

Pecyn Dogfennau



Mark James LLM, DPA, DCA
Prif Weithredwr,
Chief Executive,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

DYDD MERCHER, 7 TACHWEDD 2018

AT: HOLL AELODAU'R CYNGOR SIR

YR WYF DRWY HYN YN EICH GALW I FYNYCHU CYFARFOD O'R **CYNGOR SIR** A GYNHELIR YN **y SIAMBR, NEUADD Y SIR, CAERFYRDDIN AM 10.00 AM. AR DYDD MERCHER, 14EG TACHWEDD, 2018** ER MWYN CYFLAWNI'R MATERION A AMLINELLIR AR YR AGENDA SYDD YNGHLWM

Mark James DYB

PRIF WEITHREDWR



AILGYLCHWCH OS GWELWCH YN DDA

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Swyddog Democraidd: | Michelle Evans Thomas |
| Ffôn (Ilinell uniongyrchol): | 01267 224470 |
| E-bost: | MEEvansThomas@sirgar.gov.uk |
| Cyf: | AD016-001 |



EICH CYNGOR arleinamdani
www.sirgar.llyw.cymru
YOUR COUNCIL doitonline
www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales

AGENDA

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB
2. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.
3. CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD.
4. LLOFNODI YN GOFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR A GYNHALIWYD AR YR 10FED HYDREF, 2018 7 - 16

5. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD:

5.1 **CWESTIWN GAN MR N.B. LEWIS I'R CYNGHORYDD DAVID JENKINS, AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS ADNODDAU**

"Beth oedd cyfanswm y Dreth Gyngor a gasglwyd yn Sir Gaerfyrddin ym mlwyddyn 2017."

6. CWESTIYNAU GAN AELODAU:-

6.1 **CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD GILES MORGAN I'R CYNGHORYDD GLYNOG DAVIES, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS ADDYSG & PHLANT**

"Llynedd, gwnaethom sefydlu cronfa datblygu ysgolion gwerth £500k. A allaf i ofyn i'r Aelod dros Addysg faint o'r Gronfa Gwella Ysgolion sydd wedi ei ddefnyddio a sawl cais sydd wedi'i gyflwyno? Pan gafodd y Gronfa ei chyflwyno, fy nisgwylid i oedd y byddai'n rhoi ychydig o gymorth i ysgolion a oedd yn gwneud eu gorau ond yn methu â dal dau ben llinyn ynghyd ac a oedd yn wynebu mwy o ddiffyg yn eu cyllidebau. Mae'r Gronfa wedi ei throi yn rhywbeth hollol wahanol ac nid yn bot cyffredinol o arian i ysgolion sy'n cael trafferth â chyllidebau ond yn hytrach yn bot o arian mwy cyfyngedig i'w ddefnyddio ar gyfer gwneud arbedion effeithlonrwydd. A allaf i ofyn ai dyma fwriad Aelodau'r Bwrdd Gweithredol pan gafodd y gyllideb ei ffurfio y llynedd?"

6.2 **CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD GILES MORGAN I'R CYNGHORYDD GLYNOG DAVIES, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS ADDYSG & PHLANT**

"A allaf i ofyn i'r Aelod dros Addysg a fydd ef yn ysgogi newidiadau i'r pot cyllido Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol wrth bennu'r gyllideb y tro nesaf. Ar hyn o bryd mae rhai ysgolion

sy'n gwneud eu gorau i integreiddio disgyblion heriol i addysg prif ffrwd yn cael eu cosbi yn sgil y ffordd rydym yn rhannu'r pot Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol. A allaf i geisio sicrwydd y caiff hwn ei edrych arno yn ystod y broses gyllidebu bresennol?"

6.3 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"A fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor roi trosolwg cryno i ni ar y broses a ddilynwyd wrth ddewis partner sector preifat ar gyfer y Pentref Llesiant, gan amlinellu faint o sefydliadau a gymerodd ran yn y Drafodaeth Gystadleuol a'r rheswm pam y dewiswyd Sterling Health?"

6.4 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"A fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor nodi pwy yw'r Cyfarwyddwyr o ran Partner y Fenter ar y Cyd a pha brofiad sydd ganddynt i ychwanegu at y prosiect?"

6.5 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"Dywedir bod y Cytundeb Cydweithio ar gyfer prosiectau Llynnoedd Delta gyda Phrifysgol Abertawe a Sterling Health yn costio £200 miliwn, a fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor nodi sut y bydd disgwyl i bob partner gyfrannu at gost hon?"

6.6 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"A fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor amlinellu faint y mae'r Awdurdod hwn wedi'i dalu mewn ffioedd ymgynghori ers mis Mai 2015, gan gynnwys y rheiny sy'n gysylltiedig â phrosiectau Bargaen Ddinesig Bae Abertawe?"

6.7 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"Yn gynharach eleni, cafodd strwythurau rheoli a llywodraethu cwmni Cwm Environmental Limited eu newid yn gwmni Teckal. A fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor nodi pa effaith, os o gwbl, y mae'r newidiadau hyn wedi eu cael ar dâl ac amodau'r gweithwyr?"

6.8 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"A fyddai modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor ddarparu gwybodaeth

am y pecyn cydnabyddiaeth ariannol sy'n gysylltiedig â swydd newydd Cyfarwyddwr Gweithrediadau Delta Llesiant Cyf?"

6.9 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES I'R CYNGHORYDD EMLYN DOLE, ARWEINYDD Y CYNGOR

"Mae'r Awdurdod hwn wedi sefydlu nifer o gwmnïau yn y deunaw mis diwethaf sydd wedi arwain at lai o oruchwyliaeth o ran y gwasanaethau sy'n cael eu cyflawni fel arfer gan y Cyngor; nid yw Cyngorwyr na'r cyhoedd yn ymwybodol o'r hyn sy'n digwydd yn y cwmnïau hyn; ac mae cyllid cyhoeddus sy'n gysylltiedig â mentrau'r sector cyhoeddus yn cael eu cwestiynu. Yn hynny o beth, a oes modd i Arweinydd y Cyngor roi addewid y bydd yn atal gwasanaethau rhag cael eu trosglwyddo'n allanol yn barhaus i gwmnïau teckal ac addo peidio â chreu unrhyw gwmnïau newydd, gan gynnwys unrhyw rai sy'n ymwneud â'r Fargen Ddinesig, ar gyfer gweddill y tymor hwn?"

6.10 CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD EDWARD THOMAS I'R CYNGHORYDD JANE TREMLETT, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL & IECHYD

"Yn ddiweddar, gwnes fynychu cyfarfod â chi i drafod y posibilrwydd o wneud Llandeilo yn Dref sy'n Cefnogi Pobl â Dementia. A oes modd ichi roi diweddariad i mi a'm cyd-aelodau ynghylch y posibilrwydd o wneud Sir Gaerfyrddin yn Sir sy'n Cefnogi Pobl â Dementia."

7. YSTYRIED Y RHYBUDD O GYNNIG CANLYNOL:-

7.1 RHYBUDD O GYNNIG A GYFLWYNWYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD CEFIN CAMPBELL

"Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn nodi:

- Papur Gwyn *Brexit a'n Tir* Llywodraeth Cymru;
- Y cynigion o fewn y papur i ddileu Taliadau Sylfaenol i ffermwyr;
- Bod y taliadau sylfaenol hynny yn cyfrannu tuag at ryw 80% o elw net ffermwyr;
- Bod y diwydiant amaeth yn parhau i fod yn gyflogwr sylweddol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin a bod llawer o fusnesau bach a chanolig eu maint ar draws y sir yn dibynnu'n sylweddol ar y sector;
- Bod cynigion Llywodraeth Cymru yn caniatáu perchnogion tir eraill (h.y. sefydliadau trydydd sector, cwmnïau coedwigaeth, unigolion neu sefydliadau cyfoethog) i gystadlu am y cyllid cyhoeddus sydd ar gael i ffermwyr ar hyn o bryd;

Mae'r Cyngor hwn yn mynegi pryder nad yw Papur Gwyn Llywodraeth Cymru *Brexit a'n Tir* yn cynnwys model neu asesiad o'r effaith y bydd y newidiadau arfaethedig yn ei gael ar yr economi leol neu genedlaethol.

Mae'r Cyngor yn bryderus y gallai'r cynigion arfaethedig gael effaith negyddol ar gefn gwlad Sir Gaerfyrddin a pheryglu dyfodol y fferm deuluol sydd wedi cynnal yr economi, bywyd cymunedol a'r iaith Gymraeg yn ein cymunedau gwledig am genedlaethau.

Mae'r Cyngor yn credu na ddylid cyflwyno newidiadau i daliadau ffermydd nes y cyflwynir asesiadau manwl o'r effeithiau posibl ar swyddi ac economi Sir Gaerfyrddin a Chymru gyfan ac y dylai unrhyw drawsnewid ddigwydd dros gyfnod hir o amser.

Yn ychwanegol at hyn mae'r Cyngor hefyd yn credu y byddai'n gwneud synnwyr i Lywodraeth Cymru ohirio unrhyw benderfyniad ar daliadau sylfaenol i ffermydd nes ar ôl i gytundeb masnach gael ei gytuno rhwng y DU a'r Undeb Ewropeaidd yn sgîl Brexit."

8. YSTYRIED ARGYMHELLION Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL O RAN Y MATER CANLYNOL:-

8.1 CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL DIWYGIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN 2018-2033. 17 - 404

9. DERBYN ADRODDIAD CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALIWYD AR 22AIN HYDREF, 2018 405 - 412

10. AELODAETH PWYLLGORAU

10.1 NODI BOD Y GRWP LLAFUR WEDI ENWEBU'R CYNGHORYDD JOHN PROSSER I GYMERYD LLE'R CYNGHORYDD ERYL MORGAN AR BANEL HEDDLU A THROSEDDU DYFED POWYS.

11. COFNODION ER GWYBODAETH (AR GAEL AR Y WEFAN)

11.1 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU CYMUNEDAU - 21AIN MEDI 2018

11.2 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL AC IECHYD - 25AIN MEDI 2018

11.3 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU ADDYSG A PHLANT - 27AIN MEDI 2018

11.4 PWYLLGOR ARCHWILIO - 28AIN MEDI 2018

11.5 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU DIOGELU'R CYHOEDD A'R AMGYLCHEDD - 1AF HYDREF 2018

- 11 .6 PWYLLGOR CYNLLUNIO - 2AIL HYDREF 2018**
- 11 .7 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU CYMUNEDAU - 4YDD HYDREF 2018**
- 11 .8 PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU - 11EG HYDREF 2018**
- 11 .9 PWYLLGOR GWASANAETHAU DEMOCRATAIDD - 15FED HYDREF 2018**
- 11 .10 PWYLLGOR CYNLLINIO - 18FED HYDREF 2018**
- 11 .11 PWYLLGOR TRWYDDEDU - 24AIN HYDREF 2018**

DS: Mae adroddiadau yn cael eu hargraffu mewn du a gwyn yn unig er mwyn arbed costau. Fodd bynnag mae pob adroddiad ar gael ar-lein fel y gall aelodau o'r Pwyllgor / Cyngor Sir a'r cyhoedd weld lluniau/graffiau mewn lliw.

DYDD MERCHER, 10 HYDREF 2018

YN BRESENNOL: Cyngorydd J.M. Charles (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr:-

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| S.M. Allen | L.R. Bowen | K.V. Broom | C.A. Campbell |
| J.M. Charles | D.M. Cundy | S.A. Curry | C.A. Davies |
| W.R.A. Davies | T.A.J. Davies | G. Davies | H.L. Davies |
| I.W. Davies | J.A. Davies | S.L. Davies | K.Davies |
| E. Dole | J.S. Edmunds | P.M. Edwards | D.C. Evans |
| L.D. Evans | R.E. Evans | W.T. Evans | S.J.G. Gilasbey |
| A.D. Harries | T.M. Higgins | J.K. Howell | P. Hughes-Griffiths |
| A. James | J.D. James | R. James | D.M. Jenkins |
| J.P. Jenkins | G.H. John | B.W. Jones | D. Jones |
| G.R. Jones | H.I. Jones | A. Lenny | K. Lloyd |
| K. Madge | S. Matthews | A.S.J. McPherson | E. Morgan |
| A.G. Morgan | B.D.J. Phillips | J.S. Phillips | D. Price |
| J.G. Prosser | B.A.L. Roberts | E.M.J.G. Schiavone | H.B. Shepardson |
| A.D.T. Speake | L.M. Stephens | B. Thomas | D. Thomas |
| E.G. Thomas | G.B. Thomas | G. Thomas | J. Tremlett |
| A.Vaughan Owen | D.T. Williams | D.E. Williams | J.E. Williams |

Yr oedd y swyddogion canlynol yn gwasanaethu yn y cyfarfod:-

M. James, Prif Weithredwr
 J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau
 C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol
 W. Walters, Cyfarwyddwr Adfywio a Pholisi
 P.R. Thomas, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Rheoli Pobl a Pherfformiad)
 L.R. Jones, Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith
 S. Pilliner, Pennaeth Priffyrdd a Thrafnidiaeth
 A. Morgan, Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Addysg
 L. Quelch, Y Pennaeth Cynllunio
 R James, Swyddog Cynllunio Perfformiad a Busnes
 S. Sauro, Rhelwr Perfformiad, Dadansoddi a Systemau
 K. Thomas, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democratiaidd

Siambr, Neuadd y Sir - 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan y Cynghorwyr F. Akhtar, H.A.L. Evans, A. Fox, C.J. Harris, P.M. Hughes, C. Jones, T.J. Jones, M.J.A. Lewis, S. Najmi a D. Nicholas.

2. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANAU PERSONOL.

| Y Cyngorydd | Rhif y Cofnod | Y Math o Fuddiant |
|---------------|--|--|
| A.D.T. Speake | 8.1 - Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyfarwyddwr | Tudalen 33 – Plant sy'n Derbyn Gofal – yn |

| | | |
|----------------|--|--|
| | Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch Perfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin 2017/18 | trafod â swyddogion o Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin a Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf |
| K. Madge | 8.1 - Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch Perfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin 2017/18 | Ei ferch yn gweithio yn y gwasanaethau gofal cymdeithasol |
| B.A.L. Roberts | 8.1 - Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch Perfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin 2017/18 | Ei mab-yng-nghyfraith yn weithiwr cymdeithasol |

3. CYHOEDDIADAU'R CADEIRYDD.

- Croesawyd y Cyngorydd Karen Davies gan y Cadeirydd i'w chyfarfod cyntaf o'r Cyngor yn dilyn cael ei hethol yn yr is-etholiad ar gyfer Ward Saron
- Dymunodd y Cadeirydd yn dda i'r Cyngorydd Hazel Evans a oedd wedi cael llawdriniaeth yn ddiweddar
- Aeth y Cadeirydd ati i longyfarch:
 - Y Cynghorwyr L. Evans a G. Thomas, ynghyd ag aelodau o deuluoedd cyngorwyr eraill, ar gwblhau Hanner Marathon Caerdydd;
 - Dewi Griffiths o Lanfynydd ar orffen Hanner Marathon Caerdydd yn yr amser cyflymaf gan Gymro;
 - Adam Price A.C. o Lanegwad ar gael ei ethol yn Arweinydd Cenedlaethol newydd Plaid Cymru
- Rhoddodd y Cadeirydd ddiweddariad am y gweithgareddau a'r digwyddiadau yr oedd wedi bod iddynt yn cynrychioli'r Cyngor, gan gynnwys:
 - Dadorchuddio ffenestr wydr liw yn Ysgol Llansteffan;
 - Dathlu 20 mlynedd Band Cymunedol Nantgaredig;
 - The Friends of Loud Applause Rising Stars;
 - Cystadlaethau Chwyrliio Baton Cymru yng Nghydweli;

- Dathlu 150 mlynedd Capel Saron Llanarthne;
- Digwyddiad gan y Ffermwyr Ifanc i ddynodi ymddeoliad trefnydd y sir, Eirios Thomas.
- Soniodd y Cadeirydd mai 10 Hydref oedd Diwrnod Iechyd Meddwl y Byd bob blwyddyn, ac mai'r amcan cyffredinol oedd codi materion iechyd meddwl o gwmpas y byd ac ysgogi ymdrechion i gefnogi iechyd meddwl.
- Cyfeiriodd Arweinydd y Cyngor at y drasiedi ddiweddar yn Ysgol Gatholig Sant Ioan Llwyd yn Llanelli, gan ganmol staff y Cyngor am y cymorth roeddent wedi ei roi i bawb yr oedd hynny wedi effeithio arnynt. Roedd y Cyngor hefyd yn cydweithio'n agos â'r Heddlu yn ei ymchwiliadau.

4. LLOFNODI YN GOFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y CYNGOR A GYNHALIWDYD AR YR 12FED MEDI, 2018.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL lofnodi bod cofnodion cyfarfod y Cyngor oedd wedi ei gynnal ar 12 Mawrth, 2018 yn gywir, yn amodol ar newid datganiad o fuddiant gan y Cyngorydd T.A.J. Davies yng nghofnod 2 i enw'r Cyngorydd B.D.J. Philips.

5. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD (NID OEDD DIM WEDI DOD I LAW).

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

6. CWESTIYNAU GAN AELODAU:-

6.1. CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD TINA HIGGINS I'R CYNGHORYDD HAZEL EVANS, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS YR AMGYLCHEDD

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd, gan nad oedd yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros yr Amgylchedd, sef y Cyngorydd Hazel Evans, yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod, byddai'r Cyngorydd Higgins yn cael ymateb ysgrifenedig i'w chwestiwn.

6.2. CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD BETSAN JONES I'R CYNGHORYDD GLYNOG DAVIES, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS ADDYSG A PHLANT

"Flwyddyn yn ôl cafodd ysgolion a darparwyr addysg a hyfforddiant eraill yng Nghymru eu cydnabod gan Estyn am eu rhagoriaeth mewn noson wobrwyo. Derbyniodd staff o'r sefydliadau hyn dystysgrif a llongyfarchiadau gan Meilyr Rowlands, y Prif Arolygydd, a Kirsty Williams, Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg.

Cafodd chwech o'r gwobrau eu hennill gan ysgolion Sir Gaerfyrddin – mwy nag unrhyw gyngor sir unigol arall, sef:

Ysgol Bryngwyn, Ysgol Heol Goffa, Ysgol Glan-y-Môr, Ysgol Gynradd y Bynea, Ysgol Gynradd Parcyrhun ac Ysgol Gynradd Saron.

A oes disgwyl y bydd ysgolion o'r sir hon yn cael eu cydnabod yn y seremoni eleni?"

Ymateb gan y Cyngorydd Glynog Davies, yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros Addysg a Phlant:-

Diolch i'r Cyngorydd Betsan Jones am y cwestiwn. Mae'n gwestiwn amserol iawn oherwydd bydd Estyn yn cynnal ei seremoni ar gyfer 2017/18 i gydnabod rhagoriaeth mewn addysg a hyfforddiant ddydd Gwener hyn. Fel y dywedoch Bethan, roedd y llynedd yn flwyddyn wych i ni gan fod chwe ysgol yn Sir Gâr wedi cael eu cydnabod am eu gwaith caled, a hefyd sylwch, am safon uchel yr arweinyddiaeth. Mae hwn yn rhywbeth sy'n ddisgwyliedig gennym mewn ysgolion bellach, ac mae angen gweledigaeth glir arnom hefyd, yn ogystal ag ymrwymiad i wella. Dyna beth sy'n mynd i godi'r safonau yn ein hysgolion, a dyna pam y cafodd yr ysgolion hyn eu cydnabod. Dyma'r hyn sydd ei angen ym mhob ysgol er mwyn i ni wella safonau addysg ac ennill rhagoriaeth yn dilyn arolygiad. Cafodd 34 o ysgolion eu cydnabod ac roedd chwech ohonynt o Sir Gaerfyrddin, ac mae hynny'n dipyn o glod inni fel sir. Rydym yn siarad am ragoriaeth fan hyn, felly beth yw'r rhagoriaeth hon? Bydd Estyn yn gwahodd ysgolion a darparwyr eraill a gafodd ragoriaeth mewn tri maes arolygu penodol. Dyna'r hyn sy'n rhoi'r statws rhagoriaeth hwn iddynt. Maent wedi cael rhagoriaeth mewn tri maes arolygu neu fwy yn ystod blwyddyn academiaidd 2017/18, a phleser gennyf yw dweud y bydd gan Sir Gaerfyrddin bedwar cynrychiolydd yn y digwyddiad ddydd Gwener, sef pedair ysgol unwaith eto. Ni fyddai'n briodol i mi gyhoeddi heddiw pwy yw'r ysgolion hynny sy'n mynd i gael cydnabyddiaeth, ond mae'r Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a minnau wedi eu llongyfarch ar eu llwyddiant, ac mae'r ffaith bod pedair ysgol yn cael eu cydnabod yn genedlaethol unwaith eto yn golygu ein bod yn cynnal y safonau uchel wrth gwrs. Nid mater bach yw sicrhau rhagoriaeth, ac mae'n briodol ein bod yn parchu ein penaethiaid, sy'n gweithio'n hynod o galed, a'u staff am y gwaith gwych maent yn ei wneud yn eu hysgolion. Maent yn gwneud ymrwymiad i blant a phobl ifanc ac maent yn sicrhau bod cyfleoedd rhagorol i'r rheiny sy'n derbyn addysg. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i lywodraethwyr ysgolion a rhieni, ac mae llawer ohonoch yma yn llywodraethwyr eich hunain, ac yn rhieni yn ogystal o bosibl. Felly diolch i chi am eich cefnogaeth. Gaf i hefyd ddiolch i staff y Cyngor, yn enwedig rhai'r Adran Addysg, am eu cefnogaeth ddiflino i'n hysgolion. Rwyf am gyfeirio at ein Tîm Gwella Ysgolion sy'n gweithio fel rhan o ranbarth ERW. Maent yn mynd i'n hysgolion i herio, ond hefyd i gefnogi ac i sicrhau bod y gorau ar gael i bob dysgwyr. Trwy gydweithrediad y penaethiaid a'ch cydweithrediad chi a phob llywodraethwr arall, byddwn yn sicrhau bod pob ysgol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin yn ysgol ragorol. Dyna'r hyn hoffwn ei weld - pob ysgol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin yn un rhagorol - ac mae'r gwobrau hyn yn dangos ein bod ar y trywydd iawn. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

6.3. CWESTIWN GAN Y CYNGHORYDD DORIAN WILLIAMS I'R CYNGHORYDD LINDA EVANS, AELOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL DROS TAI

“Bu i'r Cynllun Darparu Tai Fforddiadwy a sefydlwyd gan y weinyddiaeth hon yn 2016 bennu targed clir ac uchelgeisiol iawn o ddarparu mwy na 1,000 o dai ychwanegol dros y pum mlynedd nesaf. Pa gynnydd sydd wedi'i wneud hyd yn hyn?”

Ymateb gan y Cyngorydd Linda Evans, yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros Dai:-

Diolch i'r Cynghorydd Williams am eich cwestiwn. Mae'n gwestiwn perthnasol iawn, ac mae'n rhoi cyfle i mi dynnu sylw at y gwaith gwych sydd wedi cael ei wneud (ac a fydd yn dal i gael ei wneud) i gynyddu nifer y tai fforddiadwy yn y sir.

Yn ôl yn 2016 pennwyd targed uchelgeisiol gan y weinyddiaeth hon i ddarparu mwy na 1,000 o dai fforddiadwy ychwanegol erbyn 2021. Erbyn hyn mae dwy flynedd ers cychwyn y rhaglen, ac, yn ogystal â bod ar y trywydd iawn i gyrraedd y targed, rwyf yn falch iawn o allu dweud ein bod yn hyderus y bydd nifer y tai newydd yn sylweddol uwch na'r hyn fwriadwyd gennym i ddechrau. Rwyf yn hyderus y gallwn ddarparu mwy o ddewis drwy gynyddu nifer yr opsiynau ar gyfer rhentu cartrefi a chartrefi sydd ar werth ar draws y sir. Hyd yma, rydym wedi darparu bron 550 o dai fforddiadwy ychwanegol yn y sir, gan wneud hynny drwy brynu tai yn y sector preifat, ailddechrau defnyddio eiddo gwag, a rheoli cartrefi rhent preifat ychwanegol ar gyfer landlordiaid, cartrefi newydd drwy weithio gyda chymdeithasau tai a chartrefi fforddiadwy fel rhan o ddatblygiadau mwy. Dros y tair blynedd nesaf, ein bwriad yw darparu 700 yn rhagor o dai drwy ddefnyddio'r dulliau hyn. Rwyf yn siŵr eich bod wedi sylwi nad yw'r ffigurau hyn yn cynnwys ein cynlluniau i adeiladu cartrefi newydd, ond gallaf eich sicrhau bod y datblygiadau hyn yn mynd rhagddynt. Bydd yr adeiladwyr yn gweithio ar safle Garreglwyd ym Mhen-bre dros yr wythnosau/misoedd nesaf a bydd datblygiad Dylan, yn y Bryn yn dilyn cyn Nadolig. Bydd y datblygiadau hyn yn darparu bron 50 o dai cyngor newydd i'w rhentu. Rwyf yn siŵr bod rhai ohonoch chi, fel Aelodau, wedi clywed yn ddiweddar am y bwriad i lacio rheolau'r Cyfrif Refeniw Tai. Mae hyn yn golygu y byddwn o bosibl yn gallu cael benthyc mwy o arian i adeiladu mwy o dai cyngor. Ar hyn o bryd mae swyddogion yn datblygu rhaglen uchelgeisiol i sicrhau ein bod yn gallu manteisio ar hyn, a chyn bo hir byddaf yn cyhoeddi manylion y rhaglen honno i chi yn y Cyngor. Bydd Aelodau'n ymwybodol ein bod wedi creu cwmni tai newydd, sef Cartrefi Croeso. Bydd pum cant o dai yn cael eu darparu dros y pum mlynedd nesaf, ac mae'r cwmni eisoes wedi paratoi cynlluniau mewn saith lleoliad gan gynnwys datblygiadau mewn ardaloedd gwledig. Bydd y cwmni yn darparu ystod o opsiynau, a fydd yn addas i anghenion yr ardal. Un enghraifft yw tai mewn ardaloedd gwledig a fydd yn fforddiadwy i'w prynu, er mwyn helpu pobl leol i aros yn eu hardaloedd lleol. Mae'n amlwg felly ein bod yn cymryd camau breision er mwyn diwallu'r anghenion o ran tai fforddiadwy ar draws y sir. Mae cynlluniau hefyd i gefnogi ein bwriad i adfywio canol tref Llanelli, Rhydaman a Chaerfyrddin. Hefyd datblygiadau gwledig ac ardaloedd megis Heol yr Orsaf yn Llanelli lle mae angen newid tenantiaeth. Bydd yr holl bethau hyn yn cael effaith sylweddol. Nid yn unig y byddant yn helpu pobl i fyw mewn tai fforddiadwy, y mae mawr eu hangen, ond byddant yn cael effaith ehangach ar iechyd a llesiant pobl ac yn creu swyddi. Rydym wedi buddsoddi £25m yn ystod y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf ac rydym am fuddsoddi llawer mwy yn y blynyddoedd i ddod. Er bod yr hyn rydym wedi ei wneud mewn cyfnod byr wedi bod yn llwyddiant mawr, mae'n amlwg nad ydym yn gorffwys ar ein rhwyfau. Byddwn yn parhau i fod yn arloesol ac rydym yn gweithio'n galed i ddarparu cynifer o gartrefi â phosibl, a hynny yn yr ardaloedd lle mae eu hangen drwy sicrhau bod yr hyn a ddarperir yn iawn ar gyfer yr ardal. Hoffwn achub ar y cyfle i ddiolch i'r holl staff o'r gwahanol adrannau yn y Cyngor sy'n gweithio gyda'i gilydd i sicrhau ein bod wedi cyrraedd y man hwn. Diolch i chi i gyd. Mae ein cynllun tai fforddiadwy fel llyfr i mi. Mae'n llyfr sy'n llawn storiâu cyffrous. Roeddem wedi dylunio clawr y llyfr hwn ddwy flynedd yn ôl. Roedd y clawr yn eithaf lliwgar gyda llawer o dai. Mae'n llyfr sy'n cynnwys stori gyffrous. Rwyf ond wedi adrodd i chi benodau cyntaf y llyfr hwnnw, ac mae llawer mwy o benodau i ddod yn y stori hon, ac rwyf yn edrych ymlaen at adrodd pennod arall i chi yn y dyfodol agos. Diolch”.

