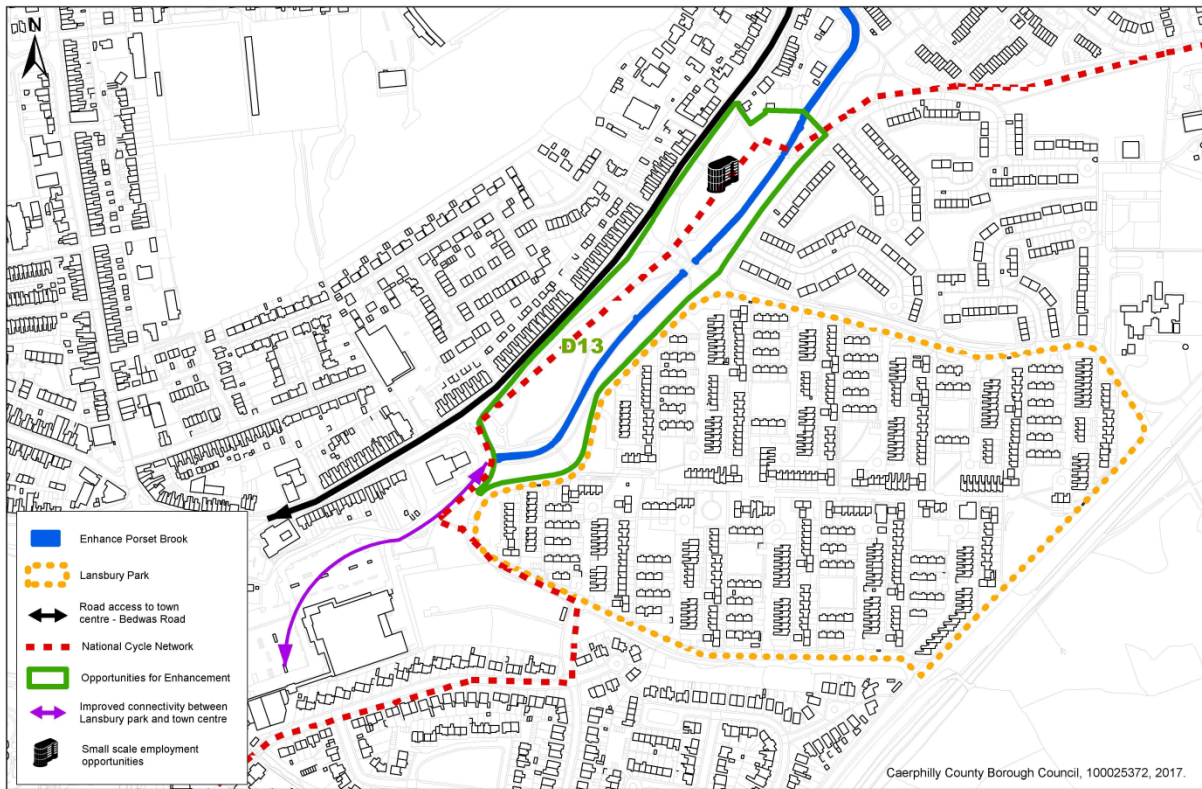


EASTERN GATEWAY

6.35 Bedwas Road is the main access road into the town centre from the east of Caerphilly Basin, also providing the link between Gallagher Retail Park and the town. There is significant opportunities to make improvements to this gateway by:

- Enhancing a large area of amenity green space located between the housing on Bedwas Road and the northern edge of the Lansbury Park estate, which acts as an unintentional psychological barrier. This open area is traversed by the National Cycle Network and Porset Brook, but is otherwise under-utilised and offers a real opportunity to improve the visual amenity and create a recreation space that will be used by both residents and visitors. This green corridor also has a role in improving air quality within the town, with the potential for biodiversity enhancement with the Brook as a focal point for the proposals.
- Most of the site lies within Zone C2 of the flood plain. However, there may be opportunities for limited small scale employment as part of the reconfiguration and enhancement of the area if designed appropriately.
- Improving the pedestrian access from Lansbury Park to the town centre - this is currently via the car-dominated Morrisons access road at the rear of the store and through the car park.

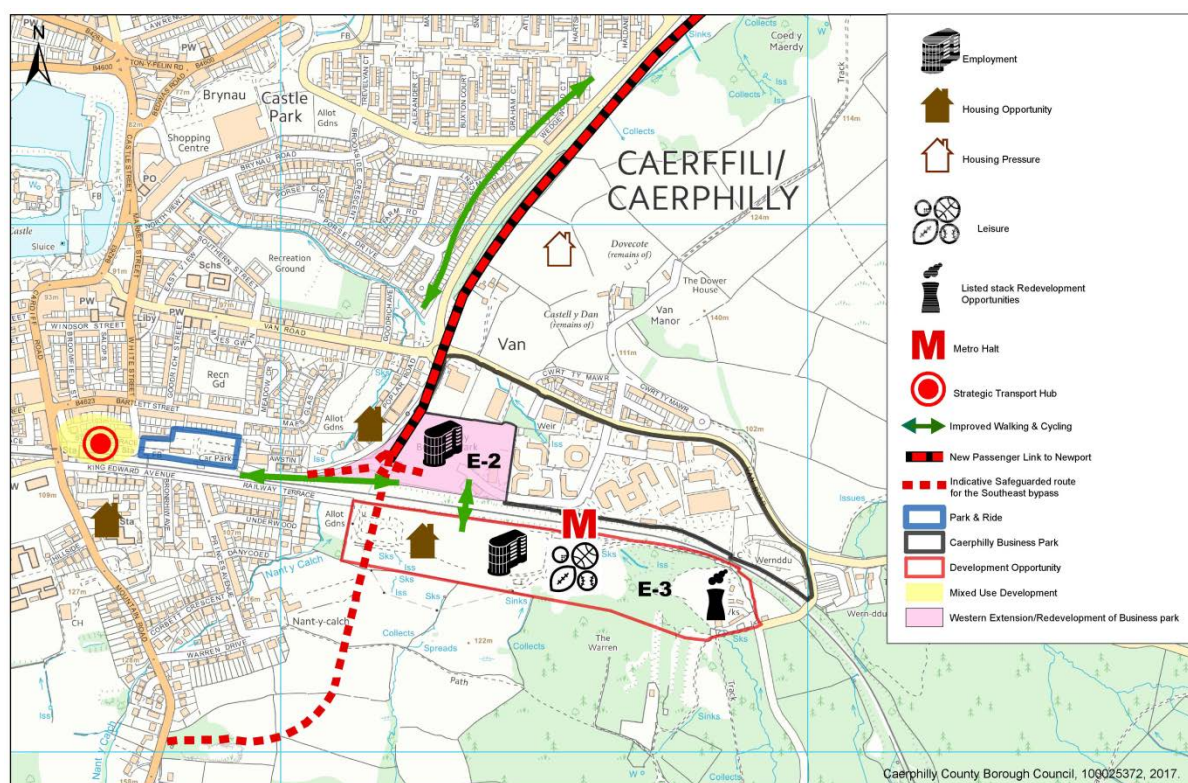
Figure 10: Eastern Gateway



E Create the conditions for the area to become a thriving Metro Hub

6.36 There is an excellent opportunity to transform the key corridor between Caerphilly bus and rail interchange and Caerphilly Business Park to create a thriving hub of enterprise, offering the opportunity for new business investment, directly linked to the commercial and retail development in the town centre. The potential exists to create an exceptional area that welcomes visitors, business people and residents alike, providing a high quality experience that conveys the Caerphilly character. A detailed masterplan will be prepared to address this project in more detail.

Figure 11: Metro Hub



Caerphilly Transport Interchange and Investment Hub (E-1)

6.37 The current interchange, comprising the bus and train stations, is uninviting, with under-utilised space, poor building design and issues with anti-social behaviour. It is essential that the relationship between the town and castle is strengthened to enhance the tourist experience and to increase the diversity of uses around the station. There is a significant opportunity to transform the urban fabric, aligned to the Metro place-making programme, to create a high quality area that provides positive experiences and improves the image of Caerphilly as a place to visit, work and live. In addition there is also the potential to link the reinstated former Machen Line into the interchange to increase the accessibility of the town centre to a wider hinterland.

Development principles

- Central to the proposal is the redevelopment of the existing station to create a well-designed, fit for purpose, modern, multi-modal and energy efficient station, as a landmark building that serves the wider Valleys Metro region.
- This will be complimented by bold and radical enhancements to the surrounding public realm aligned to the Metro place-making programme. This includes the selective redevelopment of key areas and buildings around Station Terrace to create a vibrant commercial and residential area that would diversify both the day and night-time offer (B-2).
- It is envisaged that redevelopments would comprise well-designed, modern, mixed-use development with ground floor A3 and A1 uses and offices and/or apartments above.
- The taxi rank on Station Terrace to be incorporated within the redevelopment of the interchange to provide a better-related, more efficient facility.
- To improve legibility between the Interchange and the castle, opportunities to open up and exploit views to the castle should be considered together with new intuitive signage.
- Redevelopment of the existing park and ride car park to maximise the number of spaces available and provide for bicycle parking, supported by environmental enhancements including the introduction of soft landscaping.
- Explore the potential for the creation of a well-designed multi-storey car park on as an integral part of the Interchange to significantly increase the number of car parking spaces at this town centre location.
- All proposals ensure that direct linkages between the redeveloped interchange and the proposed station at the head of the Machen Line reinstatement can be delivered.

Expansion of Caerphilly Business Park (E-2)

6.38 Caerphilly Business Park currently offers 200,000 sq ft of office space. A significant number of units across the Business Park are occupied by companies working under the umbrella of Welsh ICE², which is a community of over 140 co-working start-up and micro-businesses, primarily operating in the digital tech and professional service industries. There are plans to expand this business model through the acquisition and refurbishment or redevelopment of vacant and under-utilised units on the site to create a regional centre of excellence. Together these would support more business start-ups and further exploit the potential that small and medium size business have to provide employment and training opportunities, and develop higher level skills. There is also an opportunity to provide a new modern office development on the western part of the Business Park. There is also the potential to incorporate redevelopment of the former Ness Tar site as part of the development of a sustainable live-work complex. The expansion of the business uses across the site would be further supported by the provision of a new Metro Halt to serve the Business Park and the reinstatement of the former Machen Line which would provide direct access to the site from the east through Newport.

² <https://welshice.org/>

Development principles

- The 2.2 Ha undeveloped land on the western part of the Business Park should be released to facilitate the development of further office accommodation.
- As they become vacant, redevelop / refurbish units on the Business Park that are no longer fit for purpose to meet the needs of modern occupiers.
- Increased employment on the site would support the business case for the introduction of a metro station serving the Business Park and the Ness Tar site. This would also be beneficial for the communities on the eastern side of Caerphilly.
- Explore the potential to integrate the redevelopment of the former Ness Tar site (E-3) as part of a sustainable live-work complex.

Ness Tar and Pesci's Scrap Yard (E-3)

6.39 The former Ness Tar Plant is a heavily contaminated former industrial site that represents a major redevelopment opportunity located in a prime location adjoining the Caerphilly interchange. The site could also be extended to incorporate the current Pesci's scrap yard which is located to the east. The two sites currently create a depressingly-negative impression of Caerphilly for rail passengers as they approach the Caerphilly interchange. The redevelopment of these sites for a mixture of well designed, quality uses would significantly improve this important gateway into Caerphilly. Both the former Ness Tar Plant and the Pesci's site require funding for remediation prior to any redevelopment taking place.

Development principles

- The site affords the opportunity for the development of a sustainable settlement, based on its close proximity to the Caerphilly Interchange and Caerphilly Business Park, and should be redeveloped for a mixed-use scheme comprising a range of dwelling types and tenures, together with offices/starter units and leisure/health uses.
- As part of any redevelopment proposal the opportunity to incorporate live/work units and/or start-up units on part of site should be actively pursued; there is also the potential to deliver an innovative, sustainable, car-free mixed use development.
- Within the Pesci's part of the site a rare and well preserved listed industrial chimney stack which is a prominent landmark within the wider area. The sensitive restoration and integration of this fine listed building will need to be considered as part of any remediation of the site. The restoration of the structure could offer a unique opportunity to offer some conservation skills training.
- The site also offers the potential to relocate the town's leisure centre to a more location more accessible by public transport, which would serve not only the deprived communities in the Caerphilly Basin but also within easy access of the deprived Heads of the Valleys. There is potential for this to be a new cutting edge, state of the art, energy efficient centre which could: become an attractor in its own right within the region; and be used to host conferences for businesses in the area.
- As part of the remediation process, contaminated material will be contained within an on-site cell that will restrict the potential after-use for that area of land. Any redevelopment should ensure that this area is actively designed into the

proposed development, accommodating an appropriate use to the benefit of the residents and users of the development.

- It is essential that direct active travel linkages between the site and the metro hub, town centre and proposed station on the former Machen Line should be incorporated as part of any redevelopment.
- An appropriate corridor of land should be safeguarded within the site to allow for the delivery of a South Eastern bypass for Caerphilly. This corridor should be actively designed into the development and could be used in the short term as open space (with the caveat that in the longer term it will facilitate the development of the new road).
- Vehicular access to the site in advance of any bypass will need detailed consideration.

F Improve connectivity within the Caerphilly Basin and to other areas

- 6.40 The anticipated outcome of delivering the significant enhancements to the town centre is a significantly increase in the level of footfall. Add to that the increased employment opportunities in the town centre and the Basin's employment sites and there is a significant increase in the demand for travel to, and within, the Caerphilly Basin. A key factor in delivering sustainable growth in the Caerphilly Basin is, therefore, improving accessibility to and within the Caerphilly Basin by public transport and active travel, together with improvements to the strategic highway network.
- 6.41 Policy TR6 of the adopted LDP identifies a number of improvement schemes to the strategic network, which will seek to alleviate congestion on the key routes within Caerphilly Basin. The following schemes have yet to be implemented and opportunities should be explored to secure funding to deliver these important improvements to the network.
- TR6.1 Tafwys Walk
 - TR6.3 Pwllypant Roundabout (scheme is currently being implemented)
 - TR6.4 Bedwas Bridge Roundabout
 - TR6.5 Piccadilly Gyratory
 - TR6.6 Penrhos to Pwllypant
 - TR6.7 Pwllypant to Bedwas
- 6.42 The opportunity exists to deliver public transport improvements that are in accordance with, and supplement the delivery of the Metro. Active travel improvements can further enhance and widen the scope of the Metro by providing local links to the strategic transport network, all of which can assist in delivering the Metro objectives.
- 6.43 To facilitate accessibility to and within the Caerphilly Basin, new facilities that reduce the level of traffic entering the Basin would also have significant benefits, primarily by reducing journey times and improving the town centre environment.

Llanbradach Park and Ride (F-1)

- 6.44 There is a major opportunity to provide a large park & ride facility, which has the potential to capture a significant proportion of commuter traffic, and which would reduce the level of traffic entering the Caerphilly Basin from the north. Land at the former Wingfield Tip can accommodate a park and ride facility that could provide in excess of 1,000 park and ride spaces along with a relocated station, with potential for business and commercial development on adjoining land to complement the delivery of this new transport hub.

Development principles

- The provision of 500 spaces with expansion space to increase the number of spaces to over 1,000.
- The existing station is inappropriately located to be served by the new provision and should be redeveloped/relocated adjoining the new provision.

- The park and ride provision should be designed with integral, high-quality landscaping to soften the street scene and make provision for pedestrians and cyclists.
- The new/relocated station and the park and ride provision should be carefully designed in accordance with the Metro Place Making Programme principles.
- The potential for a new access to the site, utilising the existing Wingfield Junction should be considered to improve access from the Llanbradach bypass.
- Consideration should be given to utilising the adjoining Wingfield Tip land and any nearby redevelopment opportunities for business/commercial uses to complement the new transport hub.

Newport Machen Rail Line (F-2)

6.45 A major opportunity exists to reopen the former Machen rail line for passenger transport. This will provide a direct, dedicated transport link between Caerphilly and Newport, providing enhanced access from the east to the Caerphilly Basin. The line, if reopened for light rail/tram or dedicated/guided bus services, could serve major residential areas like Waterloo and Lansbury Park and its Caerphilly terminus would form part of the wider Caerphilly transport interchange.

Development principles

- The preference is for the reinstatement of the former Machen line for light/tram or dedicated/guided bus transport due to the significantly reduced impacts on communities that are located along the route, however this is outside of the Council's control.
- New halts should be considered for Lansbury Park, Waterloo, Trethomas, and Machen.
- Consideration should be given to providing a meaningful level of park and ride provision as part of any proposed halt.
- Consideration will need to be given to how the services integrate with the services on the Ebbw Valley rail line, with particular consideration given to a new station south of the Pye Corner station to provide the appropriate integration with the Cardiff bound services.
- The Caerphilly terminus for the line would be located adjacent to Caerphilly Business Park, providing direct access to significant employment opportunities and will form part of the redeveloped Caerphilly Interchange providing direct access to the town centre and castle.
- All stations and halts will need to be designed in accordance with the Metro Place Making Programme.
- The Caerphilly Terminus should form part of the overall redesign of the Caerphilly interchange, being an active part of the interchange whilst maintaining direct links to the Caerphilly Business Park.

Caerphilly South East Bypass (F-3)

6.46 The south-east bypass for Caerphilly, which would complete a ring road around the town, has been an aspiration for a considerable period of time. To this effect the proposed line for a bypass has been protected in the adopted LDP, based on its requirement as part of the measures to improve air quality in Caerphilly town centre. The provision of the bypass is aimed at redistributing the travel patterns within the

Caerphilly Basin, particularly in respect of the town centre, where through traffic will be taken from the town centre, so reducing traffic levels and improving air quality.

Development principles

- The south-east bypass should connect the Lansbury Park Distributor Road in the east to Mountain Road in the west.
- The design of the road should provide access to the Ness Tar/Pesci's site.
- The alignment of the road should be carefully considered and should seek to minimise visual and landscape impacts.
- Consideration should be given to stopping the northern link from the town centre to Cardiff (through the stopping up of Mountain Road), once the bypass has been delivered.
- The bypass will include a dedicated active travel route as part of its design that will link into existing active travel routes where appropriate.

Cycle Parking Facilities (F-4)

6.47 The strategy seeks to ensure that the town centre, employment centres and transport hubs are accessible by sustainable forms of transport. Whilst the Metro caters for strategic travel, a significant amount of journeys will require additional travel to reach their final destination. The strategy seeks that movement from Metro hubs and within the Caerphilly Basin is undertaken through active travel measures and this is most likely to be done through cycle travel. Given this, there is a need to deliver safe, secure and convenient cycle parking facilities at all transport hubs, within the town centre and employment centres in order to facilitate this movement. This should be coordinated on a regional basis so that the offer is coordinated.

Development principles

- New developments should ensure that they provide appropriate cycle parking facilities that can meet both current and future demand.
- Provision should be made throughout the town centre, particularly at the locations of key attractors.
- Provision should be made at all transport hubs, particularly at the Caerphilly Interchange where provision will serve multiple uses.
- Provision should be easily accessible, easy to locate and conveniently located to the destination to encourage use.
- It should also be safe, secure and be visible to ensure surveillance.
- Provision should be connected to existing active travel routes wherever possible.
- For short duration parking (town centres etc.) sufficient parking should be provided to ensure that space is consistently available.
- For long duration parking (employment centres, commuting etc.) provision should be covered to provide protection from the elements.
- Provision should be regularly monitored, maintained and managed to ensure its attractiveness is retained.
- The design and location of the provision should ensure compatibility with other users and uses.
- Provision should be considered where the parking links to other associated uses, e.g. located by cycle repair premises.

- Consideration should also be given to providing facilities for safely storing ancillary accessories, such as helmets and lights.

Cycle Hire Scheme (F-5)

6.48 Whilst the Metro will address longer distance travel, there is a need to ensure that, once off the principal Metro routes, people can continue journeys within the Caerphilly Basin by sustainable means. A key issue for this travel is that there is a ban on carrying bikes on trains at peak hours and there is limited, if any, potential for bus services to carry bikes. Cycling, however, has a hugely important role to play in tackling issues such as congestion and pollution and therefore ways of exploiting this mode of transport need to be considered. One solution is the provision of a bike-sharing hire scheme. This would require an integrated system of hire points at key destinations, such as major employment areas, the town centre as well as at the transport hubs (Caerphilly's version of the Boris Bikes scheme in London³).

Development principles

- Consideration should be given to the setting up of a bike-sharing hire scheme throughout the Caerphilly Basin, with facilities provided at significant destinations, transport hubs and the town centre. This should also include electric bikes.
- Consideration be given to linking the bike hire facilities to existing cycle related uses, e.g. bike hire at bike parking facilities, bike hire related to existing cycle maintenance/retail uses.
- The scheme should ensure that there are appropriate facilities located at destinations, including employment sites, to encourage use and reduce cost.

Other Active Travel Measures

- 6.49 The adopted LDP identifies a number of improvements to radial routes in the Caerphilly Basin that will improve community access and provide walking and cycling links to public transport, tourism, locations, employment areas and other key attractors.
- 6.50 Many of the LDP proposals are also contained within the Caerphilly Active Travel Integrated Plan, which includes 40 schemes designed to increase connectivity and accessibility throughout Caerphilly Basin. These measures seek to address active travel issues in the short term. However, an ongoing programme of improvements will be required to address future issues as they arise from the redevelopment and growth of Caerphilly Basin.
- 6.51 It is recognised that the increased use of electric bikes offers a realistic alternative mode of travel over longer distances for a wider section of the population. The extension of, and linkages to, the National Cycle Network and routes suitable for electric bikes will be encouraged.

New Links

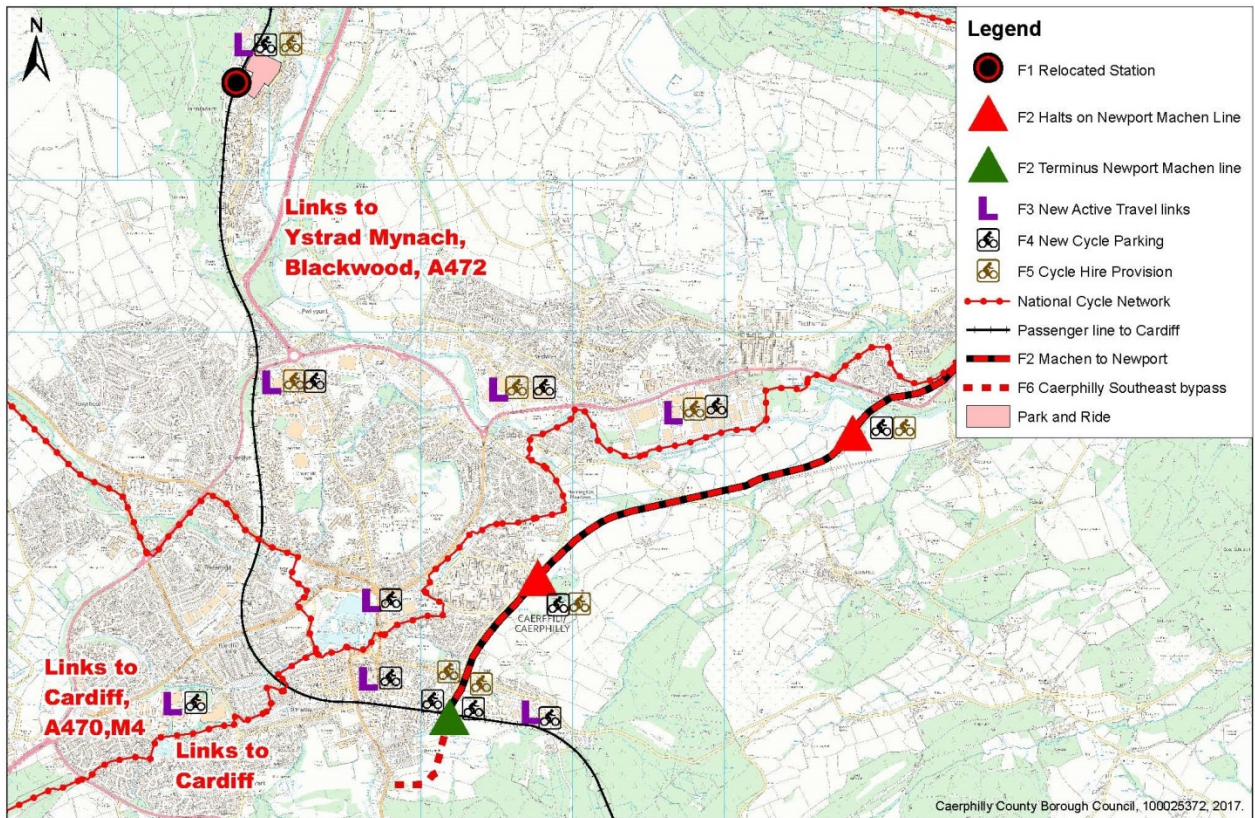
- 6.52 This strategy identifies a number of significant development opportunities that will require links to ensure that the need to travel generated from growth can be accommodated sustainably.

Development principles

³ <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/santander-cycles>

- Areas of significant new growth should include active travel proposals that would ensure the sites are linked, as directly and efficiently as possible, to the town centre, the Caerphilly Interchange and all local Metro hubs.
- Active travel measures should complement and enhance existing routes.

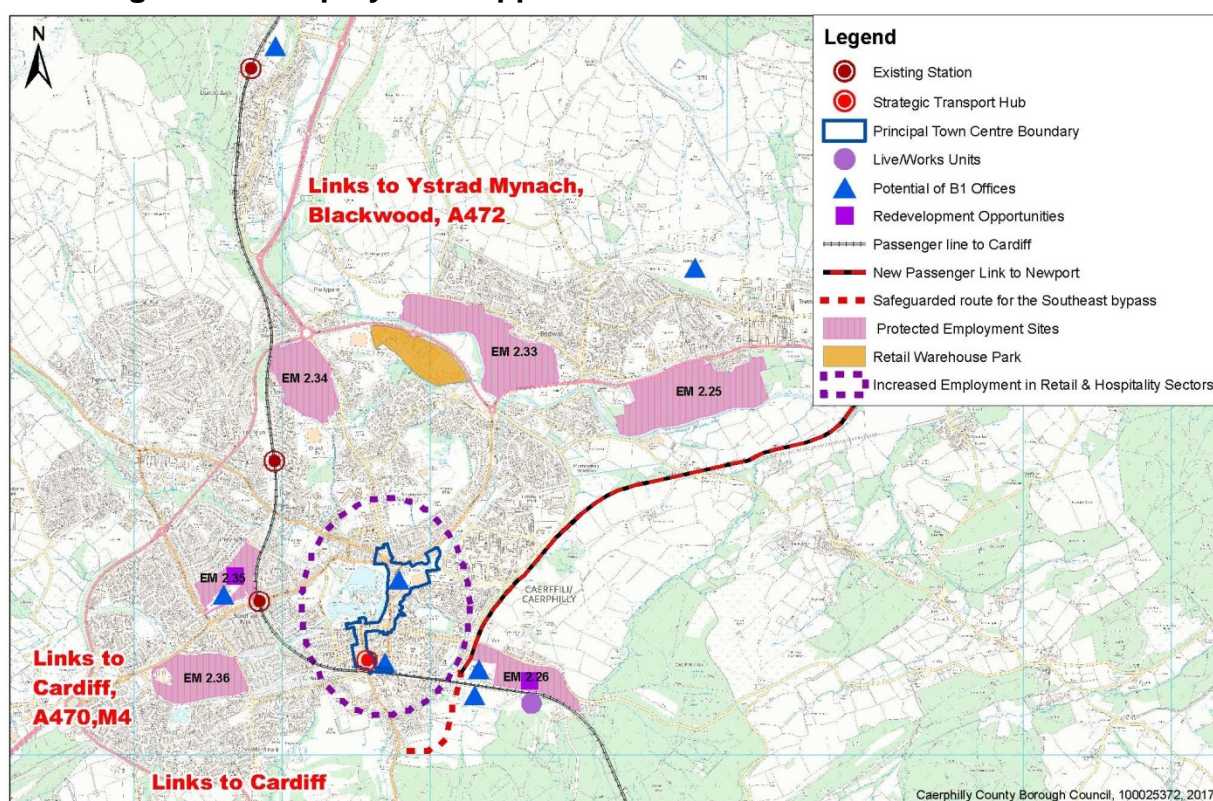
Figure 12: Connectivity



G Provide the conditions to strengthen employment opportunities

- 6.53 The proposals for the strategic hub around Caerphilly interchange, Ness Tar, Caerphilly Business Park and the proposed station on the former Machen Line will offer the opportunity for the creation of a significant number of new jobs and support skills development. However, there are a number of other potential opportunities to expand the range and choice of jobs available.
- 6.54 In addition to the opportunities identified below, the development of new housing, retail, offices and other infrastructure across Caerphilly Basin will create jobs in the construction industry and support the local supply chain. Many of these jobs will be within the foundational economy, which will support the objectives set out within the Regeneration Strategy.

Figure 13: Employment Opportunities



Ty Cenydd (G-1)

- 6.55 The Ty Cenydd office building is located in a prime position directly opposite the castle. It has been vacant for several years, but could offer 900 sq m of office space in a key location, with car parking provision in the basement. The building has been sub-divided on a floor by floor basis so it can either be let on an individual floor basis or as a whole building.

Land adjoining Llanbradach Park and Ride (G-2)

- 6.56 The proposed relocation of Llanbradach station and creation of a park and ride facility on the Wingfield Tip will offer the potential to create some high quality B1 office units

and/or start up units in what will be a highly accessible location with good access to the rail network and strategic highway network. There is potential for the northern part of Wingfield tip to be redeveloped for employment uses as part of a hub around the new station, together with the Morgan Street works and under-utilised land around it, subject to land acquisition.

Trecenydd Business Park (G-3)

6.57 The 10.2 ha Trecenydd Business Park is allocated/protected for employment use. It comprises a number of B Class uses in building stock aimed primarily at light industry. There is an undeveloped strip of land within the centre of the site, which could be developed. Aber Station park and ride car park is located adjacent to the Business Park, but the station is separated itself from the Business Park by Nantgarw Road.

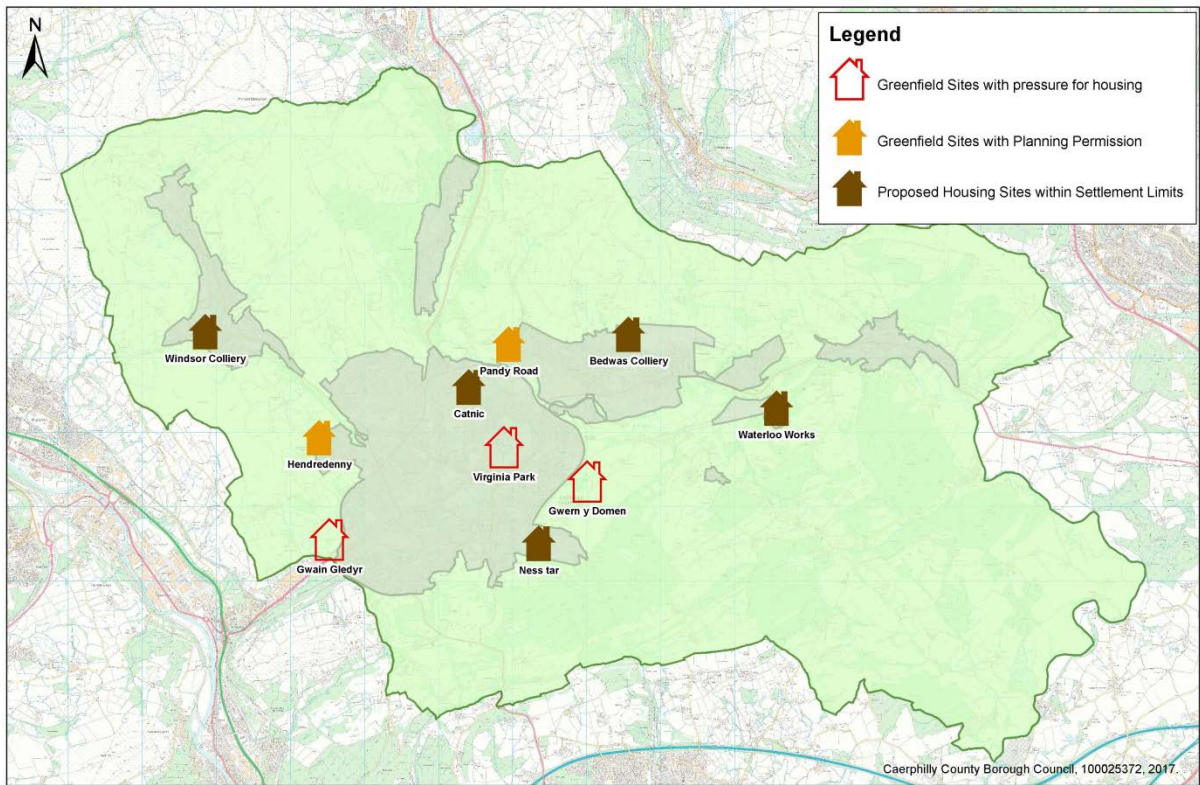
Development principles

- Establish clear linkages between the Business Park and Aber Station.
- Investigate the potential for a new light rail halt adjacent to the Business Park, if light rail is pursued along this stretch of line under the Metro initiative.
- Explore opportunities to expand the park and ride
- Redevelop the site for new class B development, in order to make premises fit for purpose and more attractive to potential occupants.
- Small, flexible terraces of B1 units offering accommodation from 500 sq ft would be the most attractive as they would benefit from low business rates and running costs and would serve a local market.

H Support the development of housing, including affordable housing, on previously developed land and in sustainable locations within settlements

- 6.58 The strategy for the Local Development Plan promotes the development of new housing on brownfield sites within the Caerphilly Basin. This has been successful with several key contaminated or under-utilised sites having been developed in recent years. Whilst these have made an important contribution to housing in the Basin, there remains an acute need for affordable housing.
- 6.59 There are a number of key brownfield sites that offer the opportunity for housing or mixed use development incorporating an element of housing. Many of these sites have constraints by virtue of previous uses and contamination, which means that they are unlikely to be brought forward by the market without public sector intervention.
- 6.60 The key development opportunities on brownfield sites within existing settlements in Caerphilly Basin and their indicative capacities are:
- Windsor Colliery, Abertridwr (H-1)- 200-250 dwellings;
 - Waterloo Works, Waterloo (H-2) - 545 dwellings, potential community facilities
 - Catnic, Caerphilly (H-3) - 170 dwellings;
 - Bedwas Colliery, Bedwas (H-4) - 630 dwellings, potential community facilities, and the potential for B1 offices;
 - Ness Tar, Caerphilly (H-5) - 200 dwellings, potential offices, live/work units.
- 6.61 In addition to sites within existing settlements in Caerphilly Basin, there has been development pressure for housing on a number of major greenfield sites within and on the edge of settlements. The map below identifies the position with regards to sites at the time that the Masterplan was prepared, but it is recognised that additional windfall opportunities and greenfield sites may be promoted by the development industry in the future. Where planning applications are submitted, it is necessary to consider each application on its merits, having regard to planning policies, the need for housing and the sustainability of the location.