Gofynnodd y Cynghorydd Williams y cwestiwn atodol canlynol:-

“Mae gennyf gwestiwn yn seiliedig ar y ffigurau a grybwyllwyd gennych yn eich ymateb. Wrth deithio drwy Sir Gaerfyrddin rydym yn gallu gweld cynifer o dai gwag, y mae rhai ohonynt wedi bod yn wag ers blynyddoedd ac mewn cyflwr gwael. Felly a allaf ofyn, ac rwyf yn cyfeirio at y ffigur a grybwyllwyd, o blith y 550 o dai fforddiadwy sy'n cael eu defnyddio unwaith yn rhagor bellach, faint ohonynt oedd wedi bod yn wag ers blynyddoedd lawer?”

Ymateb gan y Cynghorydd Linda Evans – Yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros Dai:-

Gallaf gyhoeddi hynny heddiw, ac mae'n bleser gennyf gyhoeddi hyn. Cyn fy mod yn gwneud hynny, a allaf ddweud wrthyf faint o eiddo gwag sy'n cael eu hailddefnyddio. Mae'r broses o ddechrau defnyddio eiddo gwag unwaith eto yn dipyn o waith ynddo'i hun. Y ffordd hawsaf yw prynu tai a'u gwneud yn fforddiadwy a phrynu tai sy'n addas ar gyfer yr ardal. Fodd bynnag, gall y broses o ddelio ag eiddo gwag fod yn hir gan fod llawer o bethau yn gysylltiedig â'r broses megis materion cyfreithiol ac ati. Ond y newyddion da yw bod gennym swyddogion rhagorol yn yr adran hon, ac yn 2018/19 dechreuwyd aildefnyddio 184 eiddo gwag a'r llynedd y ffigur oedd 174. Gallwn gymharu hynny â 2010, pan oedd y ffigur yn 59. Felly mae'r adran a'r gwaith yn gweithio'n dda iawn, a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny ac i sicrhau bod eiddo gwag yn cael eu defnyddio unwaith eto, oherwydd rydym i gyd yn gwybod bod tŷ gwag mewn pentref neu stryd yn ddolur llygad ac nad yw'n dda i'r amgylchedd ychwaith. Felly rydym yn adeiladu tai newydd, ond yn sicrhau hefyd fod eiddo gwag yn cael eu defnyddio unwaith yn rhagor, a gall y Cyngor helpu pobl i wneud hynny. Felly os ydych yn gwybod am bobl sydd ag eiddo gwag, ewch atynt a'u hannog i gysylltu â'r Cyngor. Mae'n bosibl cael benthyciad ariannol i aildechrau eu defnyddio. Diolch i chi.

7. YSTRIED Y RHYBUDDION O GYNNIG CANLYNOL:-

7.1. CYNNIG A GYFLWYNWYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD ROB JAMES

Ystyriodd y Cyngor y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol a gyflwynwyd gan y Cynghorydd Rob James:

“Rydym yn galw ar y Cyngor i hyrwyddo'r ymgyrch i drechu tlodi misglwyf yn Sir Gaerfyrddin”.

Eiliwyd y Cynnig.

Rhoddyd cyfle i gynigydd ac eilydd y Cynnig siarad o'i blaid ac aethant ymlaen i amlinellu'r rhesymau dros ei gyflwyno, fel y'u nodwyd yn y Cynnig.

Gwnaed nifer o ddatganiadau yn mynegi cefnogaeth i'r Cynnig.

Yn dilyn pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gefnogi'r Rhybudd o Gynnig.

7.2. CYNNIG A GYFLWYNWYD GAN Y CYNGHORYDD EDWARD THOMAS

Ystyriodd y Cyngor y Rhybudd o Gynnig canlynol a gyflwynwyd gan y Cyngorydd Edward Thomas:

“Mae Cynghrair Ryngwladol Cofio'r Holocaust (IHRA) yn gorff rhynglywodraethol sy'n ceisio ennyn cefnogaeth wleidyddol a chefnogaeth arweinwyr cymdeithasol i'r angen i gofio'r Holocaust, ac am addysg ac ymchwil yr Holocaust. Sefydlwyd yr IHRA gan Göran Persson, cyn-Brif Weinidog Sweden, yn 1998. Ei nod oedd sefydlu sefydliad rhyngwladol a fyddai'n ehangu addysg yr Holocaust ledled y byd a chynnal fforwm rhyngwladol o lywodraethau oedd â diddordeb mewn trafod addysg yr Holocaust. Roedd cynrychiolwyr o 46 o lywodraethau yn bresennol yn y Fforwm a gynhaliwyd yn Ionawr 2000.

Lluniwyd Datganiad Fforwm Rhyngwladol Stockholm ar yr Holocaust yn sgil trafodaethau'r Fforwm ac mae'n sylfaen i Gynghrair Ryngwladol Cofio'r Holocaust. Mae'n ceisio cydnabod maint effaith yr Holocaust ac yn cynnwys addewidion i gryfhau'r ymdrechion i hyrwyddo cofio, addysg ac ymchwil.

Cefnogir diffiniad yr IHRA gan brif gyrff cynrychiadol y Gymuned Iddewig, gan gynnwys Bwrdd Dirprwyon Iddewon Prydain, y Cyngor Arweinyddiaeth Iddewig a'r Gyngres Iddewig Ewropeaidd ynghyd â nifer o awdurdodau lleol ledled y Deyrnas Unedig.

Cynigiaf felly fod Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin:

1 yn mabwysiadu Datganiad Stockholm ar Wrth-Semitiaeth:

“Gwrth-Semitiaeth yw canfyddiad penodol o Iddewon, y gellid ei fynegi'n gasineb tuag at Iddewon. Mae amlygiadau corfforol a rhethregol gwrth-Semitiaeth yn cael eu cyfeirio at unigolion sy'n Iddewon neu unigolion nad ydynt yn Iddewon a/neu eu heiddo, at sefydliadau'r gymuned Iddewig a chyfleusterau crefyddol.” ac

2 yn addo cryfhau'r ymdrechion i hyrwyddo cofio'r Holocaust drwy addysg ac ymchwil”.

Eiliwyd y Cynnig.

Rhoddwyd cyfle i gynigydd ac eilydd y Cynnig siarad o'i blaid ac aethant ymlaen i amlinellu'r rhesymau dros ei gyflwyno, fel y'u nodwyd yn y Cynnig.

Gwnaed nifer o ddatganiadau yn mynegi cefnogaeth i'r Cynnig.

Yn dilyn pleidlais

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gefnogi'r Rhybudd o Gynnig.

(SYLWER: Ar ddiwedd yr eitem hon, safodd y Cyngor am funud o dawelwch er cof am y bachgen fu farw mor drasig yn Ysgol Gatholig Sant Ioan Llwyd, Llanelli)

8. YSTRIED ARGYMHELLION Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL O RAN Y MATERION CANLYNOL:-

8.1. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL DRAFFT CYFARWYDDWR STATUDOL Y GWASANAETHAU CYMDEITHASOL YNGHYLCH PERFFORMIAD Y GWASANAETHAU GOFAL CYMDEITHASOL YN SIR GAERFYRDDIN YN 2017/18

(SYLWER: Roedd y Cyngorwyr K. Madge, B.A.L. Roberts ac A.D.T. Speake wedi datgan buddiant yn yr eitem hon yn gynharach)

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor fod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod ar 30 Gorffennaf 2018 (gweler Cofnod 6), wedi ystyried Adroddiad Blynyddol Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch Perfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin ar gyfer 2017/18, ac wedi argymhell ei gymeradwyo.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn yr argymhelliad canlynol gan y Bwrdd Gweithredol:

“Cymeradwyo Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Cyfarwyddwr Statudol y Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol ynghylch Perfformiad y Gwasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol yn Sir Gaerfyrddin ar gyfer 2017/18”

8.2. ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL DRAFFT CYNGOR SIR CAERFYRDDIN AR GYFER 2017/18

Hysbyswyd y Cyngor fod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod ar 24 Medi, 2018 (gweler Cofnod 6) wedi ystyried Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ar gyfer 2017/18.

Rhodddwyd gwybod i'r Cyngor, er bod yr Adroddiad Drafft cychwynnol wedi cael ei ystyried drwy ei broses wleidyddol drwy gyfrwng y Bwrdd Gweithredol a'r Pwyllgorau Craffu ym mis Mehefin/Gorffennaf 2018, nid oedd yn cynnwys data ar Ganlyniadau Cymru Gyfan na rhai o ganlyniadau'r Arolwg Cenedlaethol, nad oeddent ar gael tan fis Medi 2018. Roedd y wybodaeth honno wedi dod i law erbyn hyn ac wedi cael ei chynnwys yn yr adroddiad a gyflwynwyd i'r Cyngor ar gyfer ei ystyriaeth.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn yr argymhelliad canlynol gan y Bwrdd Gweithredol:

“cymeradwyo Adroddiad Blynyddol Drafft Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin ar gyfer 2017/18”.

8.3. ADRODDIAD MONITRO BLYNYDDOL 2017/18 CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL MABWYSIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN

Hysbyswyd y Cyngor fod y Bwrdd Gweithredol, yn ei gyfarfod ar 24 Medi, 2018 (gweler Cofnod 8) wedi ystyried Adroddiad Monitro Blynyddol 2017/18 ar Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Mabwysiedig Sir Gaerfyrddin, y mae angen ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru erbyn 31 Hydref, 2018

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn yr argymhellion canlynol gan y Bwrdd Gweithredol:

“bod y Cyngor yn cael ac yn derbyn cynnwys y trydydd Adroddiad Monitro Blynnyddol ar gyfer Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Sir Gaerfyrddin, yr oedd yn ofynnol ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru erbyn 31 Hydref 2018;

Bod y Cyngor yn rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol neu ffeithiol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb yr Adroddiad Monitro Blynnyddol”.

9. DERBYN ADRODDIAD CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALIWYD AR 24AIN MEDI, 2018

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn adroddiad cyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 24 Medi 2018.

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

**CYNGOR SIR
14EG Tachwedd 2018**

**CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL DIWYGIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN
2018-2033
FERSIWN DRAFFT O'R STRATEGAETH A FFEFRIR**

ARGYMHELLION Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL:

- Cymeradwyo cynnwys y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir (a dogfennau ategol) ar gyfer Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2018-2033 at ddibenion ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol;
- Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol neu ffeithiol ansylweddol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir.

Y Rhesymau:

- Cydymffurfio â rhwymedigaethau cyfreithiol y Cyngor o ran paratoi a datblygu Cynllun Datblygu Lleol diwygiedig ar gyfer Sir Gaerfyrddin yn unol â'r gweithdrefnau statudol.
- Ymateb i'r amserlen ar gyfer paratoi'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig fel y nodwyd yn y Cytundeb Cyflawni a gymeradwywyd a chytuno â'r amserlen honno.
- Sicrhau bod y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol diwygiedig (i gymryd lle'r un presennol) yn cael ei baratoi a'i fabwysiadu mewn da bryd cyn i'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol presennol ddod i ben.

Angen ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Craffu perthnasol:

Y Pwyllgor Craffu - Cymunedau: Trefnwyd ar gyfer 23 Tachwedd 2018

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad OES

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad OES

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:-

Y Cynghorydd Mair Stephens

Y gyfarwyddiaeth: Yr
Amgylchedd

Enw Pennaeth y
Gwasanaeth:

Llinos Quelch Awdur yr
Adroddiad: Ian Llewelyn

Swyddi:

Pennaeth Cynllunio

Rheolwr Blaen-gynllunio

Rhifau ffôn: 01267 228659

Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

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IRLlewelyn@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY COUNCIL

14TH NOVEMBER 2018

REVISED CARMARTHENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018 – 2033

DRAFT PREFERRED STRATEGY

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This Report follows the approval at County Council on the 10th January 2018 to formally commence the preparation of a Revised (replacement) Local Development Plan (LDP), along with the Welsh Government's approval of the Delivery Agreement on the 28th June 2018 including its timetable for Plan preparation.

The preparation of the Draft Preferred Strategy (officially titled as the Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy) represents an important milestone in the Council delivering on its statutory responsibilities to prepare an up-to-date Development Plan for the County (excl. the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority).

The report sets out the Draft Preferred Strategy for the Revised LDP by identifying the Council's land use Vision, strategic objectives and strategic growth requirements for the County through till 2033. Approval is sought for its publication as part of a formal public consultation for a minimum statutory period of 6 weeks. It should be noted that the Delivery Agreement identifies December 2018 for the publication of the Draft Preferred Strategy.

2. Background

The preparation of the Draft Preferred Strategy reflects the Council's statutory responsibilities to produce the revised LDP under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 - setting out policies and proposals for future development and use of land for Carmarthenshire over the period to 2033. The Delivery Agreement as approved by the Welsh Government (WG) and identifies the timeline for the preparation and Adoption of the Plan by November/December 2021.

In determining the need to prepare a Revised LDP, members will recall that a Review Report was prepared in relation to the current Adopted LDP. This Review Report identified the following considerations:

- The need to ensure that a Revised LDP would be prepared and adopted before the expiration of the current LDP at the end of 2021.
- Indicated failures in the delivery of the LDP strategy, the settlement framework and the spatial distribution of growth - notably in respect of both the level and spatial distribution of growth, and the need to ensure that the strategy, particularly in terms of spatial distribution of growth and the performance of the tier 2 and 3 settlements is realistic and deliverable.



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- Failure to deliver a 5 year housing land supply, as required within PPW and Technical Advice Note 1.
- Need to ensure that the strategy and the identified growth requirements are robust, and that the spatial framework, distribution of growth and the allocated sites within the Plan are deliverable.
- To consider the implications of the 2014-based Local Authority Population and Household Projections and the variance in population change and household requirements.
- In addition, to consider contextual changes and changes in the form of legislation, national policy and a range of Plans and strategies and to the evidence base.