Figure 14: Potential Housing Sites



I Provide a suitable level of community leisure and education facilities to support the potential level of population and housing growth in the Caerphilly Basin

6.62 Caerphilly Basin has a wide range of formal leisure facilities that are well used by local residents. New development will place additional pressure on facilities and it is important that key community leisure facilities are safeguarded for public use. The development of a plan for the improvement or replacement of facilities is needed to ensure that there is the range of services required by a modern society and at a level capable of meeting demand created by the planned population growth.

Caerphilly Leisure Centre (I-1)

6.63 Caerphilly Leisure Centre is an integral part of leisure provision in Caerphilly Basin, but there is a need to improve the facility to ensure that it meets modern standards. There is the potential to refurbish or redevelop the leisure centre on its existing site at Virginia Park. Alternatively, there may be scope to incorporate a new purpose built facility at another location, such as the Ness Tar site (E-3).

School Provision

6.64 The number of school aged children is expected to increase within Caerphilly Basin as a result of new development and it is important that there are opportunities for schools to expand to accommodate additional pupils. The provision of additional school places in the Caerphilly Basin will be considered as part of the 21st Century Schools programme.

J Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes

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

K Ensure all of Caerphilly's communities are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan.

- 6.67 The 2014 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) identified the local authority housing estate of Lansbury Park (St James 3 LSOA) as the most deprived area in Wales. It has been agreed that there will be a priority focus to implement a new way of working in Lansbury Park, and in a number of the other deprived communities within the county borough. A map of Lansbury Park and its relationship to the town centre can be seen in Figure 2.
- 6.68 A fundamental change to how public services are collectively delivered and approached is required to address the multi faceted needs in the county borough's most deprived communities. There should be far more emphasis upon local government enabling our communities to deliver, rather than delivering for them.
- 6.69 A greater emphasis on identifying community assets is required. When practitioners begin with a focus on what communities have, as opposed to what they don't have, a community's efficacy in addressing its own needs increases, as does its capacity to lever in external support. Currently services are designed to 'fill gaps' and 'fix problems' creating dependency and disempowering individuals who become passive recipients of services.
- 6.70 Caerphilly's new approach to service provision will provide a changing perspective on building bridges with communities, mobilising individual and community assets, and enabling a process of co-production, with community members as active agents in their own and their families' lives. Co production requires users of services to be seen as experts in their own circumstances and capable of making decisions, while service providers move from being fixers to facilitators. This will necessitate new relationships to be developed with front line professionals, and an enabling role adopted.
- 6.71 This will require an approach to public service provision that seeks to better coordinate services to achieve maximum impact. The intention is to adopt a place based focus, with a review of public services to assess how well they meet the outcomes required by residents, and how they could improve impact and value for money. The role of the Public Service Board, and the support of partners, is key to implementing this approach, and having endorsed the approach to Lansbury Park it provides an opportunity to develop this across a number of key areas across the borough.
- 6.72 A Deep Place Plan⁴ has been prepared for Lansbury Park, which explores the complex challenges associated with reversing the cycle of long-term poverty on the estate. The Deep Place Plan recognises that there is a need to improve the physical environment of Lansbury Park, as an integral part of any commitment to estate renewal. Further, it recognised that the physical environment of the estate does little to support good physical and mental health and wellbeing, which is an important part of ensuring that residents can access opportunities for training and work.
- 6.73 Working with its Public Service Board partners, the local business and third sector communities and the residents of Lansbury Park, the Council is working to develop and implement a place-based theory of change outlined in the Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan (2017). The Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan has been endorsed and is being supported by the Caerphilly Public Service Board, and is consistent with its obligations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

⁴ Adamson, D. and Lang, M (2017) Lansbury Park: A Deep Place Plan

- 6.74 The Caerphilly Masterplan will actively ensure that there is full consideration in all of its strategic objectives, of how it supports the Lansbury Park Plan as the work progresses.
- 6.75 The projects identified in the Caerphilly Basin Masterplan also have the potential to provide far reaching benefits for all residents, including those living on Lansbury Park and other deprived estates in Caerphilly Basin and the wider county borough.

Section 7: Delivering and Implementing Change

The table below sets out the projects identified in Section 6 of the report, together with the expected outputs that the project will deliver and how these proposals will address the objectives of the Council's Regeneration Strategy (Appendix 1). The table identifies the indicative costs of each scheme and highlights any funding that has been secured to date. It should be noted that many of these projects are at an embryonic stage and, as such, the outputs and costs can only be estimated.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
A - Enhance the retail offer in the town	A-1 and A-2 Morrisons Car Park (<i>Castle Court Retail Expansion</i>)	Develop part of existing car park adjoining Castle Court shopping centre for retail units suitable for multiple retailers. Develop a modern multi-storey car park on land north of Morrisons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen retail offer in Town Centre; ▪ Re-develop approx. 1.52 Ha of land ▪ Increase footfall; ▪ Job creation – create in the region of 150 new retail/commercial jobs ▪ Construction contract could create a number of jobs during the construction period; ▪ Prevent leakage of retail expenditure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: to be determined but likely to be circa £30-£40m.</p> <p>Predominantly private sector investment but there will probably be a viability funding gap to be filled</p> <p>Dialogue is open between private sector owners and the Council over the possible improved parking provision and expansion of the shopping mall complex.</p>
	A-3 Ton Y Felin Road and Castle Street Triangle	Redevelopment of units and a car park at a key junction to create a high quality landmark building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.32 Ha of prime land ▪ Develop approx. 2,700 m2 of retail/office space ▪ Creation of circa 80 jobs in retail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – but could be in the region of £4.7M+</p> <p>Public Sector/Private Sector</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
		<p>as part of the gateway to the town centre and castle</p> <p>Also part of Strategic Objective D</p>	<p>sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of circa 120 jobs in office based industries ▪ Improve the appearance of this key gateway ▪ Strengthen retail offer in town centre ▪ Enhance the setting of the listed Workmen’s Hall and Institute and Castle ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SP4 	<p>partnerships required due to multiple landowners within area.</p> <p>May however require CPO of land or buildings to maximise the site area/potential.</p>
	A-4 Cardiff Road (Blocks between Clive Street and Park Lane)	<p>Short term improvement to the visual appearance of the buildings through tailored façade treatment</p> <p>Long term redevelopment of the whole block for a mix use development comprising small to medium sized retail units, A3,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the visual amenity of the area in the short term ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.58 Ha of prime land ▪ Develop approx. 5,000 m2 of mixed use space ▪ Creation of circa 170 jobs in retail/hospitality sectors ▪ Creation of circa 180 jobs office based industries ▪ Increased footfall on Cardiff Road ▪ Strengthen mix of uses in the town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – but could be in the region of £480K for short term vision and £8M+ for longer term vision.</p> <p>Public Sector/Private Sector partnerships required due to multiple landowners within area.</p> <p>May however require CPO of land or buildings to maximise the site area/potential.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
		offices and residential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the diversity of the housing stock, including affordable housing provision 		
	A-5 1-20 Cardiff Road	<p>Improvement to facades of prominent buildings overlooking the castle.</p> <p>Redevelopment of the block in the longer term to create a high quality retail led mixed use development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.7 Ha of prime land ▪ Develop approx. 4,600 m² of mixed use space ▪ Creation of circa 115 jobs in retail/hospitality sectors ▪ Creation of circa 180 jobs office based industries ▪ Enhance the setting of Caerphilly Castle ▪ Increase footfall on Cardiff Road ▪ Strengthen retail offer in town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – but could be in the region of £120K for short term vision and £8M+ for longer term vision.</p> <p>Public Sector/Private Sector partnerships required due to multiple landowners within area.</p> <p>May however require CPO of land or buildings to maximise the site</p>
	A-6 Caerphilly Indoor Market	<p>Redevelopment to create a thriving market space as an integral part of the retail offer of the top of town</p> <p>Consider the feasibility of pedestrianisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.080 Ha of prime building/land ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.156 Ha of prime commercial streetscape ▪ Develop approx. 680 m² of market/retail space ▪ Safeguard existing jobs ▪ Creation of circa 40 jobs ▪ Opportunities for start-up businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – but could be in the region of £50K - £150K for internal & external improvements.</p> <p>Feasibility study for pedestrianisation of part of Clive Street and/or Pentrebanne Street required</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
		of a section of Clive Street and/or Pentrebane Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance Caerphilly's position as a market town ▪ Increase footfall at the Top of Town ▪ Create a niche that will increase tourism and visitor spend 		Potential cost for Study could be around £10K - £20K. Cost estimates for enhancement works would be determined as part of Study.
B - Create a vibrant and accessible visitor destination Page 162	B-1 Crescent Road	Redevelopment of Llys Ifor site for a use that complements tourism Park Lane - see C-1 (Below) Also see Strategic Objective D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelop approx. 0.131 Ha of prime building/land ▪ Redevelopment of a long-term vacant building in a prominent position overlooking the castle ▪ Redevelopment of approx. 600 m2 of floorspace ▪ Potential creation of circa 30 jobs in the hospitality ▪ Increased visitor dwell time and spend ▪ Bolster the night-time economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	Funding Secured: None to date Total Costs: To be determined - (Private Sector led) However, funding may be needed to bridge a viability gap. Currently Llys Ifor building is "to let" with rent set at £10.50 per sq ft per annum. Though there may be an option to buy.
	B-2 Cardiff Road and area around station	Enhance the night-time economy around Caerphilly station through the creation of an al fresco dining/wine bar area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of hospitality jobs ▪ Increased visitor dwell time and spend ▪ Bolster the night-time economy <i>(See also Strategic Objective E)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	Funding Secured: None to date Total Costs: To be determined <i>(See also Strategic Objective E)</i> Part of a larger scheme to create a thriving Metro hub around the station.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 163		<p>Undertake a study into the potential to improve the night time economy.</p> <p>Also see Strategic Objective E</p>			
	B-3- Caerphilly Workmen's Hall and Institute	Enhance the cinema and theatre provision to create a thriving cultural and events venue in the heart of the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secure the long-term use of a key listed (Grade II) building within the town ▪ Enhance approx. 0.49Ha of building/land ▪ Creation of circa 5 jobs in cinema/theatre sector ▪ Increased visitor dwell time and spend ▪ Bolster the night-time economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined - (Private Sector led but potential for Private/CISWO/Public Sector Partnership)</p>
	B-4 – Bedwas Workmen's Hall	Upgrade and enhance the facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secure the long-term use of a key listed (Grade II) building within the town ▪ Support community facilities in the wider Caerphilly Basin ▪ Bolster the night-time economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
	B-5 Enhanced parking facilities	Preparation of a town centre parking plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve air quality in the AQMA ▪ Increase footfall in the town centre ▪ Improve quality of life for residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 ▪ CPP3 ▪ CPP4 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – potentially between £10K-£15K to develop the plan.</p> <p>Cost of electric charging points to be determined</p>
C - Maximise the presence of Caerphilly Castle Page 164	C-1 Park Lane	<p>Development of a key site overlooking Caerphilly Castle for a hotel, potentially encompassing a high end restaurant and/or conference facilities</p> <p>Also meets Strategic Objective D</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approx. 0.2 Ha of land at Park Lane developed/vacant land returned to beneficial use; ▪ Job creation - related development opportunity could create Approx. 42 FTE jobs within the commercial sector; ▪ Construction Contract could create a number of jobs during the construction period; ▪ Training opportunities/apprentices during construction – approx. 4 no people; ▪ Private sector investment induced; ▪ Combined, the enhanced tourism offer would see increased spend in the Town Centre by 5-10%. ▪ Increase dwell-time and spend from tourists and business people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: £5M – 6M</p> <p>Private Sector led – potentially public sector gap funding required -land sale requirements/cost to be determined. <i>Potential for CCBC Capital receipt from land scale to be recycled within wider town centre regeneration initiatives.</i></p> <p>CCBC Park Lane investment of £750k to make the site clean to stimulate private sector development</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 165			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bolster the night-time economy 		
	C-2 Tourism Attraction	Development of a tourism attraction in the town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Job creation within the tourism/heritage sector ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increased footfall and spend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined. Will depend upon proposed location.</p>
	C-3 Tourism trail	Creation of a tourist trail linking key sites and buildings of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve Caerphilly's status as a tourist destination ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increased footfall and spend ▪ Increase visitor numbers at other attractions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – could be in the region of £5K - £30K depending on the scope of works.</p>
	C-4 Activity Tourism	<p>Increase accommodation suitable for the active tourism market</p> <p><i>(Linked with Strategic Objective C1)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve Caerphilly's status as a tourist destination ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increase footfall and spend Increase visitor numbers at other attractions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Cost: dependent on scale and type of accommodation. It is envisaged that this will be delivered by the private sector without the need for funding.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 166	C-5 Morgan Jones Park	Improve connectivity between the town and the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve Caerphilly's status as a tourist destination ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increase footfall and spend Increase visitor numbers at other attractions ▪ Improve connectivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – will be dependant on the scope of works desired to improve connectivity.</p>
	C-6 Improvements to Coach Facilities	Develop infrastructure to better accommodate coach tour operators including new coach drop off point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve Caerphilly's status as a tourist destination ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increase footfall and spend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Coach infrastructure - £200k</p>
	C-7 Events	<p>Expand the programme of events in the town</p> <p>Increase the number of event spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve Caerphilly's status as a tourist destination ▪ Greater tourist offer to increase dwell time in the town ▪ Increase footfall and spend ▪ Create temporary job opportunities ▪ Maximise the use of key spaces within the town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL2 ▪ SQL4 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – could be in the region of £100K.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
D - Improve the key gateways	D-1 Western Gateway - linkages	Enhancements to Dafydd Williams Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve pedestrian connectivity ▪ Environmental improvement ▪ Increased dwell time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL4 ▪ CPP3 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined - will be dependent on the scope of works desired to improve linkages/connectivity.</p>
	D-2 Western Gateway – signage – Crescent Road	Improved signage and infrastructure in the Crescent Road car park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve pedestrian connectivity ▪ Environmental improvement ▪ Increase footfall and spend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP3 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined - will be dependent on the scope of works desired to improve linkages/connectivity. Could be in the region of £5K-£10K.</p>
	D-3 Western Gateway – signage – Aber station	Improved signage between the town centre and Aber station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved pedestrian connectivity ▪ Increase footfall and spend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP3 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined - will be dependent on the scope of works desired to improve linkages/connectivity. Could be in the region of £5K-£10K.</p>
	D-4 Northern Gateway – Former Beulah Church	Redevelop site for high end residential development (flats/houses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Re-use of a derelict site in a prominent location ▪ Generation of CIL revenue ▪ Diversification of the housing stock ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SQL7 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – could be in the region of £8M, however it is envisaged that this site will be brought forward by the private sector.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
			chain benefits		
	D-5 Northern Gateway – Piccadilly Public House	Long-term redevelopment of pub and surrounding land for a mixed use development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Re-use of an under-utilised site in a prominent location ▪ Re-develop approx. 0.207Ha of land ▪ Opportunities to open out congested area and improve air quality in the AQMA ▪ Generation of CIL revenue if residential included as part of scheme ▪ Diversification of the housing stock ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SQL7 ▪ CPP1 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p> <p>Multiple landowners – public/private sector partnerships and may require CPO of land or buildings to maximise the site area.</p>
	D-6 Northern Gateway – Environmental improvements	Environmental improvements around the castle and Piccadilly Square Car Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the visual amenity of areas in close proximity to the castle ▪ Potential to improve air quality in the AQMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 ▪ CPP3 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – could be in the region of £30K - £100K depending on the specification of enhancements.</p>
	D-7 Northern Gateway – traffic management	Consider traffic management around the Piccadilly Junction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential to improve air quality in the AQMA ▪ Reduce traffic congestion within the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 ▪ CPP3 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 169	D-8 Southern Gateway – former station building	Improvements to appearance of the former station building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the visual amenity of the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPP3 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – Potential CIG opportunity (£15K max grant)</p>
	D-9 Southern Gateway – landscaping	Increase soft landscaping in an area dominated by paving and railings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the visual amenity of the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPP3 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p>
	D-10 Southern Gateway – Units 89-97 Cardiff Road	<p>Refurbish units to improve coherence at this key gateway</p> <p>Long-term redevelopment opportunity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the visual amenity of the area in the short term Redevelopment of approx. 0.257Ha of land Creation of approx. 65 jobs in retail, hospitality sector in the longer term Creation of approx. 100 jobs in office based industries in the longer term Increased footfall on Cardiff Road Strengthen mix of uses in the town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB1 CPP3 SQL7 SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined but could be in the region of £105K for short term vision and £3M+ for longer term vision.</p> <p>Multiple landowners – may require CPO of land or buildings to maximise the site area.</p>
	D-11 Southern Gateway – traffic management	Consider traffic management around the Bartlett Street/Cardiff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to improve air quality in the AQMA Reduce traffic congestion within the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPP1 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 170		Road			
	D-12 Southern Gateway – police station and magistrates court	Redevelopment of the former police station and magistrates court sites for housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of between 50 and 70 units across the two sites - the police station is proposed for older person housing, which will diversify the housing stock ▪ Generation of CIL revenue ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured : None to Date</p> <p>It is envisaged that the police station will be brought forward by the private sector.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the magistrates' court will be developed by an RSL.</p>
	D-13 Eastern Gateway - Land between Bedwas Road and Lansbury Park	Enhancement of open space in collaboration with the community as part of the implementation of the Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivery of the Lansbury Park Deep Placed Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SQL2 ▪ SP8 	<p>Funding secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p> <p>To be delivered by the Coalition for Change Board</p>
<i>E - Create the conditions for the area to become a thriving Metro Hub</i>	E-1 Caerphilly Transport Interchange and Investment Hub	Redevelopment of the transport interchange to create a Metro Hub, supported by mixed use development as an 'investment hub'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creation of a thriving Metro Hub ▪ Land re-developed - approx. 2.2Ha in total (inclusive of the proposed Investment Hub area); ▪ New landmark public transport interchange; ▪ Improved transport network; ▪ Opportunities for commercial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL7 	<p>Funding Secured : None to Date</p> <p><u>Interchange:</u> £13m - £15m - Modern landmark Transport Interchange</p> <p><u>Investment Hub:</u> £5m-10m to purchase, demolish building stock and introduce</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
			<p>development within station building;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase in more sustainable travel and use of train & bus services; ▪ Better pedestrian/cycling links and facilities. ▪ Land re-developed - approx. 2.2Ha in total (inclusive of the Transport Interchange area); ▪ Up to 10no. redundant or underutilised buildings either demolished and rebuilt or brought back into beneficial use; ▪ Approx. 10% increase in footfall in the town centre (around 2500–3000 additional visitors a week); ▪ Job creation - Approx. 145 no. jobs in commercial/retail/tourism and the business sectors; ▪ Support continued business growth. 		<p>infrastructure and new development.</p> <p>Compulsory Purchase Orders required to create investment hub around station - £4m (based on 20 properties at circa £200k)</p>
	E-2 Expansion of Caerphilly Business Park & Welsh ICE Expansion	Development of 2.2 Ha of brownfield land on the west of Caerphilly Business Park, Redevelopment of units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of 2.2 ha of prime vacant employment land; ▪ Development of new iconic 2/3 storey Office Building; ▪ Create approx. 1956 sq.m of new office space; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB2 ▪ SB3 ▪ SB4 ▪ SB5 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SP5 	<p>Funding secured: None to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Commitment from ICE ▪ Commitment from private land owners for expansion plans ▪ CCBC land earmarked for