The preparation of the Draft Preferred Strategy, in reflecting the above and other outcomes from the Annual Monitoring Reports, also seeks to develop an evidence-based process. This is derived from a the need to develop a balanced understanding of the regional and local context, as well as those key issues and drivers relevant to, and addressable through planning policies and land use allocations planning policies.

At the heart of this, is the need for a level of population growth which reflect the Council's objectives and aspirations for job creation and delivery of new homes (including affordable), whilst recognising the diversity of the County, its economy and communities. In this respect, the Draft Preferred Strategy will at a strategic level (matters of detail and individual sites will be considered at the Deposit LDP stage), seek to balance these requirements ensuring that sufficient housing, employment sites, community facilities and infrastructure is provided to support this anticipated level of growth in a way that does not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the environment or communities.

The development of the preferred strategy and its components including: Issues; Vision, Strategic Objectives; Growth Options; Spatial Options and preferred strategic approach have been considered and developed in light of engagement through a number of groups and consultations including the Key Stakeholder Forum. The documentation associated with these consultations will be published along with the Preferred Strategy.

3. Draft LDP Preferred Strategy

The Draft Preferred Strategy consists of a number of key elements effectively reflecting stages in its preparation. Engagement has, in accordance with the provisions of the Delivery Agreement been an important aspect of the strategy's preparation, with the deliberations of the Key Stakeholder Forum and other focused groups being instrumental.

In following a sequential approach to its preparation, a series of key issues and drivers were identified and formed the basis for the formulation of the Vision and Strategic Objectives – these underpin the Draft Preferred Strategy. They reflected not only the feedback and input through evidence gathering, but also sought incorporate legislative duties such as the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015, and other key Plans and strategies such as the Corporate Strategy and the Swansea Bay City Deal.

A key element of the Draft Preferred Strategy is founded on the need for the Plan to make appropriate provision for sustainable and deliverable growth. In this respect, the Council has sought to challenge the Welsh Government's 2014-based population and household projections. The 2014-based projections indicated a requirement of approximately 3,200 homes during the revised LDP period. In seeking to challenge these projections and deliver a sustainable level of growth for Carmarthenshire regard has been had to a range of indicators including strategies and objectives for the County at a regional and corporate level as well as current rates of delivery.



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As a consequence of the above a specialist demographic consultancy (Edge Analytics) have been utilised to develop a range of population and household scenarios for the Plan period through to 2033. The potential demographic scenarios are highlighted in the table below.

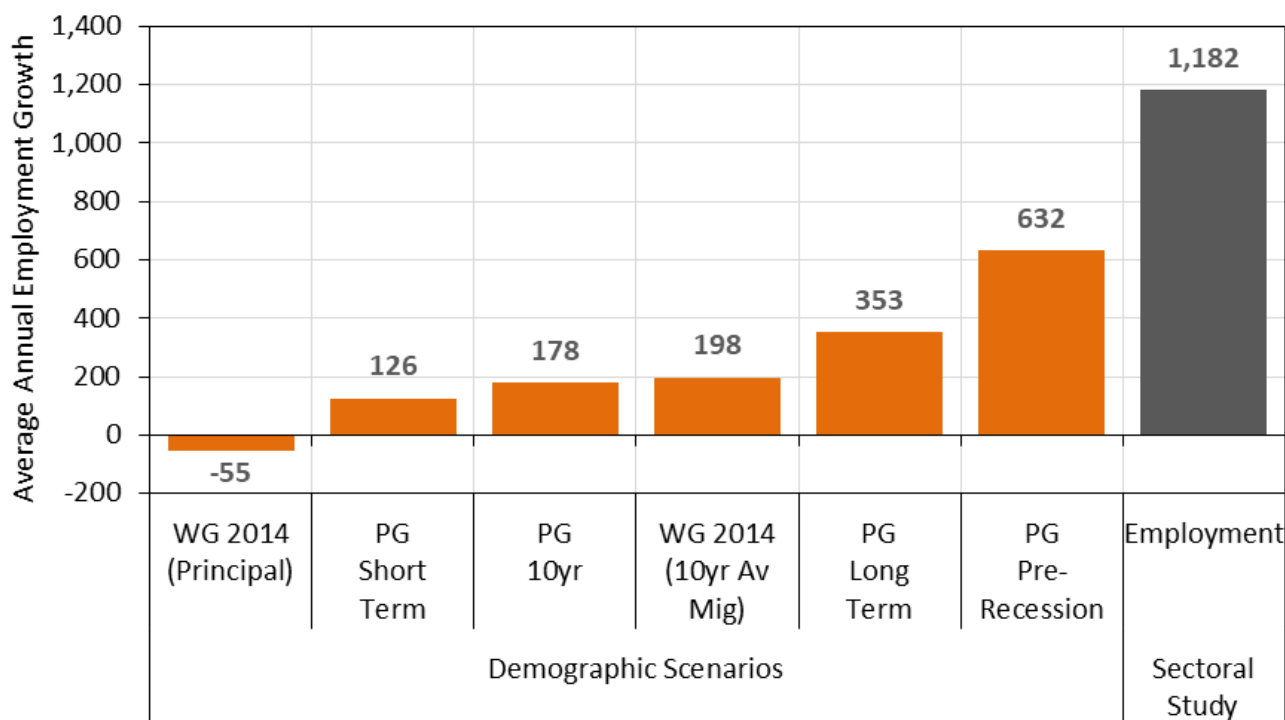
It should be noted two employment based scenarios were also prepared. These have not been considered in this report reflecting the significant scale of household growth they projected. Further information on the population and household projections is outlined in the appended briefing note.

| Scenario | Change 2018-2033 | | | | Average per year | | | Total Dwelling Growth (Census VR) | Total Dwelling Growth (ALT. VR) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Population Change | Population Change % | Household Change | Household Change % | Net Migration | Dwellings (Census VR) | Dwellings (ALT. VR) | | |
| PG Pre-Recession | 26,811 | 14.2% | 13,616 | 16.6% | 2,028 | 969 | 939 | 14,529 | 14,090 |
| PG Long Term | 17,567 | 9.4% | 9,555 | 11.7% | 1,423 | 680 | 659 | 10,195 | 9,887 |
| PG 10 year | 11,755 | 6.3% | 6,992 | 8.6% | 1,043 | 497 | 482 | 7,461 | 7,236 |
| PG Short Term | 10,691 | 5.7% | 6,807 | 8.4% | 997 | 484 | 470 | 7,263 | 7,044 |
| (WG 2014 (10yr Average Migration | 10,842 | 5.8% | 6,322 | 7.7% | 921 | 450 | 436 | 6,746 | 6,542 |
| WG 2014 based | 3,207 | 1.7% | 3,254 | 4.0% | 546 | 231 | 224 | 3,472 | 3,367 |

PG – Projected Growth
WG – Welsh Government

Preferred Growth Scenario - As the above indicates a range of options were considered each taking particular trends and migration assumptions into account. However, in order to establish a level of growth which delivers on the Council's corporate regeneration objectives, and the opportunities presented through the City Deal for the creation of 5,295 new jobs by the end of the Plan period, it was important to measure population change and the creation of new homes against the delivery of this number of jobs. In this respect, only two of the demographic scenarios above provide for such a level of growth. The following figure in identifying Carmarthenshire's Projected Average Annual Employment Growth identifies that the Projected Growth Long Term and Projected Growth Pre-recession scenarios provides for 5,295 and 9,480 jobs respectively for the Plan period. Consequently both scenarios deliver sufficient jobs growth to meet the 5,000 jobs target identified above.

Carmarthenshire Average Annual Employment Growth



Consequently, and in order to meet this requirement and deliver the economic growth necessary to deliver and support the economic objectives set out within the following it is proposed that a requirement for 9,887 new homes be delivered by 2033:

- The Council’s Strategic Regeneration Plan 2015 – 2030 – Transformations;
- Swansea Bay City Deal;
- The New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023;
- Council’s Well-being Objectives; and
- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5-years.

This will see an overall population increase of 17,567 (9.4%). This reflects the PG Long Term set out in the tables above. It should be noted that whilst this figure is above that set out within the WG 2014-based projections, it is also notably below the current LDP which makes provision for 15,197 homes.

Through utilising this strategy for growth through PG Long Term, it will therefore seek to deliver a minimum of 5,295 jobs over the Plan period, and this relates and correspond to the jobs growth figures within the Council’s Regeneration Plan. The LDP will promote and develop the economy across Carmarthenshire and will set an appropriate land allocation in support of an ambitious Carmarthenshire which attracts investment and provides opportunities for those living and working in our communities. In respect to job creation, and how this transfers to the amount of employment land site allocations, it should be noted that this will be subject to further evidencing as part of the preparation of the Deposit LDP.

The proposed growth levels would also seek to challenge and address current demographic patterns particularly the out-migration as evidenced in the 16-19 age group (see appended briefing paper). It provides opportunities to balance the demographics of the County through the retention of, and in-migration of younger adults (including those returning) to the County, and address some of the issues which could be perceived from an aging population.

In addition, the growth requirement set within the Draft Preferred Strategy will also assist in ensuring sufficient opportunity exists to maximise affordable provision, including linking with:

- the recently established Council Housing Company;
- Affordable Housing Delivery Plan - with its provision for 1,000 new homes; and
- Local Housing Market Assessment; and
- to consider and reflect rural needs and issues, whilst reflecting the emphasis and requirements in respect of sustainable developments.

Reference is made to the current build rate within Carmarthenshire which indicates a completion rate of approx. 500 homes per year over recent years.

Preferred Spatial Strategy - As a mechanism for the distribution and delivery of growth a series of spatial options were identified and considered. These included:

- Option 1 – Current LDP
- Option 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Network
- Option 3 – Dispersal
- Option 4 - Community Led Option
- Option 5 – Swansea Bay City/Region Influence Option
- Option 6 – Market Led

In considering the above the Draft Preferred Strategy identifies a Hybrid which builds on Option 4 and reflects considerations around the rural agenda, City Deal/Regeneration and the need for infrastructure and market conditions to support delivery. This **Option Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth Strategy** represents a revision to the approach in the current LDP and one which seeks to address the issues highlighted in the Review Report, as well as reflecting the feedback in the formulation of the strategy.

This new spatial strategy will be reflective of the diversity of the County and its communities whilst having regard to sustainability and the emphasis on deliverability. The strategy does not seek to apportion development spatially within the hierarchy through proportional distribution or quotas, rather, it will seek to distribute the growth in a way which reflects the diversity of the settlement clusters and in a sustainable manner. It will have regard to the role and function of the settlements but also accepts that some settlements which may by virtue of the services and facilities available may not necessarily be the most appropriate options for all the growth. This may reflect a number of factors, not least environmental constraints, but also historical delivery of growth within such settlements.

The approach will avoid any assumption that that every settlement in every tier must contribute towards growth. Rather it will consider the settlements on their merits whilst having regard to their sustainability and position within the framework. The revised spatial hierarchy and the distribution of growth will therefore be expressed through the appended framework with settlements grouped under respective clusters.



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Strategic Policies - A series of Strategic Policies have been developed to implement the delivery of the LDP and its strategic objectives. These policies have been grouped under the following well-being objectives as derived from the PSB Well-being Plan:

- Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.
- Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.
- Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.
- Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.

The Policies themes are as follows:

- Climate Change
- Well Designed Places and Spaces
- Strategic Growth
- Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework
- Providing New Homes
- Affordable Homes
- Gypsy and Traveller Provision
- Strategic Sites
- Employment and the Economy
- Transport and Accessibility
- Infrastructure
- Retail and Town Centres
- The Visitor Economy
- Rural
- Welsh Language and Culture
- Mineral Resources
- Waste Management
- Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.
- Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment.

The publication of the Draft Preferred Strategy will be accompanied by a suite of evidential and other documents. Key amongst these is the Initial Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The SA is required by Section 62 (6a) of the Planning Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, while the SEA is a requirement of the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC1. An SEA is a mandatory requirement for plans/programmes. A copy of the SA is appended to this report. The SA is an integral part of the preparation of the Revised LDP, evaluating and testing its content throughout its preparatory process, in particular the Initial SA:

- Tests the Revised LDP objectives against the Sustainability Framework.
- Predicts and evaluates the effects of the LDP options in terms of both growth and spatial distribution, as well as the strategic policies that will be put in place to implement them.
- Considers ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.
- Proposes measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the LDP.



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A further key document is the Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening (HRA) Report. This will be available for reporting at Full Council. The HRA screening report considers the content of the Draft Preferred Strategy and as such is being completed as the Preferred Strategy is finalised and as it progresses through the reporting process.

Both of the above will also be available for public consultation.

It should be noted that the Draft Preferred Strategy does not include:

- **Site specific allocations or development limits/settlement boundaries**, for example housing or employment sites. These will be identified in the Deposit LDP;
- **Detailed or specific planning policies** – additional and more specific policies to support the Strategic Policies. These will be included in the Deposit LDP; and
- It does not consider the submitted Candidate Sites - A detailed evaluation of these will be undertaken ahead of the preparation of the Deposit LDP. The register of Candidate Sites will be available to view on the Council's website towards the end of October.

4. Next Steps

Following the Council's deliberations, the Draft Preferred Strategy along with the Initial SA and HRA screening Report will be published for formal public consultation for a minimum of 6 weeks with copies of the documentation available on the Council's website and at locations across the County. Supporting evidence and background documents will also be published as appropriate.

Representations received along with the Draft Preferred Strategy will be reported back to Council for consideration before its content is finalised ahead of the next stages in the LDP's preparation.

The Draft Deposit LDP with its detailed policies and maps (including allocations) will be published at the end of 2019.