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
		elsewhere on the Business Park that are not fit for purpose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A conservative provision of 30 no. new flexible starter units; ▪ Job Creation - Estimated 75 full/part time jobs; (based on an average 2.5 FTE persons per unit); ▪ Associated supply chain jobs within locality; ▪ Help develop the Welsh ICE model of business growth; ▪ Support the creation, and improve survival of start-up businesses through ICE support (creating high aspiration jobs for the region); ▪ Creation of 250 new start-ups per year (aiming to reach 1,250 in 5 years) county borough wide through ICE support; ▪ 40-60 Construction related jobs; ▪ Approx. 6-8 No. training opportunities (based on 1 trainee per £1m spend). ▪ Support the regional priorities for skills development 		<p>development.</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined but could be in the region of £6-£8m+</p> <p><i>Est Costs associated with contamination & drainage - £500K</i></p> <p><i>Est Costs associated with highway infrastructure - £1.5m</i></p>
	E-3 Ness Tar and Pesci's Scrap Yard	Redevelopment of two contaminated sites in a prime location at the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remediation of approx. 10Ha of contaminated land (removing any potential threat for future generations); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB2 ▪ SB3 ▪ SB4 ▪ SB5 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – Could be in the region of £25m-£30m</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 173</p>		<p>edge of the town centre for mixed development - residential, B1 offices, live/work units and leisure (potential leisure centre. Land safeguarded for a bypass as part of the development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ De-risk the strategic site at Ness tar and Plymouth Estates for the private sector; ▪ Strengthen the town centre retail /service offer; ▪ Preserve and enhance the historic environment (Grade II Listed Brick Stack); ▪ 3 Hectares of employment land released (close to the town centre and transport hub); ▪ Creation of approx. 124 new light industrial units; ▪ Job Creation - accommodate in the region of 120-240 full time jobs within the employment land; ▪ New Leisure provision in the heart of town at an easily accessible location; ▪ Provision of 200 homes (including affordable housing); ▪ Approx. 220 indirect/induced jobs from residential development; ▪ Approx. 20 new permanent operational jobs created through residential expenditure; ▪ Approx. £41m net effect on economy from residential development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP5 	<p>To include for remediation, infrastructure, new development and overcoming access issues</p> <p><i>Est Costs of remediation and provision of infrastructure circa £6m</i></p> <p>Potentially up to £13m for new Leisure Centre (CCBC)</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
F- Improve connectivity within the Caerphilly Basin and to other areas Page 174	LDP Improvement schemes (identified in TR6 of the LDP)	Improvements to the strategic highway network at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tafwys Walk - Pwllpant Roundabout (scheme is currently being implemented) - Bedwas Bridge Roundabout - Piccadilly Gyratory - Penrhos to Pwllpant - Pwllpant to Bedwas Further details of the proposals are set out within Appendix 15 of the LDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve air quality in the AQMA ▪ Improvement to existing highway infrastructure ▪ Alleviate traffic congestion ▪ Reducing delays for business ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 	Funding secured for Pwllpant Scheme (circa £6 million) but no other improvements to date Total Cost for other schemes: To be determined. Detailed designs required
	F-1 Llanbradach Park and Ride	Creation of a new park and ride at Llanbradach, linked to a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approx. 7.2Ha of 'brownfield' land developed ▪ Development of new transport infrastructure (rail halt) to help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ CPP3 ▪ CPP4 	Funding secured: none to date Total Cost: To be determined

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 175		relocated station. Development of supporting employment uses as part of a new hub	stimulate investment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of approx. 500-1,000 Park and Ride Spaces ▪ Alleviates traffic congestion within the locality and towards Cardiff ▪ Improved connectivity across the locality & wider region ▪ Of the 7.2 Ha – approx. 2.9 Ha of undeveloped brownfield land brought back into employment use ▪ Job creation – Up to 120-200 jobs created ▪ Create approx. 8,700 sq.m of new employment space 		<i>(Potentially £6M+ for development of employment/starter units)</i> Feasibility and studies detailing costings required.
	F-2 Newport-Machen Rail Line	Reinstatement of the former Caerphilly to Newport rail line for passenger transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create better links between Caerphilly and Newport; ▪ Stimulate investment along route; ▪ Increase attractiveness of Caerphilly for inward investment; ▪ Alleviate road congestion in Caerphilly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP2 ▪ CPP4 	Funding secured: None to date Total Cost: To be determined - Feasibility and studies detailing costings required. Acquisition of required land once mode and design have been determined.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 176	F-3 Caerphilly South East Bypass (Highways Corridor Safeguarding included under Policy TR9 of LDP)	Long-term aspiration to develop a South East bypass to complete the ring road around Caerphilly town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve air quality in the AQMA ▪ Creation of approx. 0.5 miles of new highway infrastructure ▪ Alleviate traffic congestion ▪ Will improve access to key sites in the investment hub ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP1 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: The cost will be dependent on the preferred route – but could be in the region of £25M - £30M.</p>
	F-4 Cycle Parking Facilities	Provision of cycle facilities at all transport hubs (Caerphilly, Aber, Energlyn and Churchill and Llanbradach stations) together with key employment and retail destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase usage of sustainable forms of transport ▪ Alleviate congestion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP2 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – anticipated to form part of other contracted works.</p>
	F-5 Cycle Hire Scheme	Provision of a cycle hire scheme with hire points at key designations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase usage of sustainable forms of transport ▪ Alleviate congestion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPP2 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
G - Provide the conditions to strengthen employment opportunities -	G-1 Ty Cenydd (former UWHA building)	Utilise the Ty Cenydd office building for B1 office use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Re-develop/re-use approx. 0.07Ha of prime land ▪ Utilise 913 m2 of office space ▪ Creation of approx. 65 FTE jobs ▪ Maximise usage of a key building in a prominent location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>It is envisaged that the site will be delivered by the private sector - Potential 'Rateable Value' of £90,275 from April 2017. Rates Payable for 2017 could be £43,874 per annum (£4.46 per sq ft per annum).</p>
	G-2 Land adjoining Llanbradach Park and Ride	See F-1	See F-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See F-1 	See F-1
	G-3 Trecenydd Business Park	Development of 2.2 Ha for employment at Trecenydd Business Park and redevelopment of existing quality units to maximise the potential of this key employment site is close proximity to Aber Station.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2.23 Hectares of employment land released at Trecenydd Business Park; ▪ Creation of approx. 91 new light industrial units; ▪ Job Creation - accommodate in the region of 90-180 full time jobs within the employment land; ▪ Develop residential /employment uses at Energlyn. ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB3 ▪ SB4 ▪ SP5 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>Total Costs: To be determined – could be in the region of £9M for starter units.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ chain benefits ▪ Support the regional priorities for skills development 		
H - Support the development of housing, including affordable housing, on previously developed land and in sustainable locations within settlements	H1 Key Development Opportunities within Existing Settlements – Windsor Colliery, Abertridwr	Delivery of housing in an area where there is a need to diversify the housing supply and address the need for market and affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of between 200 and 250 market and affordable dwellings ▪ Approx. 275 indirect/induced jobs from residential development; ▪ Approx. 25 new permanent operational jobs created through residential expenditure; ▪ Approx. £52m net effect on economy from residential development. ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP4 	Funding Secured: None to date Potential to be developed as part of an innovative leasing model through partnership between the LA and RSLs. May require funding to bridge viability gap as the site is in a low viability area
	H2 Key Development Opportunities within Existing Settlements – Waterloo Works, Waterloo	Delivery of housing in an area where there is a need to diversify the housing supply and address the need for market and affordable housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelopment of a 16.6ha brownfield site; ▪ Provision of 545 homes including affordable housing, public open space; ▪ Approx. 600 indirect/induced jobs from residential development; ▪ Approx. 55 new permanent operational jobs created through 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP2 ▪ SP4 	Funding Secured: None to date Extensive remediation costs to date. It is envisaged that the site will be delivered by the private sector but there may be a viability gap should remediation costs be exceeded further. Full Planning Application submitted

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
Page 179			residential expenditure; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approx. £112m net effect on economy from residential development; ▪ Provision of new community facilities. ▪ Generation of CIL revenue and s106 contribution ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 		(P/06/0037) – subject to Sec 106 Agreement. Ongoing dialogue with the owners of Ness Tar, Bedwas Colliery and Waterloo concerning the redevelopment of these important brownfield sites.
	H3 Key Development Opportunities within Existing Settlements – Catnic, Caerphilly	Delivery of housing in an area where there is a need to diversify the housing supply and address the need for market and affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redevelopment of approx. 5 Ha of land ▪ Development of 175 dwellings ▪ Approx. 193 indirect/induced jobs from residential development; ▪ Approx. 18 new permanent operational jobs created through residential expenditure; ▪ Approx. £36m net effect on economy from residential development. ▪ Generation of CIL revenue ▪ The sale of the site is facilitating the relocating and expansion of an existing businesses, generating additional jobs overall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP4 	Funding Secured: None to date It is envisaged that the site will be delivered by the private sector. Outline Planning Application submitted (Ref: 16/0208/OUT)

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment opportunities in the construction industry and local supply chain benefits 		
	H4 Key Development Opportunities within Existing Settlements – Bedwas Colliery, Bedwas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivery of housing in an area where there is a need to diversify the housing supply and address the need for market and affordable housing. Provision for new community facilities, Potential for B1 offices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remediation of a prominent brownfield site and colliery tips, removing any potential threat for future generations; ▪ 3 Hectares of employment land released in close proximity to Graig y Rhacca; ▪ Creation of approx. 124 new light industrial units; ▪ Job Creation - accommodate in the region of 120-240 full time jobs within the employment land; ▪ Provision of much needed leisure provision to serve Caerphilly Basin; ▪ De-risk the site for the private sector; ▪ Provision of 500 homes (including affordable housing) in a sustainable location in an area of acute housing need; ▪ Approx. 550 indirect/induced jobs from residential development; ▪ Approx. 50 new permanent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB2 ▪ SB4 ▪ SQL5 ▪ SP2 ▪ SP4 	<p>Funding Secured: None to date</p> <p>£30-£32million - to include for remediation, infrastructure, new development and overcoming access issues</p> <p>There is a significant viability gap. Feasibility / Concept - Ongoing dialogue with the owners of Ness Tar, Bedwas Colliery and Waterloo concerning the redevelopment of these important brownfield sites.</p>

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
PSO1			operational jobs created through residential expenditure; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approx. £103m net effect on economy from residential development. 		
	H5 Key Development Opportunities within Existing Settlements – Ness Tar, Caerphilly	See E-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See E-3 	See E-3	See E-3
PSO2 Provide a suitable level of community leisure and education facilities to support the potential level of population and housing growth in the Caerphilly Basin	I1 Caerphilly Leisure Centre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide new modern leisure facilities ▪ Improve health of population ▪ Safeguarded jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL2 ▪ SP4 ▪ SP8 	Funding Secured: None to date The refurbishment costs for the leisure centre are estimated to be £8-9 million. A new build leisure centre would be in the region of £14-£15 million.

Strategic Objective	Project	Description	Expected/Indicative outputs	Objectives of Regeneration Strategy met	Funding secured and <u>potential</u> costs
J - Ensure that accessibility for all is embedded in all improvement schemes		This is an cross-cutting objective that should be considered as an integral part of all projects		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SQL3 	
K - Ensure that all of Caerphilly's communities are able to engage and benefit from the Masterplan	K1 - Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan	Development and implementation of a place-based theory of change outlined in the Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan (2017).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Lansbury Park Deep Place Plan is a multi-faceted programme for sustainable place-making in the community. As such there are multiple outputs that relate to the social, economic and environmental foundations of the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SB1 ▪ SB6 ▪ SQL3 ▪ SQL6 ▪ SP1-SP11 	Funding Secured: None to date Total Costs: To be determined

Appendix 1 – Regeneration Strategy Objectives

Supporting Businesses

- SB1 Building a more resilient & diversified Economy
- SB2 Supporting Economic Growth and Innovation
- SB3 Creating an environment that nurtures businesses
- SB4 Key Sites and Infrastructure for Employment Opportunities
- SB5 Boost Business Support & Enterprise
- SB6 Improve the links between businesses, schools and education & training providers

Supporting Quality of Life

- SQL1: Manage the natural heritage and its resources appropriately for future generations, whilst accommodating much needed sustainable development, protecting wildlife and encouraging the use of green spaces to promote wellbeing
- SQL2: Improve access to culture, leisure and the arts
- SQL3: Active Place Making
- SQL4: There is a need to increase tourism in Caerphilly, focusing on the historic and natural heritage of the area and the opportunities that this presents.
- SQL 5: Improve the delivery of new housing and diversify housing across all tenures.
- SQL6: Improve the quality of the existing housing stock through targeted intervention; particularly in terms of Council owned housing stock.
- SQL 7: Refocus town centres to serve the needs of residents and businesses.

Connecting People and Places

- CPP1: Promote and identify major highway projects that would significantly improve connectivity and accessibility
- CPP2: Promote Public Transport Integration and Connectivity.
- CPP3: Promote place-making development around key transport hubs and nodes
- CPP4: Actively promote rail improvements and the reinstatement of new links
- CPP5: Seek to reduce the level of out commuting
- CPP6: Promote digital connectivity

Supporting People

- SP1 Increase Employability
- SP2 Raise Educational Attainment
- SP3: Reduce worklessness
- SP4: Improve Resilience and Support the development of the foundational Economy
- SP5: Develop skills in key growth areas.
- SP6: Targeted Intervention of key groups
- SP7: Ensure a clear co-ordinated 'package of services' is available in order to reconnect people to employment
- SP8: Support Interventions to improve health
- SP9: Reduce inequality by reducing the number of lower super output areas within the top 10% deprived within Wales.
- SP10 Ensure that Cultivational Procurement is a key consideration in the procurement of goods and services
- SP11 Tackle in-work poverty

Appendix 2 Well-being of Future Generations

The Strategy has had regard for the seven well-being goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Goal	How it will be achieved by the Masterplan
A prosperous Wales	A number of the projects identified will increase employment across a range of sectors. The expansion of the retail and employment offer in the town will reduce the need to travel outside of the County Borough, reducing the carbon footprint.
A resilient Wales	The strategy in the Masterplan seeks to promote the redevelopment of brownfield sites to reduce the impact of development on the natural environment. It also promotes the use of more sustainable modes of transport.
A healthier Wales	There are projects included within the Masterplan that promote active travel and improve connectivity between key open spaces. The masterplan also recognises the need to improve leisure centre provision within the town. Improvements to the physical environment of the town will benefit both physical and mental well-being.
A more equal Wales	The projects identified will increase employment opportunities in all sectors, including the foundational economy. The Masterplan also recognises the challenges experienced in the more deprived communities (e.g. Lansbury Park) and Section 7 identifies how the projects link to the objectives of the Regeneration Strategy, where equality is an integral part.
A Wales of cohesive communities	There are a number of proposals that will improve connectivity between areas. Furthermore, the physical regeneration of a number of key sites for a mix of uses, together with environmental improvements, will make Caerphilly a more attractive, viable and safe area.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Maximising the presence of Caerphilly Castle is a key element of the Masterplan and proposals to enhance the tourism offer associated with this key heritage attraction will be supported. The Masterplan will be available bilingually.
A globally responsive Wales	The schemes proposed will all contribute towards improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of those living, working or visiting Caerphilly.

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

Involvement -The Masterplan has been developed through engagement workshops with a number of key stakeholders, including the Town Centre Management Group, key landowners and interested parties, local authority ward members representing Caerphilly Basin, community councillors and key representatives. A full public consultation will also be carried out to obtain the views of wider stakeholders.

Collaborate – The development of the Masterplan has drawn upon the expertise from key representatives from across local authority departments, including Planning, Regeneration, Housing, Engineering, Education, Leisure, Property and Countryside. The delivery of the projects identified within the Masterplan will involve collaboration between the public, private and third sectors.

Long term – The objectives identified, and the projects that will deliver these objectives, are part of a longer-term vision of enhancing Caerphilly's role as a thriving, vibrant town.

The Masterplan recognising the need for development in order to support economic growth, but recognises that this development should be in sustainable locations.

Integration – The projects identified in the Masterplan will help deliver a number of the Objectives identified within the Council's Regeneration Strategy 'A Foundation for Success' (as set out in Section 7 of this report). They will also deliver against the Council's own Well-being Objectives for 2017/18 by identifying projects that will lead to job creation and training opportunities, which will help address poverty. The projects promote more active and healthy lifestyles and reduced the carbon footprint through improved active travel routes and facilities locally

Prevention – The Masterplan recognises that there are a number of challenges within Caerphilly town that need to be addressed in order to achieve the Vision. The projects identified will respond to these key concerns in order to ensure that they do not get worse. The projects identified will increase the tourism offer and therefore visitor spend, diversify the mix of uses with the town centre and reduce the leakage of retail expenditure to other areas, create job opportunities, improve air quality enhance connectivity, and improve the quality of life for those living, working and visiting Caerphilly.

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CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TY-SIGN, RISCA TO REPLACE THE CHANNEL VIEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

REPORT BY: INTERIM CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of a proposal presented by a newly created Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), the Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre, to develop a new Community Centre in Tŷ Sign, Risca.
- 1.2 To seek Cabinet's approval in principle to support the delivery of a purpose built community centre on land at Holly Road, Tŷ Sign (shown edged black at Appendix 1) subject to full consultation.
- 1.3 To authorise officers to enter into further discussions and to undertake the necessary consultations.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Channel View Community Centre management committee currently occupy the building on a licence at a peppercorn rent at Channel View, Risca on the land shown edged black at Appendix 2. This land is in Council ownership through the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). Access to the site is through the Council's Hafod-y-Bryn Sheltered Housing Scheme. The existing Channel View Community Centre is not fit for purpose. The Channel View site also houses another building (shown at Appendix 2) that is leased to the Scout Association Trust Corporation, which is also in poor physical condition.
- 2.2 The Council has been approached by a newly created CIO, the Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre, to work in partnership with them to explore the feasibility of developing a new purpose built Community Centre in Holly Road, Tŷ Sign, Risca on land also held by the HRA. The Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre are seeking a lease period of at least 21 years (necessary to meet the requirements of the Big Lottery), and at a low, non-commercial, rent. The existing Channel View Community Centre would close under the above proposal. Both existing and proposed locations are shown at Appendix 3.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales. It requires public bodies to think more about the long-term, working with people and communities, looking to prevent problems and take a more joined up approach. This will create a Wales that we all want to live in, now and in the future. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals:

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

The content of this report links into: A healthier Wales, A Wales of cohesive communities, a globally responsible, Wales a more equal Wales.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The Council has been approached by a newly created CIO, the Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre, seeking the Council's support to develop a new purpose built Community Centre in Holly Road, Tŷ Sign, Risca on land held by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (on the land shown edged black at Appendix 1). The proposal would reduce the need for residents from Tŷ Sign to travel into the centre of Risca for events and services.
- 4.2 The Channel View Community Centre management committee currently licence the Channel View Community Centre (shown edged black at Appendix 2) on a peppercorn rent. The current site is also held by the HRA. Access to the site is through the Council's Hafod-y-Bryn Sheltered Housing Scheme. The proposed new building would replace an existing facility that is not currently fit for purpose as a result of structural, locational, and functional problems that cannot adequately be addressed by further investment in the building.
- 4.3 The Channel View site currently houses another building that is leased to the Scout Association Trust Corporation. This lease was signed on 1st July 1999 for a 30 year period and would be surrendered should the Scout Group relocate to the proposed new community centre. There are currently 11 years remaining on this lease and the building is in a very poor condition.
- 4.4 By vacating the existing site at Channel View there is an opportunity to redevelop the site, subject to a feasibility study being undertaken. This may provide an opportunity to increase the provision of small unit residential accommodation in the area. It should be noted however that the demolition of the existing buildings at Channel View will need to be costed and, as such, may impact upon any capital receipt achieved.
- 4.5 Subject to valuation, an option exists to dispose of the existing Channel View site to develop affordable housing. The associated capital receipt would go into the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). Alternatively the land could be earmarked for future development of Council housing. The HRA is a ring-fenced budget that is funded from tenants' rents to support the delivery of an effective and efficient housing service through maintaining and improving the Councils housing stock.
- 4.6 The Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre have requested that any capital receipt obtained from the sale of the Channel View site is afforded to them to support the proposed new development at Tŷ Sign. Considering the primary purpose of HRA as set out in 4.5 that request cannot be considered. It may also be determined that the site will be retained for the future development of Council housing, in which case no capital receipt would be realised.
- 4.7 To date there have not been any site investigations undertaken and no valuations on the land provided. It is therefore not currently known what additional costs may be needed to ascertain if the site is indeed suitable for development. The findings of this work may result in the site not being deemed viable for future development or any capital receipt being low as a result of the investigatory and development costs.

- 4.8 Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre will be progressing their funding application. This newly created Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) includes the Agape Community Church and the 5th Risca Scouts, and representatives of the Channel View Community Centre management committee and Risca East Community Council acting as trustees. Over the next 3-6 months they will be undertaking the following steps:
- Receive feedback from Risca East Community Council in respect of a funding application to undertake a survey of the Holly Road site in support of a planning application.
 - Prepare a detailed application for the Welsh Government's Community Facilities Grant and re-submit the application to the Big Lottery.
 - Refine the current business plan for the new facility. This is required to support the Welsh Government Community Facilities application.
 - Seek tender submissions for the detailed design of the new facility (when appropriate).
- 4.9 The site of the proposed new community centre in Holly Road, Tŷ Sign is held by the Housing Revenue Account. The Ty Sign Community Hall and Resource Centre are seeking a lease period of at least 21 years (necessary to meet the requirements of the Big Lottery), and at a low, non-commercial, rent. Since the proposed letting of the land is a disposal of land held under the Housing Revenue Account, consent to the disposal under sections 32-34 of the Housing Act 1985 will need to be first obtained prior to entering into any lease. Such consent would be sought from Welsh Government following agreement of Head of Terms.
- 4.10 The area of land at Holly Road identified for the proposed new facility is protected as an area of informal open space in the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan (LDP). This area however benefits from a significant amount of open space and as such the holistic benefits of the proposed project for the community could be considered to outweigh the potential loss of land for informal community and recreational use. It should be noted that the land was previously allocated for housing in the Adopted Islwyn Local Plan and therefore it could have residential value if the allocation were to change in the next LDP.
- 4.11 Where a council is considering disposing of any land consisting or forming part of an open space they must give notice of their intention to do in in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the land is situated, and consider any objections to the proposed disposal which may be made to them. Should Cabinet be minded to support the proposal in principle any material objections as a result of the public notice procedure will be brought to Cabinet in a further report.
- 4.12 In 2015 a Scrutiny Task and Finish group undertook a review of the Council's support of community centre provision throughout the County Borough and was tasked with making any recommendations necessary under the Medium Term Financial Plan. Following their consideration of the Task and Finish Group findings Education for Life Scrutiny Committee's recommendations to Cabinet included a recommendation to close Channel View Community Centre. At its meeting of 20th January 2016 Cabinet resolved to allow Channel View Community Centre more time to develop and increase their usage rather than close at that time. The more recently appointed management committee have been proactive in securing additional use and raising the facility's profile. However, usage remains low at present.
- 4.13 The current Channel View Community Centre is not deemed fit for purpose and it is unlikely that the identified issues can or would be addressed with further investment. It should be noted that services currently provided at Channel View Community Centre will continue until such time that a new facility is developed at the Holly Road site.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 The issues outlined in this report make a contribution across the seven well-being goals, but in particular to the following areas:
1. **A healthier Wales:** There is significant evidence to support the view that undertaking an active lifestyle has significant benefits in terms of reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease along with positive impacts upon mental health and body weight control. The role of community centres is significant in terms of supporting the integration of physical activity into everyday lifestyles.
 2. **A Wales of cohesive communities:** Caerphilly County Borough Council have communicated a vision to place its facilities at the heart of the community, ensuring it's effectively placed to deliver a well-connected, socially inclusive hub.
 3. **A globally responsible Wales:** There is significant evidence to support the positive impact that leading a healthy, physically active lifestyle has upon the economic, social and cultural well-being of Welsh residents.
 4. **A more equal Wales:** There is significant evidence to support the positive role that engaging in community activity can play in supporting people to fulfil their potential from both an educational and socio economic perspective.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) will not be required at this stage however should the recommendations outlined below be approved then an EIA will be required in accordance with the Authority's Strategic Equalities Plan.
- 6.2 The proposed development to build a Community Centre will have a positive impact on the wider community and benefitting many different groups through the delivery of various activities and interest groups.
- 6.3 The proposal supports Strategic Equality Objective 3: Improving Physical Access, Strategic Equality Objective 5: Inclusive Engagement and Participation and Strategic Equality Objective 7: Supporting Age-friendly Communities.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Channel View Community Centre has current fund balances of circa £74,000, however given it's charitable status any proposed use of these funds in support of the proposal would be a matter for the charity in accordance with its own constitution
- 7.2 At present the Council's contribution to Channel View is in the form of caretaker costs, public indemnity insurance and statutory maintenance liabilities (see below) which can be used as future MTFP savings. These costs will transfer to the newly created C.I.O. in the event that the new community centre at Tŷ Sign is developed.
- Caretaker costs - £5,500 per annum
 - Public Indemnity Insurance - £500 per annum
 - Statutory Maintenance Liabilities – £5,000 per annum
- 7.3 The most recent condition survey undertaken at Channel View Community Centre in 2014 outlines £107,479 of outstanding maintenance requirements identified against a priority 1, 2 or 3 rating with 1 being the most urgent. The breakdown is as follows:
- Priority 1: £9,560
Priority 2: £82,169
Priority 3: £15,750

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 CCBC currently employs a caretaker at Channel View Community Centre on a 12 hr per week basis.
- 8.2 Should the proposed development materialise it has been suggested that the existing caretaker will transfer to the employment of the newly created C.I.O.

9. CONSULTATION

- 9.1 This report has been sent to the consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is recommended that Cabinet agree in principle to support the delivery of a purpose built community centre on land at Holly Road, Tŷ Sign and authorise officers to enter into further discussions and undertake the necessary consultations with a further report being brought to Cabinet for final determination.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 The land at Holly Road is considered surplus to the Council's operational requirements.
- 11.2 To support the development of a new purpose built community centre in Tŷ Sign, Risca.

12. STATUTORY POWER

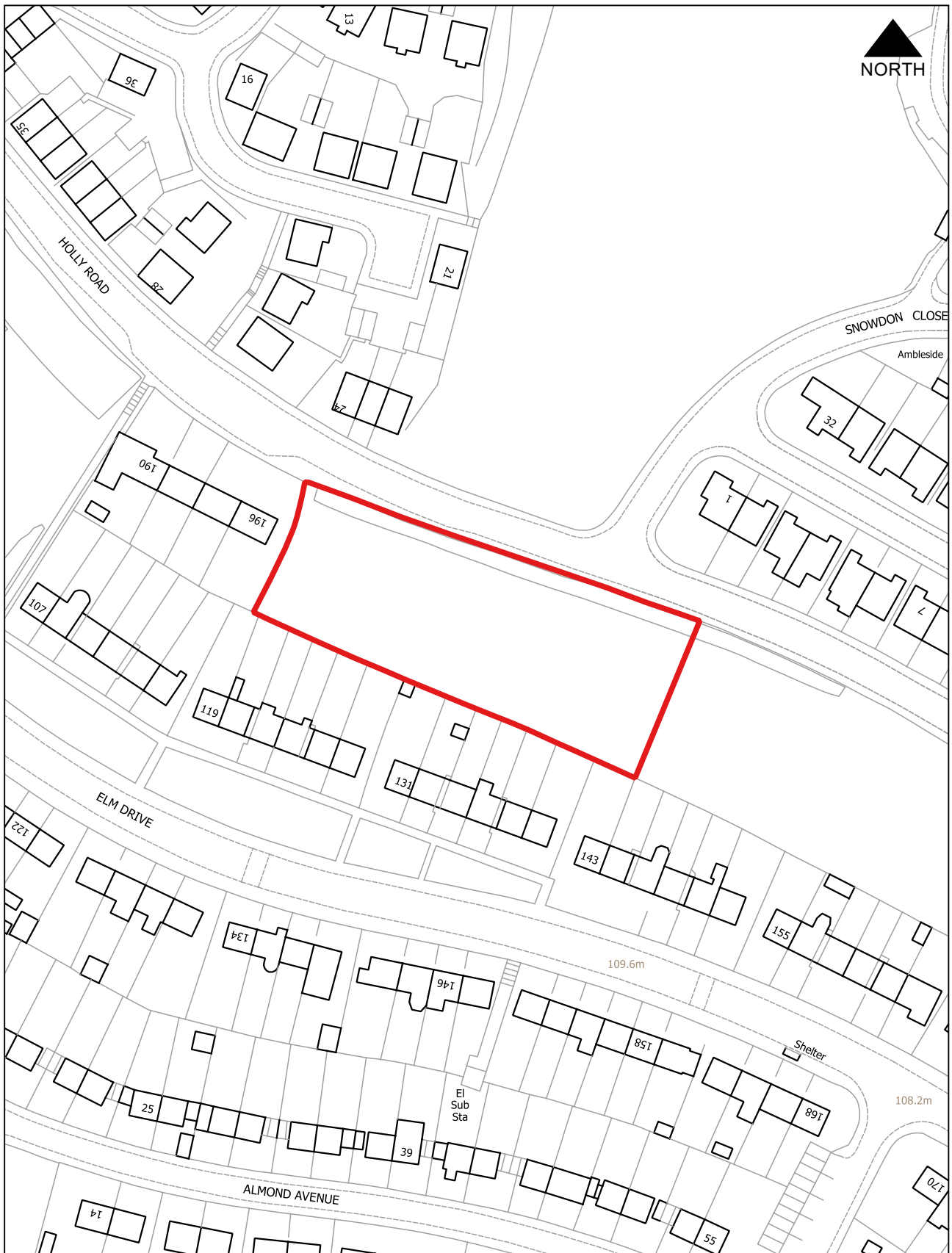
- 12.1 Local Government Act 1972.

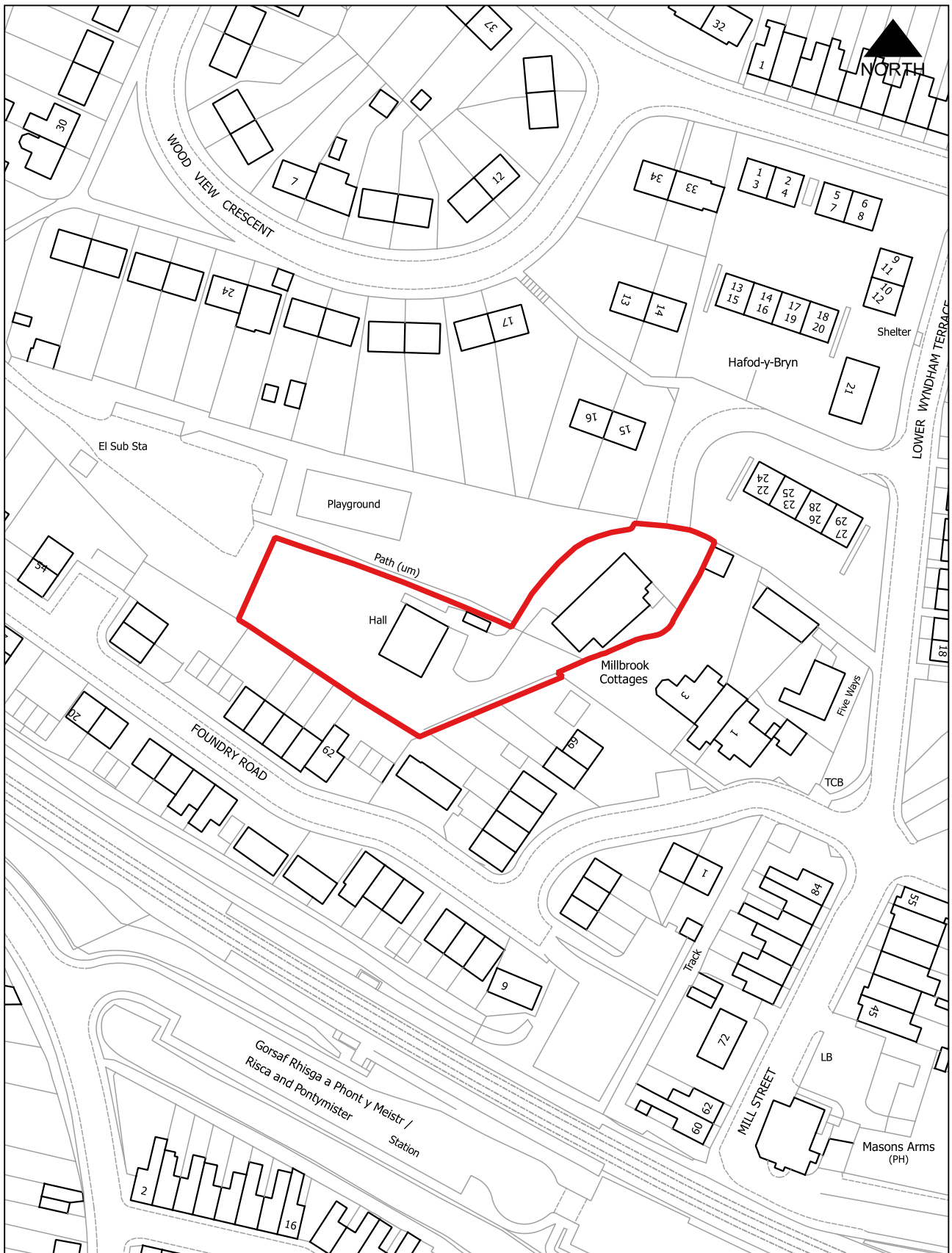
Author: Rob Hartshorn – Head of Policy and Public Protection