Note: It should be noted that whilst the revised LDP is being prepared, the current adopted Plan remains extant and will continue to provide the planning policy framework by which planning applications will be determined.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ? | YES |
|----------------------------|-----|

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

| Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities | Legal | Finance | ICT | Risk Management Issues | Staffing Implications | Physical Assets |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| YES | YES | YES | YES | NONE | YES | YES |

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Draft Preferred Strategy identifies the links and requirements necessary to ensure the Plan, and the processes in its preparation are compatible with Carmarthenshire County Council's well-being objectives. It also ensures alignment with the national Well-being Goals set out within the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015. Through its land use planning policies, the Revised LDP will seek to promote the principles of sustainability and sustainable development by facilitating the creation of communities and local economies which are more sustainable, providing access to local services and facilities and reducing the need to travel.

The integration of sustainability as part of the preparation of the LDP is reflected in the undertaking of a Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment reflecting national and international legislative requirements. The formulation of the Revised LDP will closely consider matters of sustainability and will be prepared with the outcomes of the Plan measured in light of the Sustainability Appraisal indicators. This iterative approach ensures sustainability is at the heart of the Plan and that it is reflective of the requirements emanating from the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act 2015 and the emerging Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan.

The LDP will have full regard to the national legislative provisions and will relate and have regard to the Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan. The will be assessed against the National and local Well-being Objectives. The Revised LDP will ensure the requirements emanating from the Act are fully and appropriately considered with the Plan, reflective of its duties.

2. Legal

The preparation of the Revised LDP reflects the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the requirements of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and secondary legislation in the form of the Local Development Plan (Regulations) Wales (As amended) 2015.

The preparation of the LDP will also have appropriate regard to other sources of primary and secondary legislation including the Environment (Wales) Act and the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

The preparation of the Draft Preferred Strategy is in accordance with the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. It is also in line with national regulations and guidance in relation to its scope and content.

3. Finance

Financial costs to date are covered through the financial provisions in place - including growth items and reserves. Should the Planning Division Budget not be in a position to provide further funding necessary to meet the statutory requirements to review and prepare a development plan then an application will be made for a further growth bid.

The Delivery Agreement, in making reference to such matters, outlines the Council's commitment to prepare and adopt an up-to-date LDP in accordance with the Council's statutory duty.

4. ICT

Requirements in relation to ICT will seek to utilise existing resources. An additional and revised data management requirement will be procured to ensure the plan's preparatory process is conducted in a speedy, efficient and transparent manner in accordance with regulatory requirements.

6. Physical Assets

Reference is made to the potential for the submission of Council owned sites and properties. The preparation of the Revised LDP will impact on Council land and property holdings through their inclusion or otherwise for potential development purposes. This will have implications on potential disposal and land valuations and consequently capital receipts.

7. Staffing Implications

Provision will be required for a Programme Officer for the Examination into the LDP (anticipated 2020/21).

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: L Quelch

Head of Planning

1. Scrutiny Committee

Scheduled 23rd November 2018 – Community Scrutiny

2. Local Member(s)

The content of the Draft Preferred Strategy will be subject to full public consultation. Members will be engaged throughout the LDP revision process.

3. Community / Town Council

The content of the Draft Preferred Strategy will be subject to full public consultation. Town/Community Councils(s) are a specific consultee at statutory stages throughout the LDP revision. A specific session on the Revised LDP for Town and Community Councils has been undertaken.

4. Relevant Partners

The content of the Draft Preferred Strategy will be subject to full public consultation. Contributions have and continue will be sought throughout the revision process. A range of partners are identified as specific and general consultees throughout the review process.

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

The content of the Draft Preferred Strategy will be subject to full public consultation. Internal contributions have and continue will be sought throughout the revision process.

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

| Title of Document | File Ref No. | Locations that the papers are available for public inspection |
|---|--------------|---|
| Adopted Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan | | http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/policies-development-plans/local-development-plan/ |
| Supplementary Planning Guidance | | http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/policies-development-plans/supplementary-planning-guidance/#.V06h-JwrKUk |
| Annual Monitoring Report 2015/16 | | http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/3683/annual-monitoring-report-201516-amr-document-for-web.pdf |
| Annual Monitoring Report 2016/17 | | http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212553/annual-monitoring-report-2016-17.pdf |
| LDP Review Report | | http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1213042/ldp-review-report-english-version.pdf |
| Delivery Agreement | | https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1215059/delivery-agreement-agreed-by-welsh-government.pdf |

Appended – Settlement Framework

| | Cluster 1 | Cluster 2 | Cluster 3 | Cluster 4 | Cluster 5 | Cluster 6 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Tier 1 – Principal Centre | Carmarthen | Llanelli | Ammanford/Crosshands | | | |
| Tier 2 Service Centre | Pontyates/ Meinciau/ Ponthenri | Burry Port | Brynamman | Newcastle Emlyn | Llandovery | St Clears / Pwll Trap |
| | | Pembrey | Glanamman/Garnant | Llanybydder | Llandeilo | Whitland |
| | | Fforest/Hendy | Pontyberem/Bancffosfelen | Pencader | Llangadog | Laugharne |
| | | Llangennech | | | | |
| | | Trimsaran/Carway | | | | |
| | | Kidwelly | | | | |
| | | Ferryside | | | | |
| Tier 3 – Sustainable Villages | Cynwyl Elfed | Mynyddygarreg | Carmel | Drefach/ Felindre | Caio | Llanboidy |
| | Llanybri | Five Roads/Horeb | Cwmgwili | Waungilwen | Ffarmers | Glandy Cross |
| | Llansteffan | Llansaint / Broadway | Foelgastell | Llangeler | Llansawel | Efailwen |
| | Bronwydd | | Maesybont | Pentrecwrt | Rhydcymerau | Llangynin |
| | Cwmffrwd | | Ystradowen | Saron/Rhos | Talley | Meidrim |
| | Llangyndeyrn | Llannon | | Llanllwni | Cwrt Henri | Bancyfelin |
| | Brechfa | Llanedi | | Cwmann | Llanfynydd | Llangynog |
| | Llangain | | | Capel Iwan | Llanwrda | Pendine |
| | Idole and Pentrepoeth | | | Llanfihangel ar Arth | Cwmdu | Llanddowror |
| | Peniel | | | Trelech | Cwmifor | Llanmiloe |
| | Alltwalis | | | Pontyweli | Salem | |

Tudalen 30

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | Llanpumsaint | | | Cenarth | Abergorlech | |
| | Llandyfaelog | | | | | |
| | Rhydargaeau | | | | | |
| | Llanfihangel-ar-arth | | | | | |
| | New Inn | | | | | |
| | Llanarthne | | | | | |
| | Capel Dewi | | | | | |
| | Nantgaredig | | | | | |
| | Pontargothi | | | | | |
| | Llanddarog | | | | | |
| | Porthyrhyd | | | | | |
| | Crwbin | | | | | |
| | Cwmduad | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Tier 4 - Rural Villages (No Development Limits) | | | | Penboyr | Ffaldybrenin | Cwmfelin Mynach |
| | Hermon | Cynheidre | Capel Seion | Drefelin | Crugybar | Cwmbach |
| | Abernant | Four Roads | Derwydd | Cwmpengraig | Cwm-du | Blaenwaun |
| | Blaenycloed | | Heol Ddu | Cwmhiraeth | Ashfield Row | Llanglydwen |
| | Bancycapel | | Maesybont | Pentrecagal | Felindre (Llangadog) | Cwmfelin Boeth |
| | Nantycaws | | Milo | Pontarsais | Cynghordy | Cross Inn |
| | Croesyceiliog | | Pantllyn | Gwyddgrug | Golden Grove | Llansadurnen |
| | Felingwm Uchaf | | Pentregwenlais | Dolgran | Broad Oak | Broadway |
| | Felingwm Isaf | | Temple Bar | Bancyfford | Trapp | Red Roses |
| | Llanegwad | | Cefnbrynbrain | Bryn Iwan | Manordeilo | Llanfallteg |
| | Pontantwn | | Rhosamman | Pencarreg | Penybanc | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| | Nebo | | Drefach (Llandyfan) | | Felindre, (Dryslwyn) | |
| | Talog | | Stag and Pheasant | | Dryslwyn | |
| | Cross Inn | | Mynyddcerrig | | Rhydcymerau | |
| | Penybont | | | | Waunystrad Meurig | |
| | Whitemill | | | | Bethlehem | |
| | Pont-Newydd | | | | Capel Isaac | |
| | | | | | Llangathen | |
| | | | | | Llansadwrn | |
| | | | | | Rhandirmwyn | |
| | | | | | Porthyrhyd | |
| | | | | | Pumsaint | |
| | | | | | Siloh | |

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033

Draft Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy

Report to Executive Board

Foreword

(Insert)

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3. What is in the Preferred Strategy?
4. Influences on the Plan
5. Carmarthenshire – Strategic Context
6. Issues Identification
7. A Vision for ‘One Carmarthenshire’
8. Strategic Objectives
9. Strategic growth and Spatial Options
10. A New Strategy
11. Strategic Policies

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1. Introduction

The Council is responsible for preparing and keeping up-to-date the Local Development Plan (LDP)¹. The LDP sets out planning policies and allocates sites for different types of development. The Council is also responsible for development management which involves the processing and determination of planning applications with the LDP guiding and managing development by providing the foundation for consistent and clear decision making. In meeting the above responsibilities we are in the process of preparing a Revised LDP. Once adopted we will use this LDP for assessing planning applications through until 2033 but will continue to monitor and review its content to ensure it remains relevant and is working as intended.

The LDP has a direct and meaningful effect on the people and communities of Carmarthenshire and visitors alike. It will shape the future development in the County and its environmental qualities, influencing it economically and socially. The LDP will respond to the needs of a growing and regionally important economy making provision for new jobs, homes, infrastructure and community facilities. It also ensures the well-being of its communities is maintained, and the impacts of the development and use of land are managed sustainably. It will guide funding and investment programmes, other plans and strategies, communities and landowners whilst providing for the enhancement and protection of our environment and environmental qualities. In doing so, it provides a measure of certainty and confidence about what kind of development will, and will not, be permitted and at what locations during the Plan period.

The part of Carmarthenshire which is within the Brecon Beacons National Park has its own separate development plan.

In ensuring that the current adopted LDP remains up to date, a review was undertaken into its content with the outcomes published in the Review Report². This review, whilst finding that many aspects of the adopted LDP are functioning effectively, also identified that there were issues in relation to parts of the Plan and its strategy. The Review Report showed that parts of this strategy were not being delivered as intended with both the level and spatial distribution of growth requiring further consideration. It concluded that we start the preparation of a revised LDP to replace the existing adopted Plan. The Revised LDP 2018 –

¹ The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Local Development Plan (LDP) Regulations 2005 sets the framework and legal context for the preparation of Local Development Plans in Wales.

² <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1213042/ldp-review-report-english-version.pdf>

2033 will replace the current adopted Plan on adoption which is scheduled for December 2021.

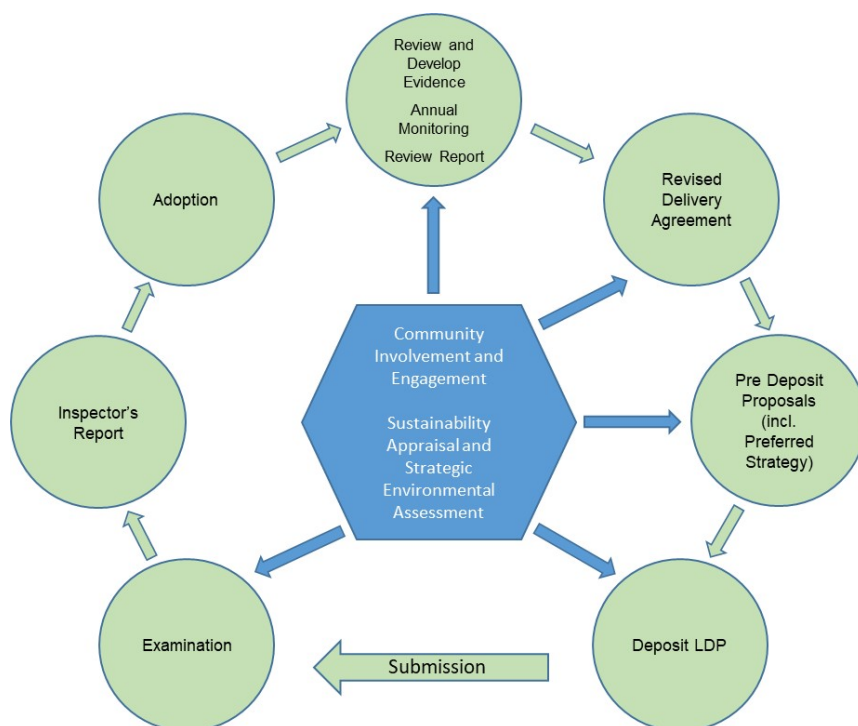
2. What is the Preferred Strategy?

This Preferred Strategy is part of a set of documents which we are required to prepare in the process of producing the Revised LDP for Carmarthenshire. It represents an early but important early stage in preparing the Plan and follows the publication of the Delivery Agreement as approved by the Welsh Government on the 28th June 2018³.

The purpose of this Preferred Strategy is to set the long term vision for Carmarthenshire (excluding that area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) and the strategic objectives and the strategic land use policies to deliver that vision.

It will provide the strategic direction for the development and use of land until 2033. It also tells us how much development is needed and broadly where this is likely to be. However, this Preferred Strategy is not the full LDP, rather it sets out broad strategic principles for development in our area. The full Plan is called the Deposit LDP and will contain detailed and specific policies as well as settlement maps, development limits, site-specific allocations (housing sites) etc.

³ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/delivery-agreement/#.W3bSe-aouUk>



Further information on the stages in preparing the LDP is available within the Delivery Agreement or on the Council's web-pages.

This Preferred Strategy should be read and considered as a whole having regard to the provisions of Planning Policy Wales and the relevant Technical Advice Notes.

3. What is in the Preferred Strategy?

The format and structure of the Preferred Strategy has sought to reflect the core elements of sustainability, along with the four well-being objectives within the Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan⁴. The Strategic Policies will follow this structure with cross-referencing to the relevant Plan objectives, as well as the relevant Well-being goals.

This Draft Preferred Strategy will be made available for public consultation, aimed at engaging with communities, the public, partners, developers and interest groups.