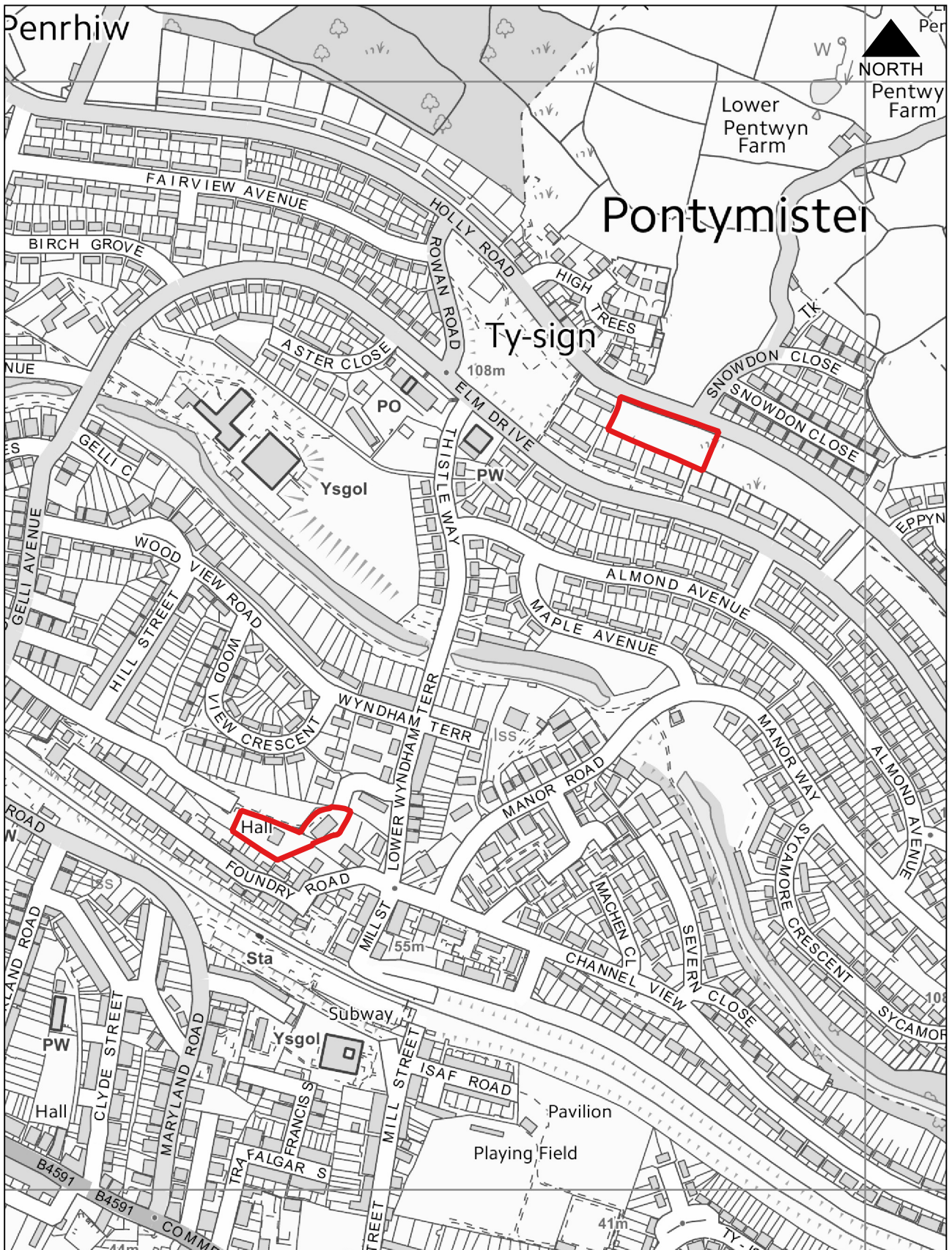
Consultees: Mark S. Williams – Interim Corporate Director, Communities
Cllr Nigel George – Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services
Shaun Couzens – Chief Housing Officer
Jeff Reynolds – Sport & Leisure Services facilities Manager
Fiona Wilkins – Public Sector Housing Manager
Kevin Fortey – Housing Development Officer
Rhian Kyte – Team Leader Strategic and Development Planning
Allan Dallimore – Team Leader Urban Renewal and Conservation
Tim Broadhurst – Estates Manager
Kevin Lodge – Community Centre Services Manager
Richard Harris - Internal Audit Manager
Lisa Lane – Solicitor
Richard Crane - Solicitor
Anwen Cullinane - Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
Mike Eedy - Finance Manager
Shaun Watkins - Human Resources Manager

Background Papers:
Cabinet Report – “Community Centres Task and Finish Group” 20th January 2016

Appendices:
Appendix 1: Site of Proposed Community Centre, Holly Road
Appendix 2: Site of existing Channel View Community Centre
Appendix 3: Location Plan showing both sites









CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX EXEMPTION FOR CARE LEAVERS

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND S151 OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present Cabinet with details of a proposal to 'exempt' care leavers between the ages of 18 and 25 as a specified class from the payment of Council Tax. If agreed, this will require amendments to the Council's 'Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13A (1) (c)' which allows a Council to reduce the Council Tax liability of a person, or a class of persons, to nil, if it sees fit to do so.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A recent campaign by the Children's Commissioner has highlighted the difficulties that many young people face in managing their money and paying bills when leaving care.
- 2.2 This report provides details of a proposal to 'exempt' care leavers between the ages of 18 and 25 as a specified class from the payment of Council Tax. If agreed, this will require amendments to the Council's 'Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13A (1) (c)' which allows a Council to reduce the Council Tax liability of a person, or a class of persons, to nil, if it sees fit to do so.
- 2.3 Currently, the Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy only allows for applications to be considered on an individual basis. To implement this proposal, care leavers need to be specified as a class of cases in respect of which Council Tax liability can be reduced. Where a care leaver resides in a household and is not liable for Council Tax purposes, the Council Tax liable person(s) will be able to apply for a discretionary reduction if the presence of the care leaver results in an increase in the Council Tax payable for the household. In both instances, the care leaver needs to be aged between 18 and 25.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Council Tax provides significant resources which assist the Council in achieving a balanced budget. The Council's 'Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13A (1) (c)' supports the Council's anti-poverty strategy.
- 3.2 This proposal to support care leavers moving to independent accommodation or those receiving care leavers into their household with a discretionary reduction in Council Tax liability contributes to the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015:-

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

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended gives discretion to billing authorities to reduce a liable person's Council Tax 'to such extent as it thinks fit', even to nil, whether on an individual basis or by prescribing one or more classes. This discretion is in addition to various statutory reductions, discounts, disregards and exemptions that are prescribed within Council Tax legislation.
- 4.2 Care leavers are a particularly vulnerable group whose transition from care into adulthood can be very challenging in terms of managing money for the first time without family support. There is a significant risk of these young people falling into debt, some facing Council Tax bills along with other commitments. Following a recent campaign by the Children's Commissioner, the Welsh Local Government Association's Executive recently endorsed a paper to pursue the 'exemption' from Council Tax liability within individual local authorities.
- 4.3 The Council has a responsibility as a Corporate Parent to support young people in its care. Corporate parenting is a statutory function of the Council. The underlying principle is that every local authority will seek the same outcomes for young people in care that every good parent would want for their own children. To support this process, it is proposed that care leavers between the ages of 18 and 25 are designated as a specified class under the Council's Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy and would in effect be 'exempt' from liability to pay Council Tax where their liability to pay has not already been reduced to nil by the award of statutory reductions, discounts, disregards and exemptions for other reasons.
- 4.4 Council Tax officers will work with colleagues in Social Services to develop processes that will make it as easy as possible for care leavers to access this discretionary reduction. For young people within the County Borough leaving care, the process should be seamless and invisible. Children's Services will automatically register care leavers with the Council Tax Section so that the reduction may be awarded promptly. Similar arrangements will be made for those leaving another Council's care to reside in the Caerphilly County Borough.
- 4.5 If this amended policy is agreed, any cases falling within this specified class of 'care leavers' will be awarded a discretionary reduction which will be approved by the Head of Corporate Finance under delegated powers; no written application or means-testing will be required.
- 4.6 Any discretionary reduction for care leavers would take effect from 1st April 2018, or the date on which a care leaver's liability to pay Council Tax first arises where that date is later than 1st April 2018.
- 4.7 Where a care leaver is aged between 18 and 25 and resides in a household but is not liable for Council Tax purposes, the Council Tax liable person(s) will be able to apply for a discretionary reduction if the presence of the care leaver results in an increase in the Council Tax payable; the discretionary reduction will be equivalent to the amount by which the Council Tax has increased. The effective date for any discretionary reduction under these circumstances would be 1st April 2018, or the date on which a care leaver first joins a household where that date is later than 1st April 2018.
- 4.8 Cabinet is therefore asked to consider and approve the amended policy attached as Appendix A of this report.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 Effective financial planning is a key element in ensuring that the Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 are met. The report specifically meets the sustainable duty in the following ways: -

Involvement – This way of working is about involving people who have an interest in achieving the goal. Internally there has been close working with the relevant areas such as Children’s Services and there will be further involvement with the care leavers if the report is approved.

Collaboration – This report has not needed a detailed external collaboration to arrive at the proposal. However, the Welsh Local Government Association’s Executive, working with the relevant charity, has endorsed the proposed approach.

Long-term – This approach understands the need to balance short-term help with the ability to safeguard the longer-term needs of the individual. Much is known about how poverty impacts on individuals’ quality of life, so this action provides longer-term security for a care leaver.

Integration – This way of working is about how our decisions impact other public bodies. A young person supported to stay out of debt can positively impact on the work of a wide range of public bodies from the Health Services, Police, Academia (colleges or universities) or third sector organisations, such as the Children’s Society who all have objectives on better outcomes for young and vulnerable people.

Prevention – This way of working is about understanding what causes problems and preventing them from getting worse. In understanding the financial difficulties care leavers face we aim to support them and help to prevent the risks of falling into debt.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no potential equalities implications of this report and its recommendations on groups or individuals who fall under the categories identified in Section 6 of the Council's Strategic Equality Plan, therefore a full Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out.
- 6.2 The report, if approved, will have a positive impact on care leavers, which are considered a particularly vulnerable group where there is a significant risk of them falling into debt as they transition from care into adulthood and having to manage money for the first time without family support.
- 6.3 The report further supports the Welsh Local Government Association’s Executive which recently endorsed a paper to pursue the ‘exemption’ from Council Tax liability within individual local authorities.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The financial impact of awarding reductions under Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended must be borne wholly by the Council as a loss of Council Tax revenue.
- 7.2 The estimated cost of providing the discretionary reductions is approximately £10,000 per annum, after taking account of other Council Tax reductions, discounts, disregards and exemptions which may apply.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 There are no consultation responses which have not been reflected in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approve the amended Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13A (1) (c) as at Appendix A, effective from 1st April 2018.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To enable the Head of Corporate Finance, under delegated powers, to approve a discretionary reduction in Council Tax liability in respect of care leavers as detailed throughout the report and in the amended Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13a (1) (c) as at Appendix A.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (introduced by Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2003 and substituted by Section 10 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012), and Regulations made under the 1992 Act.

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Consultees:

Cllr David Poole, Leader

Cllr Carl J Cuss, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Wellbeing

Cllr Barbara Jones, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Governance

John Carpenter, Council Tax & NNDR Manager

Sean O'Donnell, Principal Council Tax & NNDR Officer

Gareth Jenkins, Assistant Director – Children's Services

Lisa Lane, Solicitor

Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)

Appendices:

Appendix A

Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy - Section 13A (1) (c)

Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy

Section 13A (1) (c)

1. Background

- 1.1. Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 allows councils which are billing authorities to reduce the amount of council tax payable. It can be used for individual cases or a council can determine classes of cases in which liability is to be reduced. The purpose of this discretionary reduction is to provide temporary assistance to council tax payers to help reduce their council tax liability. There are financial implications in awarding any reductions other than those currently available under council tax legislation, and the financial burden of Section 13A reductions is borne wholly by the Council as a loss of council tax revenue.

2. Legislative Powers

- 2.1. Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (introduced by Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2003 and substituted by Section 10 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012), provides the Council with the discretion to reduce liability for council tax in relation to individual cases, or a class or classes of cases, that it may determine. Before a discretionary reduction under Section 13 A (1) (c) is considered, all other appropriate council tax discounts, exemptions or reductions will have been awarded.

A summary of Section 13A (1) (c) is set out below:

- Where a person is liable to pay council tax in respect of any chargeable dwelling, the Council for the area in which the dwelling is situated may reduce the amount to such extent as it thinks appropriate;
- The power under subsection (1) includes the power to reduce an amount to nil;
- The power under subsection (1) may be exercised in relation to particular cases or by determining a class of case in which liability is to be reduced to an extent provided by the determination.

3. Care Leavers' Class

- 3.1. 'Care Leavers' are specified as a class of cases in which liability can be reduced to nil. Cases falling within this class will be awarded a discretionary reduction automatically and no written application will be required.
- 3.2. For the purpose of this policy, care leavers will be defined as residents for whom Caerphilly County Borough Council (Caerphilly CBC) or another local authority held

corporate parenting responsibility at the point at which the young person left care. Corporate parenting is a statutory function of the Council and, in Wales, councils retain corporate parenting responsibilities for young people who left care up to the age of 21, or up to the age of 25 if they are pursuing education or training.

3.3. The principles of awarding a discretionary reduction to care leavers are as follows:

- The young person is a 'care leaver' and is between the ages of 18 and 25 and is not exempt from council tax liability on any other basis;
- Where a Caerphilly CBC 'care leaver' moves out of the Council's area, the discretionary reduction will be apportioned to the date that they move.

3.4. The Care Leavers' Class will operate as follows:

- The young person is a 'care leaver' and is between the ages of 18 and 25 and is not exempt on any other basis;
- The discretionary reduction will apply to residents for whom Caerphilly CBC or another local authority held corporate parenting responsibility at the point at which the young person left care;
- The care leaver resides and is liable, or jointly liable, to pay council tax within the Caerphilly County Borough;
- The level of reduction applied will be 100% of residual council tax liability, after taking account of any other discounts, disregards, exemptions or council tax reduction (CTR) to which the resident may be entitled;
- The reduction will be awarded against any council tax liability arising from 1st April 2018 and the Council will have discretion to backdate future awards to 1st April 2018 but no earlier;
- The reduction will not be means-tested if the care leaver is between the ages of 18 to 25;
- The date of the day before the care leaver's 25th birthday determines the last day of the period of the discretionary reduction.

4. Applying for Section 13A Discretionary Reduction

4.1. Who can apply? Those persons liable to pay council tax to Caerphilly CBC who can apply are:-

- Tenants
- Owner Occupiers
- Residents
- Persons acting on behalf of a liable person e.g. disabled, or elderly persons, i.e. an appointee, solicitor or someone with power of attorney.

4.2 With the exception of the Care Leavers' specified class where no application is needed, the Council will treat all applications on their individual merits, however some or all of the following criteria must be met for each case:

- The taxpayer must satisfy the Council that all reasonable steps have been taken to resolve the situation prior to application;
- The amount outstanding must not be the result of deliberate non-payment or failure to make payments as required through neglect;
- All other appropriate council tax discounts, exemptions or reductions have already been awarded;

- The taxpayer does not have access to other assets that could be used to pay council tax;
- The situation and reason for the application must be outside of the applicant's control, for example, environmental factors like flooding;
- Unless it is clear that the applicant will not qualify, the applicant has applied for council tax reduction support (the Welsh Government's national council tax reduction scheme exists to ensure that those on low incomes receive financial assistance with their council tax);
- There must be evidence of financial hardship or personal circumstances that justifies a discretionary reduction in council tax liability. To evidence financial hardship an Income/Expenditure form must be completed. **See appendix A;**
- Where a care leaver is between the ages of 18 and 25 and resides in a household but is not liable for council tax purposes, the council tax liable person(s) will be able to apply for a discretionary reduction if the presence of the care leaver results in an increase in the council tax payable; the discretionary reduction will be equivalent to the amount by which the council tax has increased. The effective date for any discretionary reduction under these circumstances would be 1st April 2018, or the date on which a care leaver first joins a household where that date is later than 1st April 2018. In respect of this last bullet point, the Head of Corporate Finance, under delegated powers, will have discretion to backdate future awards to 1st April 2018 but no earlier.

4.3 Requests for a discretionary reduction to lower council tax liability will be required in writing from the council tax payer, or a recognised third party appointed to act on their behalf. There is no formal application form.

4.4 The application should relate to the current council tax year, unless the applicant has received a bill following a delayed council tax valuation for a previous year(s) or a late determination as to liability to the council tax.

4.5 The Council reserves the right to request any additional evidence in support of the discretionary reduction application, and will act consistently and reasonably in doing so. Where the applicant is unable to, or does not supply the required evidence, the Council will still consider the application and will take into account any other evidence available.

5. Decision Making

5.1. The Council Tax and NNDR Manager will consider all Section 13A applications and make a recommendation to the Head of Corporate Finance whose decision will be made under delegated powers. Any award made under the Care Leavers Class will be approved by the Head of Corporate Finance under delegated powers but no application or means-testing will be required.

5.2. Any successful application for a discretionary reduction will be granted for a temporary period only. The reduction will cease at the end of this period and a further application will be required for consideration of any ongoing assistance. It should be noted that any award made under the Care Leavers' Class will continue to apply until the date of the day before the care leaver's 25th birthday.

5.3. Discretionary reductions will generally be made from the date that the Council received the application form, but the Council may backdate reductions under this policy, subject

to the restriction in respect of care leavers stated in points 3.4 and 4.2 if it is considered reasonable to do so.

6. Notification of Decision

- 6.1. The Council will notify an applicant in writing within 21 days of receiving sufficient information to make a decision or, if this is not possible, within a reasonable period afterwards.

7. Review of Decision

- 7.1. Under the Local Government Finance Act 1992, there is no right of appeal against the Council's use of discretionary powers. However, the Council will accept a taxpayer's written request for a review of its decision if it is made within 28 days of the original decision. The Director of Education & Corporate Services will carry out the review and consider whether the customer has provided any additional information against the required criteria that will justify a change in its decision. Following this, if the taxpayer is still aggrieved at the Council's decision, it may only be challenged by way of judicial review where the High Court may be asked to consider whether the Council has acted within its powers.

8. Fraudulent Claims and Overpayments

- 8.1. The Council reserves the right to recover any overpayment of a discretionary reduction where the reduction was made as a result of misrepresentation or failure to disclose a material fact, fraudulently (or otherwise), or due to an administrative error by the Council (where it is reasonable to assume that the taxpayer would have been aware).
- 8.2. The Council is committed to tackling fraud and abuse of public funds in all forms. The Council is committed to tackling fraud and abuse of public funds in all forms. Where there is suspicion that that a fraud may have occurred, the matter will be investigated and this may lead to criminal proceedings being initiated. The Council will consider prosecuting any applicant who makes a false statement or provides fraudulent evidence in support of an application.

9. Equalities Statement

- 9.1. The Council is committed to equality and fairness. Equality is about ensuring people are treated fairly and given fair chances. It is also about ensuring that people receive fair outcomes in the standard of service they receive from the Council.

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



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Stephen Harris

<h2 style="margin: 0;">COUNCIL TAX</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">DETAILS OF INCOME & OUTGOINGS</h3>

Name and Address	Date of Issue:	
	Date to be Returned by:	
	A/c Number:	
	Tel Number:	
	N I Number:	

EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED OR ON BENEFIT	
(give weekly amounts)		(give weekly amounts)	
Date commenced employment:		Date first claimed benefit:	
Employer: Address:		Income Support:	£
		Pension Credit:	£
		Job Seeker's Allowance:	£
Tel Number:		Incapacity Benefit or ESA:	£
Payroll No:		Tax Credits:	£
Net Income:	£	Other Benefits:	£
Tax Credits:	£		
TOTAL INCOME:	£	TOTAL INCOME:	£

Savings	
Savings/bank accounts	
Total Savings held	£

OTHER RELEVANT DETAILS	
Partner's full name:	
Partner's income (weekly):	£
Partner's employment details (if applicable) :	
Number of dependent children:	
Ages of children:	

Appendix A

Please ensure you include all of your outgoings below:

Expenses	Amount £	Frequency i.e. weekly, monthly or 4 weekly	Expenses	Amount £ A Amount £	Frequency i.e. weekly, monthly or 4 weekly
Rent/Rent arrears/Mortgage			Loans/HP		
Council Tax/Council Tax Arrears			Fines/Court Orders		
Electricity			Television (Rental)		
Gas			TV Licence		
Water rates			Car (Fuel, Tax, insurance)		
Food/Housekeeping			Travel Expenses		
Childcare (Dinner money)			Clothing		
Insurances (home, personal)			Maintenance paid		
Telephone (home)			Other		
Telephone (mobile)					
Credit Card/Store Card			Total Expenditure		

If any of the expenses given above are unusually high, please give details:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Declaration

I declare that the information given on this form is correct.

Signed:

Dated:



CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF) OPERATIONS: INSPIRE 2 WORK (I2W) BRIDGES INTO WORK 2 (BIW2) AND WORKING SKILLS FOR ADULTS 2 (WSA2)

REPORT BY: CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To ask Cabinet to endorse an extension of Inspire 2 Work (I2W), and an in principle agreement for a future extension to Bridges into Work 2 (BIW2) and Working Skills for Adults (WSA2).
- 1.2 To ask Cabinet to endorse the use of up to £283k of the Education Directorates balances as additional match funding to support the extension of I2W, BIW2 and WSA2 in order to draw down additional European funding.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Despite the recent upturn in the economy, unemployment and economic inactivity is still an issue for concern in the County Borough. Since 2013, Caerphilly officers have participated in the development of regional proposals seeking to build on the success of employment support operations delivered under the 2007-13 ESF Programme, including Bridges into Work, Pre-Vent and Working Skills for Adults.
- 2.2 A number of operations have now been approved by the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO). Those approved include the Welsh Government (WG) led Communities4Work operation, that matches some of their investment in the Communities First (CF) programme, with CF teams now supported to deliver employment support in the most deprived areas of Wales.
- 2.3 The successors to Bridges into Work and Working Skills for Adults were approved by WEFO in August 2015, the CCBC match funding for these operations was endorsed by Cabinet on July 29th 2015. Bridges into Work 2 will provide essential employment support for adults aged 25+ in non-CF areas, whilst Working Skills for Adults 2 will provide upskilling opportunities for those who are low skilled and low paid in work, to address the in work poverty agenda. Both operations currently provide direct delivery until January 2020, with operation closure by the end of April 2020. Torfaen County Borough Council is the Lead Sponsor on these 2 operations.
- 2.4 Inspire 2 Work (I2W) was approved on the 22nd November 2016 with an official operation start date of 1st July 2016 and an end date of the 30th June 2019. This operation focuses on the clearly identified need to address the issue of young people 16-24 who are NEET (not in employment, education or training) and living in non-Community First areas. The Lead Sponsor on this operation is Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

- 2.5 I2W has been invited to re-profile and extend to December 2022 and BIW2 and WSA2 will be invited to re-profile to December 2022 by April 2018.

Caerphilly's involvement in these 3 operations is part of a regional approach and other partners in the region are currently keen to extend all 3 operations to December 2022.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report contributes to the Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016. In particular, as follows:
- A prosperous Wales as it details improved outcomes for operation participants, and reduces impact of poverty if people are able to gain skills to gain employment.
 - A healthier Wales, supporting vulnerable participants can improve their well-being and aid educational achievement.
 - A more equal Wales, a society that enables participants to fulfil their potential no matter what their background is; and.
 - A Wales of cohesive communities (in the context of improving quality of life with attractive, viable, safe and well connected communities).
- 3.2 The operation supports Adult learning in Wales (Published July 2017). This provides a vision that sets the direction of travel for Adult Community Learning to 2021. It outlines a Wales where learning is at the core of all we do; where participation in learning is encouraged and rewarded; and where people have equal opportunities to gain the skills for life and work that they need to prosper.
- 3.3 Supports the delivery of the vision statement of the 5 County Gwent Adult Community Learning Partnership.(2016-2019).
- 3.4 Welsh language training provision under the Council's Welsh Language Scheme 2012, the Youth Service Strategy and the Welsh Government Health, Social Care and Social Services strategy "More Than Just Words" (Published 2012).
- 3.5 The operation integrates with the Welsh Government Engagement and Progression Framework.

4. THE REPORT

Inspire 2 Work

- 4.1 Inspire 2 Work is designed to identify and address the needs of NEET 16-24 year olds in bringing about their sustainable integration in to the labour market and thereby contribute to a reduction in youth unemployment. The operation targets unemployed and economically inactive young people from non-Communities First areas and offers a person centred approach to determine barriers to sustained engagement in the labour market. Support is offered in overcoming these barriers and encompasses a range of interventions, all with a clear focus on the highest priority of sustainable education and employment outcomes.
- 4.2 Target groups engaged:
- 16-18 year olds who are NEET as identified by Careers Wales 5 tier model. This is a coherent system to report on the status and whereabouts of all 16-18 year olds.
 - 19-24 year olds who are NEET- Job Seekers Allowance claimants (non-work programme / work programme returners).
 - 16-24 Vulnerable groups (e.g. Black Minority Ethnic (BME), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), young carers, young parents, homeless, pregnant, care leavers, young offenders) and those young people experiencing the most disadvantage and furthest from the labour market.

4.3 Current Caerphilly targets over 3 years to June 2019:

- Engaging with 303 participants
- 152 gaining a qualification or work relevant certification upon leaving
- 61 in education or training upon leaving
- 61 entering employment or self-employment upon leaving

4.4 Current operational actuals to 31st December 2017:

- 70 participants engaged
- 33 have gained a qualification or work relevant certification
- 2 have gone into education or training
- 9 have entered employment or self-employment

First participant supported in May 2017, operational team fully in place August 2017. This was due to a delay with official notification of operation approval from Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) and subsequent recruitment of staff.

Bridges into Work 2

4.5 Bridges into Work 2 is designed to help address unemployment issues, specifically by:

- Reducing unemployment amongst those most at risk of poverty and discrimination
- Reducing economic inactivity, worklessness and number of workless households
- Increasing social inclusion through sustainable employment
- Reducing barriers to sustaining employment and full time working.

4.6 Target groups engaged; (All residents of non C F areas) include:

- Economically inactive or long term unemployed (aged 25 and over) not in education or training
- Economically inactive or long term unemployed (aged 25 and over) with low or no skills
- Economically inactive or long term unemployed aged 54+
- Economically inactive or long term unemployed (aged 25 and over) from a jobless household
- Economically inactive or long term unemployed (aged 25 and over) with a work limiting health condition or disability
- Economically inactive (aged 25 and over) with care or childcare responsibilities as a secondary barrier
- Long term unemployed (aged 25 and over) from a BME group

4.7 Current Caerphilly targets to April 2020 are:

- Engaging with 663 economically inactive and long term unemployed participants
- 138 into employment or self-employment upon leaving
- 332 gaining a qualification or work relevant certification
- 245 completing work experience or volunteering

4.8 Current operational actuals to 31st December 2017:

- 267 engaged
- 52 entering employment or self-employment
- 153 have gained a qualification or work relevant certification
- 67 have completed work experience or volunteering.

Working Skills for Adults 2

4.9 Working Skills for Adults 2 is designed to:

- Increase the ownership of generic transferable skills at all levels from entry to level 2 across the workforce.
- Use community based provision to raise skills levels, encouraging reluctant learners to engage with flexible opportunities
- Offer a range of provision including literacy, numeracy, ICT and other generic transferable skills
- Deliver eligible qualifications entry to Level 2
- Improve the opportunities for currently low skilled workers to sustain employment and increase earnings potential

4.10 The target groups engaged are:

- Employed, including self-employed participants with no formal qualifications
- Employed, including self-employed participants with up to and including a lower secondary education. International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2). This is an instrument suitable for assembling, compiling and presenting statistics of education both within individual countries and internationally'

4.11 Caerphilly targets to April 2020 are:

- Engaging with 382 participants
- 276 gaining an essential skill, technical, or job specific qualification.

4.12 Current operational actuals to 31st December 2017:

- 253 engaged
- 172 have gained an essential skill, technical, or job specific qualification.

4.13 These operations respond to the draft Well-being plan in relation to elements likely to be included within the 2 themes of Positive People and Positive Places:

- Facilitate a shift towards collaborative working with an emphasis on prevention to address current and future health and well-being challenges.
- Develop a co-ordinated programme of volunteering, maximising it as a route to personal well-being and employment, including promoting corporate volunteering
- Equip our residents to manage their health and well-being needs in partnership with services
- Support our most disadvantaged communities to be resilient, cohesive and enable them to help themselves

4.14 These 3 operations currently have the opportunity to extend to December 2022.

4.15 An additional operation, Nurture, Engage, Thrive (NET) is currently being scoped. This operation is to support participants who are under employed. Staff match funding would need to support this operation if it progresses.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

5.1 These operations contribute to the Well-being Goals as set out in Links to Strategy above.

They are consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle in the Act in that decreasing the number of unemployed people and upskilling those in low skilled low paid employment will in turn prevent the problems of poverty and social exclusion.

This operation will focus on 4 of the 7 well-being goals:

A prosperous Wales: It will provide employment opportunities allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

A healthier Wales: It will provide an opportunity to maximise mental wellbeing.

A more equal Wales: it will provide opportunities for people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.

A Wales of cohesive communities: It will provide mentoring and advice to people in order that they can develop and grow in order to contribute to the community that they live in.

This operation will be run in collaboration with a range of local agencies and in partnership with other authorities and partners across the region.

This operation will involve people in the development of their own well-being goals by developing more confidence and self-reliance so that they can make positive contributions to the society in which they live.

5.2 This report contributes to the Well-being Goals and in particular in the context of:

- Corporate planning
- Risk management
- Workforce planning
- Financial planning

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Equalities is a cross cutting theme for EU funding and each project must address this according to each theme. The planned investments inherent in the EU Funding programmes will however benefit many different groups in the community.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 To date the Authority has identified and earmarked up to £865k of cash match funding for these 3 European operations. This match funding commitment is approved to the current operation end dates. A breakdown of the match funding is identified below, along with details of current European grant funding available to draw down.

	Match Funding £000	Grant £000
Bridges into Work 2	374	1,620
Working Skills for Adults 2	169	542
Inspire 2 Work	<u>322</u>	<u>755</u>
	<u>865</u>	<u>2,917</u>

7.2 All 3 operations are funded using the WEFO simplified costs model. Where simplified costs are used, eligible costs are calculated according to a predefined methodology. For these operations, 40% of total staff costs incurred is drawn down to fund all non-staff related expenditure. The key intention of simplified costs is to reduce the administrative burden by the tracing of every pound of expenditure to individual supporting documentation. Experience to date, across all the operations has demonstrated that the 40% is more than sufficient to cover non-staff costs and that the differential can be utilised towards the match funding commitment. Consequently, the “real” cash cost (£1,148k) to Caerphilly is less than the “headline” match funding identified in the funding model (£1,560k).

7.3 The details of the most recent financial forecasts, for all 3 projects to 31st December 2022, are as follows:

	“Real” Cash Cost £000	Grant £000
Bridges into Work 2	537	2,527
Working Skills for Adults 2	267	940
Inspire 2 Work	<u>344</u>	<u>1,550</u>
	<u>1,148</u>	<u>5,017</u>

7.4 Thus extending the three operations to December 2022 would draw down up to £5,017k of grant funding (£2,100k more than currently approved) for a “real” cash cost to Caerphilly of £1,148k. However, this requires an additional cash commitment from the Authority of £283k (£1,148k - £865k).

7.5 Further details of the financial information are set out in Appendix 1.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Personnel implications are inherent in the development of new operations. This will be addressed via reports and project plans for the project, by the appropriate Officer.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 Relevant officers of the authority have been consulted throughout the process of applying for these ESF operations.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Cabinet is asked to endorse the offer to extend 12W and an in principle offer to extend BIW2 and WSA2 to December 2022.

10.2 Endorse the use of up to £283k of the Education Directorates balances as additional match funding to support the extension of I2W, BIW2 and WSA2 in order to draw down additional European funding.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 This allows the operations more time to work with more people in order to change the life chances of more Caerphilly residents.

12. STATUTORY POWER

12.1 Local Government Act 2000. This is a Cabinet function.

Author: Lyn Travis, Senior Community Education Manager, E-mail: travil@caerphilly.gov.uk
Consultees: Jane Southcombe, Finance Manager (Education & Lifelong Learning and Schools)
Stephen Harris, Interim Head of Corporate Finance
Lynne Donovan, Acting Head of Human Resources & Organisational Development
Richard Harris, Internal Audit Manager and Acting Deputy Monitoring Officer
Education Senior Management Team
Lisa Lane Corporate Solicitor
Corporate Management team

Background Papers:
Provisional Outturn Report 2014/15 – Cabinet 29th July 2015

Appendices:
Appendix 1 Financial Summary

APPENDIX 1

Inspire 2 Work	Approved by WEFO - end June '19	Extension to end Dec. '22	Bridges into Work 2	Approved by WEFO - end April '20	Projection to end Dec. '22	Working Skills for Adults 2	Approved by WEFO - end April '20	Projection to end Dec. '22
Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	728,820	1,495,700	Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	1,500,493	2,340,381	Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	560,423	972,559
FR40 Costs	291,528	598,280	FR40 Costs	600,202	936,144	FR40 Costs	224,172	389,014
Total Claim Value	1,020,348	2,093,980	Total Claim Value	2,100,695	3,276,525	Total Claim Value	784,595	1,361,573
Match funding - staff	0	22,316	Match funding - staff	76,644	73,769	Match funding - staff	58,275	59,405
Match funding - cash	265,290	522,119	Match funding - cash	403,963	675,855	Match funding - cash	184,505	361,901
Match Funding Total	265,290	544,435	Match Funding Total	480,607	749,624	Match Funding Total	242,780	421,306
Grant	755,058	1,549,545	Grant	1,620,088	2,526,901	Grant	541,815	940,267
Total Claim Value	1,020,348	2,093,980	Total Claim Value	2,100,695	3,276,525	Total Claim Value	784,595	1,361,573
Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	728,820	1,495,700	Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	1,500,493	2,340,381	Total Eligible Staff Costs - Direct	560,423	972,559
** Other Direct Costs	313,798	419,763	Other Direct Costs	473,831	797,723	Other Direct Costs	145,931	293,920
Forecast Total Project Costs	1,042,618	1,915,463	Forecast Total Project Costs	1,974,324	3,138,104	Forecast Total Project Costs	706,354	1,266,479
Grant	755,058	1,549,545	Grant	1,620,088	2,526,901	Grant	541,815	940,267
Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly without staff match funding	287,560	365,918	Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly without staff match funding	354,236	611,203	Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly without staff match funding	164,539	326,212
Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly assuming staff match funding	287,560	343,602	Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly assuming staff match funding	277,592	537,434	Forecast Real Cost to Caerphilly assuming staff match funding	106,264	266,807
Approved Match by CCBC	321,815	321,815	Approved Match by CCBC	374,000	374,000	Approved Match by CCBC	169,000	169,000
Differential (-over approval/+under approval)	34,255	(21,787)	Differential (-over approval/+under approval)	96,408	(163,434)	Differential (-over approval/+under approval)	62,736	(97,807)
Staff FTEs	7.4	7.4	Staff FTEs	8.7	8.2	Staff FTEs	3.0	3.5

Bridges into Work 2 and Working Skills for Adults 2 currently end on 30th April '20. Torfaen have received indication from WEFO that extension to December '22 will be available. The projections above are indicative forecasts based on the existing staff profiles and intervention rates; participant targets have not yet been discussed.