The following is **NOT** included within this Preferred Strategy:

- **Site specific allocations or development limits/settlement boundaries**, for example housing or employment sites. These will be identified in the Deposit LDP;

⁴ <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/>

- **Detailed or specific planning policies** – additional and more specific policies to support the Strategic Policies. These will be included in the Deposit LDP; and
- A detailed evaluation of the **Candidate Sites** submitted – the register of candidate sites is available to view as is the Site Assessment Methodology which we will use to look at the suitability of each site.

The Sustainability Appraisal of the Draft Preferred Strategy has been published as a separate document along with the Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report. Both these documents are available for consultation with comments welcomed on their content.

4. Influences on the Plan

Whilst the LDP plays a key role in shaping decision making and the location and nature of developments within the County, it is prepared and operated within the national framework set through legislation and by Planning Policy Wales⁵ and accompanying Technical Advice Notes⁶.

The process itself for the preparation of the LDP is set within statutory regulations, with further procedural guidance contained within the LDP Manual as prepared by the Welsh Government. The preparation and content of the LDP will be assessed against three tests of soundness⁷ namely:

1. Does the plan fit?
2. Is the plan appropriate?
3. Will the plan deliver?

The preparation of the Plan will culminate with the Planning Inspector (as appointed by the Welsh Government). The Inspector will examine the LDP against these three tests to assess its soundness. The findings of the Examination will be published in the Inspector's Report, and its content and recommendations are binding on the Authority.

⁵ <https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/ppw/?lang=en>

⁶ <https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/?lang=en>

⁷ To be adopted, a Local Development Plan must be determined 'sound' by the examination Inspector (section 64 of the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act). Tests of soundness and checks are identified in Planning Policy Wales Edition 9 and the Approved Revised LDP Delivery Agreement.

As the Council plans for the future, we must also work closely with, and respond to, various partners, other agencies, funding bodies and decision makers to inform, guide and implement programmes and proposals. The LDP, whilst central in informing future policies, programmes and investment strategies across a range of agencies and bodies will have also been influenced by, and reflect those which support the delivery of its policies and proposals.

A number of important documents and strategies relate to Carmarthenshire. We have and will, where applicable, prepare the plan to reflect such documents and plans of other organisations, including our neighbouring planning authorities, and national and regional policies and strategies. We will work with our neighbours and others in the preparation of the LDP as appropriate.

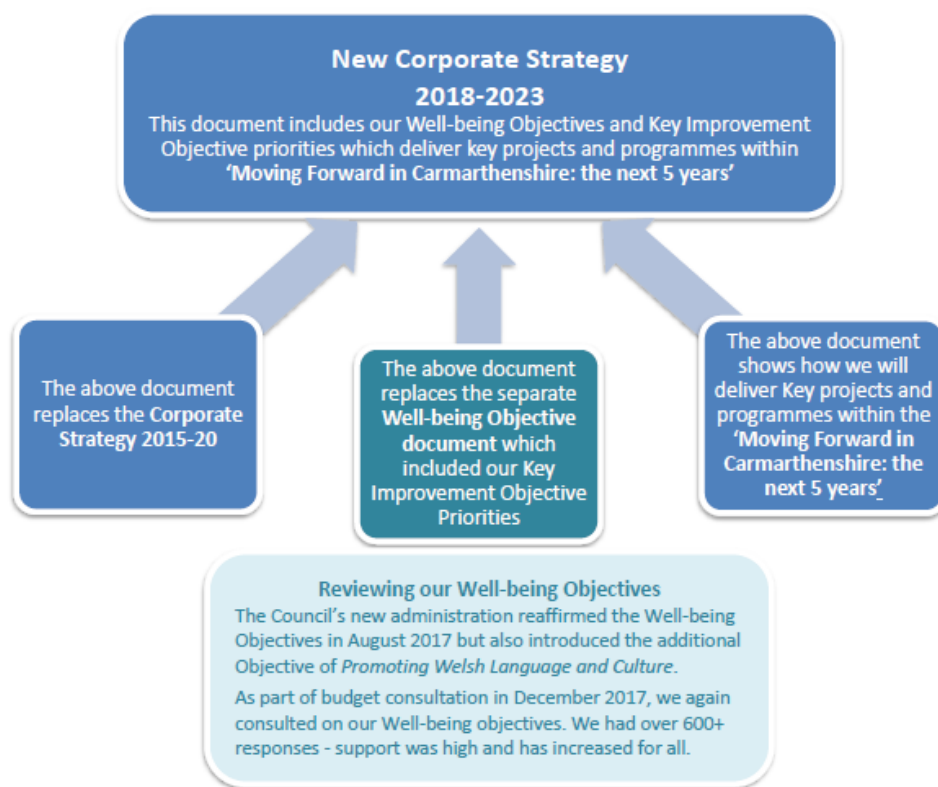
There have been a number of significant contextual changes in Welsh legislation since the adoption of the current LDP. These include the publication of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Perhaps most significant however, is the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This represents a big change, with the Plan required to contribute to its aims of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales as part of carrying out sustainable development. The Plan will look to the national well-being goals and objectives as well as the Council's own well-being objectives⁸ in its policies and proposals.

The Council, in preparing its New Corporate Strategy, consolidated the following plans into the one document and will underpin many aspects of the LDP in moving forward:

1. It supersedes the 2015-20 Corporate Strategy;
2. It incorporates our Improvement Objectives as required by the Local Government Measure 2009;
3. It includes our Well-being Objectives as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. For the first time in Wales, there is a shared vision and set of goals for all public bodies to work towards, our Well-being Objectives are set to maximise our contribution to these

⁸ The 15 Well-being Objectives are defined within – Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2033 (<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1214849/corporate-strategy-18-23.pdf>)

4. It includes Carmarthenshire County Council's Executive Board key projects and programmes for the next 5 years as set out in 'Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years'



This Draft Preferred Strategy also reflects the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report⁹ giving full and careful consideration of all the relevant factors it identified. As we continue the process of preparing the Plan, the SA and the requirements for producing the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) will help us in developing the LDP in a way which ensures it takes on board those sustainability and environmental values.

Such contextual changes, the findings of the Review Report and changes in evidence will be important in informing how the Plan is prepared, and its direction both strategically through this Draft Preferred Strategy, but also at a detailed policy level.

⁹ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/planning/local-development-plan-2018-2033/sustainability-appraisal-strategic-environmental-assessment/#.W4klWuaouUk>

Extensive work and liaison has, and is, being undertaken to build and raise awareness and communication with a wide range of organisations and individuals. The information, issues and evidence emerging from such communications has been invaluable in the work undertaken to date and will continue in ensuring the preparation of the LDP is as informed and consensual as possible.

5. Carmarthenshire - Strategic Context

Overview

Carmarthenshire is positioned at the heart of south west Wales. It enjoys strong links to wider economies both to the east and across into England, but also west to Pembrokeshire and Ireland as well mid and north Wales. Carmarthenshire boasts a dynamic economic base, reflecting its strong employment centres as well as a having an important rural economy. The County has been successful in attracting investment, and places regeneration as its number one corporate priority.

The County is characterised by its diverse towns and villages, large employment parks, regional retail centres, prominent rural economy, and attractive upland, estuarine and coastal landscapes. The Welsh language and culture are also important aspects of Carmarthenshire's identity and character with the County prominent as a heartland for Welsh speakers.

Within the County there are key economic drivers including the investments at Cross Hands in relation to the food park and the Cross Hands East employment site. The signing of the £1.3billion city deal in 2017 and the progress in delivering the associated projects - Yr Egin Creative Cluster in Carmarthen and the Llanelli Well-being and Life Sciences project - reinforces Carmarthenshire's strategic and regional importance.

Carmarthenshire is a County with a diverse character with the agricultural economy and landscape of the rural areas juxtaposed with the urban and post-industrial south-eastern area.

As a primarily rural County, the population density is low at 75.7 persons per sq. kilometre, compared with 140 persons per sq. kilometre for Wales as a whole. This sparsity of population is reflective of the largely rural communities as opposed to the south and east of the County where 65% of the population reside on 35% of the land.

The main urban centres of the County include Llanelli, Carmarthen and Ammanford / Cross Hands. Carmarthen due to its central geographic location typically serves the needs of the County's rural hinterland as well as the wider region in aspects such as retailing. Both Llanelli and Ammanford / Cross Hands have a rich industrial heritage but remain important contributors to their wider communities acting as focal points for employment and homes.

The County has a large number of settlements reflecting the size and diversity of the County. These vary in size and role with many often making notable contributions to the needs and requirements of their community and the surrounding area. A number of settlements and villages are self-sufficient in terms of facilities and services, often fulfilling a wider service role. However, other smaller settlements lack services and facilities. The needs of residents in these latter areas are typically met by main centres and in some instances the other serviced smaller settlements.

The richness of Carmarthenshire's natural and cultural environment is an important spatial consideration in planning for the future of the County, particularly in terms of the potential for growth and the siting of development. The plan area includes sites designated at the international level to protect and enhance important nature conservation value, as well as striking landscapes and distinctive historic towns and villages. The importance of the County's built heritage is borne out by the 27 conservation areas, 366 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (ranging from Prehistoric to post-Medieval/Modern features of cultural historic interest) and the large number of listed buildings. There are also a number of designated sites for nature conservation and biodiversity importance, including 8 Special Areas of Conservation, 3 Special Protection Areas, 1 Ramsar site, 90 Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 5 National Nature Reserves, 5 Local Nature Reserves and 7 registered landscapes.

Agriculture in Carmarthenshire dominates the rural landscape with the agricultural industry and in particular dairy and sheep farming establishing the County as one of the most important agricultural areas in Wales. Some 203,700 ha of land within Carmarthenshire is classified as agricultural land with the majority classified as grade 3a and 4 with a small tranche of grade 2 land in the south-east of the County.

Population

Carmarthenshire is home to around 6% of Wales' total population with 186,452 people. Since 2001, the County has seen its population grow by 12,800 people, a 7.4% increase in 16 years. The highest level of population growth was recorded before 2008, with the years since showing a lower level of growth.

The main factor influencing population change in Carmarthenshire since 2001/2002 has been through inward migration, where more people have come into the County than have left. The population growth is also considered against the County's natural change which has seen the number of deaths exceeding births each year since 2001/2002.

Migration patterns out of Carmarthenshire has seen a large number of the 15-19 age group leave the County. This largely reflects students leaving the County for higher education opportunities. There is an increase of people moving into the County within the 30-44 young family age group and the 0-14 year age group. There is also an increase in the over 65 age group which has contributed to Carmarthenshire's ageing population profile.

Since the inception of the Local Development Plan process in Wales, the Welsh Government has published four population and household projections. The 2006 and 2008 WG based projections have been influenced by high net migration statistics (internal and international) which identified significant growth for Carmarthenshire (as reflected in the Adopted LDP). However the WG 2011 and 2014-based projections reflected a post-recession phase which indicated a lower in-migration trend which has translated into a much lower anticipated household growth requirement for Carmarthenshire.

Looking ahead to the Revised LDP 2018-2033, the latest Welsh Government 2014-based household projections estimates that average household sizes are not decreasing as quickly as previous projections suggested. This higher estimate of household sizes coupled with the changes in population growth within the County has resulted in a much lower anticipated household requirement from that identified in the existing adopted LDP.

Connections

Carmarthenshire is well located on the strategic highway network with connections to the west provide links to the Irish ferry ports, which with the M4 forms part of the Trans-European Network. This east-west link is further emphasised by the West Wales railway line which extends from Swansea (and the wider rail network) through to Pembrokeshire via Carmarthen and Llanelli. The West Wales line also forms part of the Trans-European Network linking to and from the Irish Ferry Ports in Pembrokeshire. The Heart of Wales railway line extending from Swansea through eastern parts of the County through to Shrewsbury offers additional transport benefits albeit based on a limited service.

The County is also served by a number of A-roads as well as numerous B-classified roads each representing important components of the highway network. Our principal highway network includes the A48 trunk road leading to and from the M4 motorway with its connections through South East Wales and beyond. Whilst the A40 and A483 trunk roads connect to Mid and North Wales as well as to the Midlands and the North of England. Access into Central and onwards into North Wales is provided via the A484 and the A485.

The following illustrates the nature of the road network including the level of provision which is met through B and lower classification roads. This in part reflects of the rural extent of the County and emphasises the challenges to delivering a sustainable integrated strategy for the area.

| Carmarthenshire Road Network – Road Length (Km) | |
|--|-------|
| Motorway (M4) | 5 |
| Class A (Trunk) | 147 |
| Class A (County) | 247 |
| Class B and C | 1,579 |
| Minor Surfaced | 1,496 |

The area is generally well served by public transport through the bus network, albeit with the level and frequency of service subject to variation dependent upon location and destination. In addition, a number of services operate on a ‘Hail-&-Ride’ basis in rural areas and ‘Bwcabus’ in the Teifi Valley, such services offer additional accessibility benefits to such areas.

6. Issues Identification

The Revised LDP needs to be strategic, concise and distinctive to our County. Focusing on the key issues facing our County has helped us achieve this.¹⁰ In preparing the revised LDP we have sought to review and update our understanding of the relevant issues.

The key issues are grouped under the national well-being goals. This means that the issues are framed within the context of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015¹¹. This ensures that social, economic and environmental interests are embedded into the Plan making process.

¹⁰ Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2 August 2015, Section 6.1.1

¹¹ Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The SA Scoping report, as well as the work undertaken by the Public Service Board as part of the “Carmarthenshire We Want”¹² process, has informed the issues. The Carmarthenshire Wellbeing Plan 2018 – 2033 ¹³ has also been a key aspect of this work.

We have engaged and researched extensively as part of the conversation around issues generation. This includes elected Members, Town and Community Councils, Key Stakeholder Forum, policy review, LDP review report, corporate objectives/strategies, online surveys and the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process¹⁴.

We understand where we are now as a County and where we all want to get to. This has allowed for the development of a consensus on those issues that a spatial / land use plan can seek to address up to 2033.

The 33 summary issues are as follows. Further detail is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper¹⁵:

A Prosperous Carmarthenshire

- 1 The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal, with projects identified in Llanelli and Carmarthen.
- 2 Varying vibrancy and vitality within our retailing town centres
- 3 Appropriate growth is needed in rural areas (including employment opportunities)
- 4 A buoyant Visitor economy with potential to grow.