** Other Direct Costs - Non Salary project costs (e.g. Premises / Travel / Course costs etc.) - funded from FR40.

Note - Other direct costs - does not include estimates for post project work (e.g. Audits etc.).

Summary

	Cash Match	Real Cash Cost	Difference
Current Approved			
I2W	£322k	£288k	£34k
Bridges into Work 2	£374k	£278k	£96k
Working Skills 2	£169k	£106k	£63k
Total	£865k	£672k	£193k
Extension to Dec. '22			
I2W	£522k	£344k	£178k
Bridges into Work 2	£676k	£537k	£139k
Working Skills 2	£362k	£267k	£95k
Total	£1,560k	£1,148k	£412k
Additional requirement for 3 projects	£695k	£476k	£219k

Position at Dec '17		
	Cash Match	Real Cash Cost
Bridges into Work 2	£191k	£-3k
Working Skills 2	£96k	£-3k
Total	£287k	£-6k
This demonstrates that the real cash cost to the authority is below the cash match requirement.		
I2W has insufficient operational time for a realistic assessment.		

SUMMARY	
CURRENT APPROVED CASH MATCH	£865k
PROJECTED REAL CASH REQUIREMENT	£1,148k
ADDITIONAL CASH REQUIRED	£283k
CURRENT ESF GRANT FUNDING APPROVED	£2,917k
GRANTS PROJECTED TO 2022	£5,017k
ADDITIONAL GRANT	£2,100k



CABINET – 14TH MARCH 2018

SUBJECT: EDUCATION CAPITAL 2018/19

REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151 OFFICER

-
- 1.1 The attached report was considered by the Education for Life Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 26th February 2018.
 - 1.2 Members noted the various projects within the Capital Programme 2018/19 and the position of the underspend in the Schools Electrical Scheme budget. Members fully supported the proposal to reserve this underspend for possible structural fire safety works and welcomed the prioritisation of Health and Safety projects and the refocusing and updating of fire risk assessments in schools.
 - 1.3 Having fully considered its content and in noting the report the Education for Life Scrutiny Committee unanimously approved recommendations contained therein and

RECOMMENDED that: -

- 1) Cabinet approve the proposals to utilise the Education Capital Budget for 2018/19;
- 2) Cabinet approve reserving the underspend on the School Electrical Scheme Project (Circa £500k) for the projected costs of structural fire safety works that may be required as a result of the updated Fire Risk Assessments currently being undertaken in schools, as outlined in section 4.5 of the report.

Author: Emma Sullivan, Senior Committee Services Officer

Appendix 1 Education for Life Scrutiny Report – 26th February 2018



EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 26TH FEBRUARY 2018

SUBJECT: EDUCATION CAPITAL 2018/19

REPORT BY: CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members on proposals for the 2018/19 Education Capital Programme, prior to consideration by Cabinet on 14th March 2018.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report identifies proposals for the allocation of Education Capital Budgets for the 2018/19 financial year in the context of the 3 year Capital Programme 2018/19 – 2020/21. This is subject to agreement of the budget by Special Council at its meeting on 22nd February 2018.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report considers the use of capital resources within Education to ensure the Council's key strategies are best achieved.
- 3.2 The report links directly to the Education for Life, sustainability, regeneration and equality strategies. The report also links to the Learning theme of Caerphilly Delivers, the Local Service Board single integrated plan.
- 3.3 The report maximises our contribution to the Well-being Goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015, as listed below:
- A healthier Wales, supporting vulnerable learners can improve their well-being and add educational achievement.
 - A more equal Wales, a society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background is; and.
 - A Wales of cohesive communities (in the context of improving quality of life with attractive, viable, safe and well connected communities).

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Special Council, at its meeting on 22 February 2018, are due to consider a medium term financial strategy 2018/19 - 2022/23. This includes a 3 year forward capital programme for Education, as follows:

<u>Scheme</u>	<u>2018/19</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>2019/20</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>2020/21</u> <u>£'000</u>
Additional Accommodation	223	223	223
Asset Management	595	595	595
Health & Safety	298	298	298
School Security	100	100	100
Boiler Replacement	218	218	218
	1,434	1,434	1,434

- 4.2 On 24 February 2015 Scrutiny members were made aware of the budgetary pressures being faced in the context of electrical rewiring works in schools.
- 4.3 A sum of £2m towards electrical rewiring works in schools was allocated from the agreed programme amount over the 3 year period 2014/15-2016/17, funded as follows:
- Asset Management £300k p.a. for 3 years = £900k
Health & Safety £300k p.a. in 2015/16 + 2016/17 = £600k
School Security and Boiler Replacement £250k p.a. in 2015/16 + 2016/17 = £500k.
- 4.4 These works are now at the completion stage and an underspend of circa £500k is currently predicted on this project.
- 4.5 The Council's Health and Safety team are currently in the process of updating Fire Risk Assessments in Schools. As a result of Grenfell there has been a greater focus on the type of build and the requirement to ensure adequate compartmentalisation in buildings. The Council's Health and Safety Team are working with the fire service in this regard. At this stage neither the full cost implications or the impacted schools are known. It is recommended that the underspend of £500k in 4.4 above be reserved for this use. This recommendation will be considered by Cabinet on 14th March 2018.
- 4.6 The proposals for the 2018/19 budget are outlined in detail below. Education colleagues have worked closely with both the Council's Health & Safety and Building Consultancy teams when determining the priority projects.
- 4.7 **Additional Accommodation £223k**
- 4.7.1 The annual capital allocation of £223k equates to circa 1 additional classroom per annum.
- 4.7.2 Due to the current and increasing demand for in-catchment places at Ystrad Mynach Primary School it is recommended that this sum, plus the 2019/20 allocation, be used to create a two storey classroom extension on the existing school site.

4.8 Asset Management £595k

4.8.1 The following schemes have been identified through consultation with Health and Safety, Property Services and relevant schools:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>LA Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>
<u>Primary</u>			
Cefn Fforest	Dry Rot	20	20
<u>Secondary</u>			
Heolddu	Fire Safety Works	249	249
Heolddu	Drainage	19	19
Lewis Girls	Heating Upgrade	39	39
St Cenydd	Fire Safety Works	134	134
St. Martins	Fire Safety Works	134	134
Total		595	595

4.9 Health & Safety £298k

4.9.1 The recommended allocation is as below:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>LA Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>School Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Risk Mgt</u> <u>£'000</u>
<u>50/50 Schemes</u>					
<u>Primary</u>					
Blackwood	Fire Safety	15	5	5	5
Bryn	Security – Perimeter Fencing	15	5	5	5
Cefn Fforest	Fire Doors	10	3.3	3.3	3.3
Coed y Brain	Fire Alarm	10	3.3	3.3	3.3
Cwmaber Junior	DDA Security	12	4	4	4
Glyngaer	Fire Doors	20	6.7	6.7	6.7
Graig y Rhacca	Fire Alarm & Emergency lighting	30	10	10	10
Hendre Junior	Toilets	30	15	15	
Machen	Emergency Lighting	10	3.3	3.3	3.3
Markham	Windows	20	10	10	
Phillipstown	Emergency Lighting	10	3.3	3.3	3.3
Tiryberth	Fire Safety	12	4	4	4
Trinant	Ceilings	30	15	15	
Ty Isaf	Toilets	15	7.5	7.5	
Waunfawr	Toilets	20	10	10	
YG Bro Sannan	Lift – Fire Safety	20	6.7	6.7	6.7
Y G Cwm Derwen	Toilets	30	15	15	
Y G Cwm Gwyddon	Fire Safety and Emergency Lighting	20	6.7	6.7	6.7
Y G Gilfach Fargoed	Fire Safety	20	6.7	6.7	6.7
Y G Y Castell	Toilets	30	15	15	
YG Trelyn	Emergency Lightings	10	3.3	3.3	3.3
<u>Secondary</u>					
Lewis Girls	Toilets	60	30	30	
Risca	Toilets	40	20	20	

100% LA funded					
Ystrad Mynach	Off site parking	60	60		
Total		549	268.8	208.8	71.3

*Rounding Differences

Figures shown are the gross scheme costs.

4.10 School Security £100k

4.10.1 The recommended allocation is as below:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>LA Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>School cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Risk Mgt</u> <u>£'000</u>
50/50 Schemes					
Primary					
Fochriw	School Security	20	6.7	6.7	6.7
Glyngaer	Fencing	10	5	5	
Hengoed	CCTV	10	5	5	
Markham	Secure entrance & foyer area	12	4	4	4
Ty Isaf	CCTV	15	5	5	5
YG Y Castell	CCTV	15	7.5	7.5	
Secondary					
Idris Davies 3-18	CCTV	10	5	5	
Newbridge	Upgrade CCTV	30	10	10	10
St. Cenydd	Fencing	30	10	10	10
Trinity Fields	Security Doors in Pool Area	15	7.5	7.5	
Trinity Fields	Secure entrance & foyer area	15	5	5	5
Total		182	70.7	70.7	40.7

*Rounding differences

Figures shown are the gross scheme costs.

4.11 School Boiler Replacements £218k

4.11.1 The budget has been reduced to £153k in view of urgent works undertaken in 2017/18 on a replacement boiler at St Gwladys Primary School, Upper Rhymney Primary School and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Allta.

4.11.2 There are 3 priority schemes identified from the remaining budget as follows:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>LA Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>
Primary			
YG Y Castell	Renew Boiler	10	10
Secondary			
Heolddu	Heaters	60	60
Trinity Fields	Renew Boiler	83	83
Total		153	153

4.12 Revenue/Capital – to be funded from balances

4.12.1 The 2018/19 Budget Proposals remove the 50/50 scheme budget and proposes the use of LMS contingency balances in the sum of £830k to support the projects for the next three years.

4.12.2 Subject to approval to use these balances, it is proposed to utilise these monies to support schemes funded 50/50 with schools, as below:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>LA Cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>School cost</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Risk Mgt</u> <u>£'000</u>
<u>50/50 Schemes</u>					
<u>Primary</u>					
Abercarn	Pathways, fascia's and external door	20	10	10	
Cwm Aber Infants	Roofing Nursery Block	10	5	5	
Cwm Ifor	Culvert	15	7.5	7.5	
Derwendeg	Pathways	10	5	5	
Libanus	External Boundary Wall	15	7.5	7.5	
Maesycwmmmer	Flooring	20	10	10	
Penllwyn	Windows & Doors	12	6	6	
Pontllanfraith	Refurbishments	30	15	15	
Rhiw-syr-Dafydd	Toilet Upgrade	40	20	20	
Rhiw-syr-Dafydd	New Nursery Kitchen Area	10	5	5	
St Gwladys	Replacement Fascias, Soffits and downpipes	20	10	10	
St. Helens RC	Fascias & Guttering	35.6	5	30.6	
Trinity Fields	Sensory Garden	25	12.5	12.5	
Twyn	Windows	20	10	10	
Ty Sign	Toilet Refurbishment	40	20	20	
Ynysddu	Pathways	10	5	5	
YG Cwm Gwyddon	Replacement Fascias and Guttering	15	7.5	7.5	
Ystrad Mynach	Replacement of Hall Floor	10	5	5	
Ystrad Mynach	Fencing and Groundwork	10	5	5	
Ystrad Mynach	Replace wall on access to school	10	5	5	
<u>Secondary</u>					
Heolddu	Roofing	30	15	15	
Lewis Girls	Heating Upgrades	20	10	10	
Idris Davies	Roofing	90	45	45	
Risca	Fire Doors	30	15	15	
St. Cenydd	Refurbishments	50	25	25	
St Martins	Removal of Watertank	20	10	10	
Total		617.6	296	321.6	

*Rounding Differences

Figures shown are the gross scheme costs.

4.12.3 The above proposals result in uncommitted sums of £29k against the Schools Security budget, £29k against Health & Safety budget and £34k for 50/50 projects. This will allow for any small project variations and any urgent in year bids.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Many of the initiatives contained within the Education capital budget seek to address equality issues.
- 5.2 The LA has an obligation under section 88 and Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 to prepare an accessibility strategy. This is a strategy for increasing the extent to which disabled

pupils can participate in the schools' curriculums; improving the physical environment of the schools for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and benefits, facilities or services provided or offered by the schools and improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled.

5.3 The specific proposals for 2018/19, where relevant, comply with the strategy.

6. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

6.1 The Welsh Government (WG) 21st Century Schools and Education Band A programme 2014-2019 has resulted in an investment of £56.5m in education within the County Borough. This has been funded 50% by WG and 50% by the Authority. There were 5 projects identified as part of the programme. Two are now complete, Islwyn High School which opened in July 2017, and Y Gwyndy Welsh Medium Secondary School which is an expansion of Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni in the Caerphilly Basin which also incorporated a New Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Caerffili. The Abertysswg/Pontlottyn Primary School Building, which is part of the Idris Davies 3 to 18 school opened in January 2018. These are state of the art 21st Century School developments. The extension of Newbridge School has recently started with completion scheduled for September 2018 and the final scheme invested £2M into a refurbishment project at Blackwood Comprehensive.

6.2 The Authority has recently submitted to WG their bid in relation to the 21st Century Schools Band B programme which will run from 2019 for a 5 year period and will focus on the improvement of the condition of school buildings, maximising community usage and ensuring the right schools in the right places.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 These have been outlined in the report.

7.2 The report sets out the present proposals for the 2018/19 financial year.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 No direct personnel implications.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 The draft report was distributed as detailed below. All comments received have been reflected in the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To inform members on the proposals to utilise the Education capital budget for 2018/19 prior to consideration by Cabinet on 14th March 2018.

10.2 To seek members views on reserving the underspend on the School Electrical scheme project (Circa £500K) for the projected costs of structural Fire safety works that may be required as a result of the updated Fire Risk Assessments currently being undertaken in schools, as outlined in 4.5 above. This is due to be considered by Cabinet on 14th March 2018.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To ensure members are kept informed of the individual schools identified as part of the 2018/19 education capital programme.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- 12.1 The School Standards and Framework Act 1998.
The Learning and Skills Act 2000.
Equality Act 2010.

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E-mail: richase@caerphilly.gov.uk

Consultees: Christina Harrhy, Interim Chief Executive
Dave Street, Corporate Director – Social Services
Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer
Stephen R. Harris, Interim Head of Corporate Finance
Councillor Philippa Marsden, Cabinet Member, Education & Achievement
Councillor Wynne David, Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Gaynor Oliver, Vice Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Richard Harris, Acting Deputy Monitoring Officer
Lynne Donovan, Acting Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development
Jane Southcombe, Financial Services Manager
Mark Williams, Interim Head of Property Services
Andrew Young, Client Manager, Building Consultancy Services
Emma Townsend, Health & Safety Manager
Ros Roberts, Performance Manager

Background Papers:
17th Edition Electrical Works (Cabinet report 4 February 2015)



CABINET – 14TH MARCH, 2018

PUBLIC INTEREST TEST – EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS PARAGRAPH 14, SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF LAND AT PARK LANE, CAERPHILLY

REPORT BY: PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) to any terms of proposed or to be proposed by or to the Authority in the course of negotiations for contracts for the acquisition of or disposal of property or the supply of goods or services (paragraph 14).

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is a public interest in the way in which the Council enters into contractual arrangements and manages its financial affairs.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report contains detailed information about the current consultations and negotiations regarding proposed sale of property and details and information regarding the background to the proposals. It also contains information regarding the business affairs of a third party. Revealing this information at this stage has the potential to prejudice the successful outcome of the project and the Council's longer term proposals, should this particular proposal fail to be concluded.

MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

That paragraph 14 should apply. I am mindful of the need to ensure the transparency and accountability of public authorities for decisions taken. However disclosure of the information contained in the report at this stage could potentially prejudice the successful outcome of the project and the Council's longer term proposals should this particular proposal fail to be concluded. It also contains information regarding the business affairs of a third party.

The information is not affected by any other statutory provision which requires the information to be publicly registered.

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider these factors when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:

On the basis set out above I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, and that the report should be exempt.

Signed: PKhare Dated: 7th March 2018

Post: **Principal Solicitor**

I accept/do not the recommendation made above.

Signed: D.m. Stent
Proper Officer

Date: 7/3/18

Agenda Item 11

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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