A Resilient Carmarthenshire

- 5 Risks from flooding and the challenges presented by climate change
- 6 Biodiversity designations ranging from the international to local level.
- 7 An ecological footprint that is currently exceeding sustainable levels.
- 8 Rich landscape or townscape qualities.

¹² <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/>

¹³ <http://www.thecarmarthenshirewewant.wales/media/8331/carmarthenshire-well-being-plan-final-may-2018.pdf>

¹⁴ Detailed information, including the engagement undertaken is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper.

¹⁵ Detailed information is set out within the Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper.

A Healthier Carmarthenshire

9 An ageing population.

10 60% of adults reported as being overweight or obese.

11 Community life, education and public services indicate wellbeing in rural areas.

12 Beauty, peace and quiet, open green spaces and fresh air are also contributors to happiness in rural areas.

13 Air Quality Management Areas in Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo.

14 “Our big NHS change” and any implications.

A More Equal Carmarthenshire

15 Rural and urban deprivation.

16 Over 1 in 3 households are living in poverty.

17 Council’s target to provide 1,000 affordable homes.

A Carmarthenshire of Cohesive Communities

18 Lack of new homes being built in some Service Centres and Local Service Centres.

19 Lack of a five year supply of housing land and the need for a housing mix.

20 Changes in population and household forecasts indicate that significantly less homes are needed through to 2033.

21 Housing sites not being brought forward and built

22 A predominantly rural county where 60% of the population live in rural areas.

23 Ensuring infrastructure capacity can support development, including highways.

24 The need to promote and access alternative forms of transport.

25 Lack of employment opportunities, broadband and public services in rural areas.

26 Need to appreciate the sense of place – a county of contrasts.

A Carmarthenshire of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

27 Disused buildings across the County.

28 Need to measure the impact of development upon the Welsh language

29 Need for affordable housing within our communities to retain young families

30 Important archaeological sites and historic features

31 Highest number of Welsh speakers in Wales

A Globally Responsible Carmarthenshire

32 Emerging national and regional considerations including Brexit, National Development Framework, Strategic Development Plans and the review of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10).

33 Need to promote energy efficiency in proposed and existing developments.

7. A Vision for ‘One Carmarthenshire’

The Revised LDP needs to be underpinned by a concise, long-term vision and strategy. In order to achieve this, a clear Vision has been developed that is built on consensus. This Draft Preferred Strategy’s Vision outlines how the County is planned to develop, change or be conserved up to 2033.¹⁶

The Revised LDP vision directly incorporates the vision set out in the Council’s Corporate Strategy “*Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years – 2018-2023*”¹⁷. Whilst there is no vision to directly draw upon from the Carmarthenshire Wellbeing Plan, the Revised LDP vision reflects its four well-being objectives which are (1) *Healthy Habits* (2) *Early Intervention* (3) *Strong Connections* and (4) *Prosperous People and Places*.

The supporting text of well-being objective 4 has been incorporated into the Revised LDP vision due to this objective’s emphasis on “*maximising opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county*”. This responds to the strong emphasis on recognising rural areas within the conversations undertaken around issues identification. The Revised LDP vision acknowledges and celebrates that our county is one of contrast and engenders a sense of place.

A “*One Carmarthenshire*” approach recognises the need to balance conflicting demands and interests and provides a platform for consensus and shared ownership of the Revised LDP. The Revised LDP vision also recognises the Swansea Bay City Deal and this sets the tone for this Draft Preferred Strategy to be positive and sufficiently aspirational.

¹⁶ Planning Policy Wales, Edition 9 (Section 2.2.1) and Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2 – August 2015, Section 6.1.1

¹⁷ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/moving-forward-in-carmarthenshire-the-next-5-years/>

One Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities are valued and respected.

It will have prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities providing increased opportunities, interventions and connections for people, places and organisations in both rural and urban parts of our County.

It will have a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.

8. Strategic Objectives

The current Adopted LDP's strategic objectives were utilised as a starting point for the identification of strategic objectives for the Revised LDP.

The emergence of a range of contextual and policy drivers since 2014, most notably the Well Being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the signing of the Swansea Bay City Deal in 2017, mean that the Adopted LDP Strategic Objectives needed review. There was also a need to ensure that the Revised LDP strategic objectives were interwoven with the Revised LDP key issues and vision.

The Carmarthenshire Well Being Plan's wellbeing objectives have been utilised to group the Revised LDP's Strategic Objectives. This ensures that a local interpretation of wellbeing is interwoven into the strategic objectives and the Plan's strategy from the outset.

Whilst not directly identified as Revised LDP strategic objectives in themselves, the Council's wellbeing objectives, as outlined within the Corporate Strategy "*Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire - the next 5 years – 2018-2023*" have played an informing role. The Issues Vision and Objectives Topic Paper contains compatibility assessments between the Revised LDP strategic objectives, the Revised LDP strategic objectives and the Council's wellbeing objectives and the Revised LDP strategic objectives against the Sustainability Appraisal framework.

The Revised LDP strategic objectives are sufficiently aspirational and ambitious but are also deliverable within a spatial planning context. They respond and deliver upon the Plan's key

issues and provide a platform for delivering its vision. They provide a platform for a Sound Plan, notably in terms of their fit, appropriateness and deliverability ¹⁸

The strategic objectives are cross referenced to the relevant Revised LDP issue and are also subject to an analysis in terms of whether they are SMART (Specific Measurable Attainable Relevant and Time Bound).

The Revised LDP strategic objectives are below.

Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| SO1 To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 6, 7, 12, 13, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| SO2 To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 10, 11, 12, 15, 22, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| SO5 To safeguard and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 8, 26, 27, 30, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

¹⁸ Paragraph 8.2.1.2 of the Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2

Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| SO3 To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 11, 15, 16, 22, 25, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| SO4 To ensure that the principles of equal opportunities and social inclusion are upheld by promoting access to a high quality and diverse mix of public services, healthcare, shops, leisure facilities and work opportunities, as well as vibrant town centres. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 2, 3, 9, 11, 14,16,18, 22, 25, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| SO6 To ensure that the principles of spatial sustainability are upheld by directing development to sustainable locations with access to services and facilities and wherever possible encouraging the reuse of previously developed land. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 5, 7,13, 22, 23, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| SO7 To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources. | |
| LDP Issues addressed | 5, 7,13, 24, 26, 32, 33 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO8 To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods.

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 22 ,23 , 24, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.

SO9 To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 8, 26, 28, 31, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO10 To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.

| | |
|--|---|
| LDP Issues addressed | 3, 17, 18,19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26,28, 29, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO11 To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 3, 17, 18, 20, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO12 To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 1, 2, 3, 4, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO13 To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 4, 25, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

SO14 To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband).

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| LDP Issues addressed | 23, 24, 25, 26, 32 |
| Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Time Bound | ✓ |
| Aspirational and Ambitious | ✓ |

(Insert LDP Vision and Process Chart)

9. Strategic Growth and Spatial Options

Strategic Growth Options

To inform the future direction of population and household growth within Carmarthenshire, the Council has undertaken a Population and Household Forecast Paper which highlights various population-led and employment-led growth options scenarios for the revised LDP period of 2018-2033. Each scenario is considered against the 2011 Census vacancy rate, in

addition to a variant vacancy rate calculated from Carmarthenshire's council tax records, which is calculated as 3.4%.

The Population and Household Forecast Paper also identifies the links between population growth and estimated employment growth. This is correlated by identifying how population growth and variances in the labour force and demographics supports job opportunities and economic growth.

WG 2014-based projection

The starting point for the analysis of future growth outcomes for Carmarthenshire is through the Welsh Government's (WG) 2014-based population and household projections. The 2014-based projections are the latest available. They incorporate the ONS 2014 mid-year population estimate, plus fertility, mortality and migration assumptions based on an historical five-year period prior to 2014.

The 2014-based projections are notably lower than that estimated under each of the previous WG projections. This is because they are based on a 5 year period of lower net immigration, particularly given the impact of the recession, whilst household sizes have not decreased as quickly as previously considered. It would see a high percentage increase of 65+ year old persons which would provide a real challenge for the delivery of health and social care services within the County.

Housing build rates within Carmarthenshire since 2007 have been (on average) 493 houses per year. Adopting the 2014-based projection as the Preferred Strategy would result in a far lower level of growth with on average 231 dwellings per annum using the Census vacancy rate, or 224 dwellings per annum on the alternative vacancy rate being required for the revised LDP period of 2018-2033.

It is recognised that there is a link between providing for new houses and new jobs. The 2014-based projection would stifle any future development opportunity for the county and would mean that the Corporate drive for new employment growth would not be met, and be in conflict with other elements of the LDP strategy.

This scenario would have a significant impact on the labour force within Carmarthenshire resulting in a net outflow of workers and residents from the County. This scenario would estimate a negative job creation value of -55 per year.

Conclusion

Using this growth trend as the Preferred Strategy for Carmarthenshire would adversely impact upon the Council's strategic ambitions from both an economic and social perspective. Furthermore given the potential negative impacts highlighted above, it is not considered prudent to utilise the WG 2014-based projection in the revised LDP Preferred Strategy.

Using this scenario would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Other Projection Options

The forecast paper highlights 5 other demographic scenario options of population and household growth for Carmarthenshire – each considering various statistics to inform a potential growth trend within the county.

| Scenario | Change 2018-2033 | | | | Average per year | | | Total Dwelling Growth (Census VR) | Total Dwelling Growth (ALT. VR) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Population Change | Population Change % | Household Change | Household Change % | Net Migration | Dwellings (Census VR) | Dwellings (ALT. VR) | | |
| PG Pre-Recession | 26,811 | 14.2% | 13,616 | 16.6% | 2,028 | 969 | 939 | 14,529 | 14,090 |
| PG Long Term | 17,567 | 9.4% | 9,555 | 11.7% | 1,423 | 680 | 659 | 10,195 | 9,887 |
| PG 10yr | 11,755 | 6.3% | 6,992 | 8.6% | 1,043 | 497 | 482 | 7,461 | 7,236 |
| PG Short Term | 10,691 | 5.7% | 6,807 | 8.4% | 997 | 484 | 470 | 7,263 | 7,044 |
| (WG 2014 (10yr Average Migration | 10,842 | 5.8% | 6,322 | 7.7% | 921 | 450 | 436 | 6,746 | 6,542 |
| WG 2014 based | 3,207 | 1.7% | 3,254 | 4.0% | 546 | 231 | 224 | 3,472 | 3,367 |

WG 2014-based (10 year average migration) projection

This projection utilises the WG 2014-based natural change assumptions but also considers the 10 year migration period between 2003/2004 and 2012/13. This trend uses a migration period prior to, and post-recession, which would see a population and household change of 5.8% and 7.7% respectively during the plan period of 2018-2033. The housing requirement within this scenario (2011 Census vacancy rate) would equate to 450 dwellings per year, which would be less than that currently being built within Carmarthenshire on an average yearly basis. This equates to 6,746 dwellings over the LDP period 2018-2033.

In considering this projection against the variant vacancy rate of 3.4%, the dwelling requirement within this scenario reduces to 436 dwellings per year. This equates to 6,542 dwellings over the LDP period 2018-2033.

This scenario would estimate the creation of 198 additional jobs per year, far less than that considered within the Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan*.

Conclusion

Given the potential negative impacts highlighted above, it is not considered prudent to utilise both variant scenarios of the WG 2014-based (10 year average migration) projection as the growth option for the revised LDP Preferred Strategy. It would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Both variant scenarios would limit Carmarthenshire's economic ambitions in terms of job creation and keeping younger adults within the County to live and work.

Population Growth Short Term

The Population Growth (PG) Short Term scenario utilises part of the WG 2014-based projection migration data, however it also uses the three years of data up to 2016/2017. This scenario increases the population and household change percentage from that in the 2014-based projection, but the outflow of those within the 15-19 age cohort increases. The PG short term trend increases the net migration inflow of all ages from 30+ years, but it would still see a negative population percentage change within the under 65 age cohorts.

Utilising the 2011 Census vacancy rate, this scenario would, on average deliver 484 dwellings per year within the Revised LDP period, or 470 dwellings per year under the variant vacancy rate. This equates to 7,263 dwellings and 7,044 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively. This is notably less than that currently being built within Carmarthenshire on an annual basis. Whilst there is a net inflow in the 30 + age cohorts, the rate of growth would be slower and limit the economic potential of the authority. This reinforces some of the issues highlighted in terms of economic ambition and having balanced age cohorts within the county.

In terms of the link between population change and job creation, this scenario would support the creation of 126 additional jobs per year, but would fall short of the targets outlined in Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan*.

Conclusion

Given the potential negative impacts highlighted above, it is not considered prudent to utilise the PG Short Term projection as the growth option for the Preferred Strategy. It would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Population Growth 10 year

The PG 10 year projection utilises the migration trend of the previous 10 years, which takes into account the first two years of the pre-recession period, but with the majority of the migration data being since 2008. This trend offers a slightly more optimistic outlook than that considered in the 10 year migration data from the WG 2014-based projection, and similar to the PG Short term Scenario. This scenario does identify the net out-migration of those in the 15-19 and 25-29 age cohorts, with comparable net in-migration in the 30+ year old cohorts.

Utilising the 2011 Census vacancy, this scenario would, on average provide 497 dwellings per annum within the revised LDP period 2018-2033, with the variant vacancy rate highlighting a provision of 482 dwellings per year. This equates to 7,461 dwellings and 7,236 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively.

In terms of the link between population change and job creation, this scenario would support the creation of 178 jobs per year, but would fall short of the targets outlined in the Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan*, and only marginally cover the job requirements set out within the Swansea Bay City Deal.

Conclusion

Whilst the delivery of 497 or 482 dwellings per year is similar to that delivered since 2007, it does not offer the flexibility to pick up on those years where housing delivery and the housing market has been more buoyant. Since 2015, housing delivery has been on average 545 dwellings per year and restricting the housing requirement through this scenario as the Preferred Strategy would limit Carmarthenshire's economic ambitions in terms of job creation and provide opportunities for younger adults within the County to live and work.

This scenario would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Population Growth Long Term

Under the PG Long Term scenario, higher net migration flows are estimated (averaging +1,423 people per year), resulting in population change (9.4%) and subsequent dwelling growth of 680 dwellings per year (2011 Census vacancy rate) or 659 dwellings per year (variant vacancy rate). This equates to 10,195 dwellings and 9,887 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively.

This is higher than estimated under the PG Short Term and WG 2014-based scenarios. Whilst the PG Long Term scenario captures the significantly higher net migration flows over the 2001/02–2007/08 period in its assumptions, the notably lower net migration recorded to 2016/17 has a dampening effect on its migration assumptions.

The age cohort of net migration and population change within this scenario shows much more of a positive outlook. There is a net positive migration in all age cohorts bar the 15-19 years, however there is a decrease in the population change between 25-34 age cohort and 50-59 age cohort. The PG Long Term scenario would provide a more optimistic outlook in seeking to achieve the targets outlined in Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan* with a larger population increase supporting the creation of approximately 353 additional jobs per year.

Conclusion

On balance, utilising this scenario as the Preferred Strategy would provide a positive outlook and provide an appropriate provision for housing delivery within the county. It would allow the flexibility to drive sustainable housing growth and support the economic ambitions of the county.

Whilst utilising a scenario with higher population growth will see a continuation of people aged 15-19 leaving the county, more return in the 20-24 age cohort which results in a balanced demographic outlook for the county in the future.

Using this scenario would assist in delivering the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Population Growth Pre-Recession Scenario

The PG Pre-Recession scenario is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions for the period pre-2008 recession (2001/02–2007/08), in which higher in-migration flows to Carmarthenshire were recorded. Consequently, future

estimation of net migration is highest under the PG Pre-Recession scenario. Utilising the 2011 Census vacancy, this scenario would, on average provide 969 dwellings per annum within the revised LDP period 2018-2033, with the variant vacancy rate highlighting a provision of 939 dwellings per year. This equates to 14,529 dwellings and 14,090 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively.

Whilst utilising a scenario with higher population growth will see a continuation of people aged 15-19 leaving the county, more return in the 20-24 age cohort which results in a balanced demographic outlook for the county. There would also be a significant population change that would see a 40% increase in the 65+ age cohort, whilst an 82% increase in the 80+ age cohort.

The PG Pre-Recession scenario would provide a positive outlook in seeking to achieve the targets outlined in Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan* and the Swansea Bay City Deal, with a larger population increase supporting the creation of approximately 632 jobs per year.

Conclusion

Utilising this projection scenario as the revised LDP Preferred Strategy would be commensurate to the growth strategy within the adopted LDP. Whilst this scenario would be ambitious in driving economic aspirations, setting such a high growth requirement through the PG Pre-Recession scenario would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy.

This scenario would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives.

Employment-Led Scenarios –

Commuting Ratio Fixed (CR Fixed) and Commuting Ratio Reducing (CR Reducing)

The Population and Household Forecast Paper identifies two employment-led scenarios as a basis for considering housing growth within the County. The benchmark job requirements comes from the Carmarthenshire Employment Sectoral Study which identifies that to maximise the economic ability of the county, 1,245 jobs per year would need to be created in nine priority sectors¹⁹.

¹⁹ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212564/employment-sectoral-study-final-english-1.pdf>

In meeting the target of 1,245 jobs per year highlighted in the Employment Sectoral Study, population growth within the county would need to be sizable. The population growth within the scenarios CR Fixed and CR Reducing would need to equate to 42,050 and 36,481 persons respectively. In translating this to the number of dwellings required during the revised LDP period, this would equate 1,354 and 1,196 dwellings per year using the 2011 Census vacancy. This would equate to 20,303 and 17,938 dwellings over the revised LDP.

Using the 3.4% vacancy rate, this would equate to CR Fixed scenario highlighting 1,313 dwellings per year, or 19,690 dwellings over the revised LDP period, whilst CR Reducing scenario identifies 1,160 dwellings per year or 17,396 dwellings over the revised LDP period.

Conclusion

Utilising the employment-led scenarios as the Preferred Strategy for the revised LDP and the high growth requirement set out within it would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy for the county. The housing growth requirement set out in the adopted LDP is 1,013 dwellings per year, and one of the reasons to undertake a LDP review was to reconsider this housing requirement as the housing growth targets were not being achieved.

Whilst these scenarios would be ambitious in driving economic aspirations, setting such a high growth requirement would result in an undeliverable and unsustainable growth strategy

This scenario would not deliver the Plan's Vision and Strategic Objectives

Identifying the Preferred Strategic Growth Option

The identification of the preferred strategic growth option has emerged from the consideration of the above population and household projections, as a consequence of pre-deposit engagement and the need to reach a balanced outcome including other strategies and plans such as, but not limited to:

- Welsh Government - Planning Policy Wales;
- The Council's Strategic Regeneration Plan 2015 – 2030 – Transformations;
- Swansea Bay City Deal;
- The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2023;
- The Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan: the Carmarthenshire we want 2018-2033;
- The Council's Well-being Objectives;

- The Council's Affordable Housing Delivery Plan; and
- Local Housing Market Assessment²⁰, and
- The Council's Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years.

Preferred Strategic Growth Option

It is proposed to use the PG Long Term scenario and utilise the alternative vacancy rate of 3.4% to underpin the future growth requirements for this revised LDP. This scenario projects an overall population increase of 17,567 (9.4%), with the requirement for 9,887 new homes over the revised LDP period 2018-2033. This equates to 659 new homes per year. This scenario will assist in the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Region Deal and the Council's Corporate Strategy, regeneration and job creation objectives.

Utilising this preferred option would positively progress the Council's ambitions in delivering affordable homes across the County.

The Preferred Strategy through this growth option will seek to support the delivery of a minimum of 5,295 additional jobs over the Plan period.

Spatial Options

The following outlines a number of possible Spatial Options which have been identified to inform the selection of our future spatial framework and how future growth may then be distributed across the County for the Plan period.

The consideration of strategic options is an important part in the preparation of the LDP is a requirement of the SA/SEA process.

Each spatial option has been subject to engagement to assess and evaluate their appropriateness with a view to establishing or developing a preferred option. Their content reflects the need to have regard to legislation, national planning policy, local and regional strategies whilst recognising the specific characteristics, assets and issues which are prevalent in Carmarthenshire and form a strategic approach which delivers on the vision and which promotes and guides development for the County.

²⁰ Regional Local Housing Market Assessment is being undertaken which will inform the revised LDP as it progresses through the preparatory process.

In developing the options regard has also been had to the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the wellbeing objectives developed by Carmarthenshire County Council and the Public Service Board.

It should be noted that option generation is an important requirement of the SEA directive. The strategic options have been assessed against the SA/SEA within the Initial Sustainability Appraisal – Strategic Environmental Assessment Report. This forms an important component in the process of selecting the most suitable strategic option for Carmarthenshire.

The options identified assume that housing development without employment opportunities in the same broad location, and vice versa, is less sustainable and is to be avoided. Similarly, infrastructure improvements need to be aligned with new development, including improvements to transport networks, utilities, green infrastructure, health, education and social facilities. Consequently, the term ‘development’ is used in the Spatial Options for Growth to refer to the balance of housing, employment opportunities and the accompanying infrastructure.

No single option is necessarily considered preferable in their preparation and discussion and there is scope and flexibility for the options to be adapted to take account of additional factors. It is acknowledged that the preferred option could combine elements from more than one option.

The tables below provide an explanation of each of the spatial options as considered. This is followed by an identified Preferred Spatial Option for consideration as part of this Preferred Strategy.

Option 1 – Current LDP Option

Description

Utilising the settlement hierarchy to allow for a proportional distribution of development based on sustainability principles

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

This Option is based on the 4 tier settlement hierarchy.

Summary Assessment

This option focusses growth proportionally across a hierarchy underpinned by the principles of sustainability. In doing so, this option:

- Encourages the dispersal of employment, housing and other types of development to identified settlements and village groups or clusters in a manner reflective of their existing scale, population and of the availability of facilities and services.
- Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned appropriately to urban and rural areas.
- Focusses the majority of employment growth in the larger towns and villages.

Positives

- Reduces the number of journeys and journey distances.
- Reflects current service provision and the availability of facilities.
- Benefits social inclusion through access to transport, services and facilities.
- Proportionate distribution of growth reflecting the current population distribution.
- Largely consistent with current and emerging national planning policies.

Negatives

- Does not sufficiently take into account market demand.
- New housing allocations previously apportioned to the second and third tiers of the settlement hierarchy have not delivered in accordance with the Plan's strategy.
- Does not fully reflect the role of settlements in their wider context.
- Places pressure on communities in those areas that have historically taken most development.
- Does not deliver flexibility and opportunities for small-scale rural development.

Conclusions

This option represents a continuation of the existing LDP strategy and as such reference is had to the results of annual monitoring and the review report. Whilst both indicate successes in the application of the strategy they also identify weaknesses in the delivery of growth in aspects of the settlement hierarchy.

It is recognised that elements of the strategy have been successful however, it is also clear that a review and revised approach may be needed to address not only its shortcomings but contextual changes.

Option 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Network Option

Description

Basing the majority of growth in the areas in the locality of the main highway and rail network and where there is infrastructure available to support the proposed development.

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

This Option identifies key settlements and corridors along the main transport routes and areas where there is infrastructure in place or planned to be in place to accommodate the levels of growth required.

Summary Assessment

This option looks at the existing provision of utility infrastructure and the highway network across the County and aims to focus the majority of growth in areas with the capacity for growth. This option seeks to encourage growth in the areas which it can most feasibly be accommodated by:

- Encouraging growth along the key transport routes and junctions of the M4, A40, A48, A484, A474 and A485 as well as in locations accessible to other modes of transport including the rail network, cycle network and pedestrian linkages.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there is either current or planned capacity for the supply and treatment of water and waste water.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities to support the communities.

Positives

- Availability of highway infrastructure
- The highway network is closely aligned with the main urban areas in the County.
- Convenient linkages to cross border settlements.
- Focusses resources and funding to specified hubs and corridors thus enabling development in these areas.
- Focusses growth in areas well-serviced by transport infrastructure thus delivering a sustainable pattern of growth.
- Focusses growth in the County's towns, market towns and larger villages as well as the previously identified growth areas.
- The availability of infrastructure provides developers with a level of certainty regarding the costs and timescales for delivering allocated sites.
- This strategy could be responsive to the changing location of healthcare provision in the County by encouraging growth in the locality of new healthcare provision.
- The availability of infrastructure will require less mitigation in terms of the impacts of development and growth.

Negatives

- May not meet the housing and employment needs of some communities as the main informant for the strategy would be infrastructure provision and capacity.
- Highway capacity issues could restrict the delivery of the strategy at the specified locations.

- May be driven and restricted by infrastructure investment rather than informing and driving the priorities for investment in infrastructure.
- May lack flexibility to deal with unforeseen highway and infrastructure capacity issues.
- Could place pressure on the natural environment, particularly in areas that have historically taken most development.
- The provision and availability of infrastructure may not align with the needs of the local communities and what the market demands.
- It may not reflect the principles of sustainability.
- It does not take account of where housing and employment opportunities are needed.
- Focus on corridors has little regard for the existing settlement pattern.
- Does not provide for growth opportunities in rural settlements.

Conclusions

This option links growth and the settlement strategy directly to the availability of infrastructure. Whilst this would restrict the potential for growth in rural areas, it is recognised that the relationship between development and appropriate infrastructure provision is a component necessary as part of any selected option.

Option 3 – Dispersal Option

Description

No rationale or structure for the distribution of growth; development would be dispersed across the County.

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

All settlements could be affected equally under this Option as there is no strategy to identify the distribution of growth. However, this would be likely to result in levels of growth at a fairly equal level across the County's settlements.

Summary Assessment

This option distributes housing, employment and other forms of development on a broad basis between settlements within the County, both urban and rural. It allows settlements to grow incrementally without necessarily taking account of the availability of services or facilities nor the impact which growth could have upon the existing communities and their capacity to accommodate and absorb growth.

Compared to the strategy of the current adopted LDP, this option would see a higher proportion of the County's growth being directed to the rural areas and a lower proportion to the existing urban areas.

Positives

- Relieves development pressures on urban areas by encouraging new development towards villages and rural centres.
- Growing rural settlements are better able to retain services and facilities.

- Larger scale residential developments could provide additional opportunities for affordable housing in rural areas.
- Dispersed growth allows flexibility to respond to area specific constraints by dispersing development across a larger number of locations.
- Responds to the development needs of both urban and rural communities.

Negatives

- Does not take into account the needs of areas.
- Requires the release of greenfield land.
- Growth of settlements in sensitive areas could be damaging.
- Lack of accessibility to public transport would result in an increase in number and length of car journeys.
- Requires high levels of investment in infrastructure, services and facilities.
- May contribute to social exclusion due to increased energy and travel costs.
- Does not take into account market demand
- Is unlikely to accord with the principles of sustainability and national planning policy.
- Could potentially impact upon the character and culture of rural areas.
- May impact upon service delivery through an unsustainable pattern of development.

Conclusions

This represents a largely unsustainable option and undeliverable option - and one which as a consequence would be unlikely to pass the necessary measures as part of the SA/SEA assessment process. This option does however through its broad brush approach to distribution of growth focus additional growth in rural areas.

It is recognised that the chosen preferred option will be required to have appropriate regard to rural considerations.

Option 4 – Community Led Option

Description

Development would be dispersed within community areas in a manner which reflects the role which settlements play within those areas and the wider geographical area.

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

The majority of the growth would be focussed in the following three areas: Carmarthen and surrounding area; Llanelli Coastal Belt; and, Ammanford / Cross Hands area.

Summary Assessment

This option focusses on the role of settlements within their wider locality and community which acknowledges the relationships and interdependency between settlements and considers how the local communities work and live.

This option will encourage growth in those areas which play a significant role in the wider community; this is most likely to be through the provision of facilities and services rather

than the existing scale of the settlement or the existing population numbers. This option would also seek to reflect the needs of the communities, including their demand for housing. This acknowledges the individual characteristics of each settlement and seeks to identify the role which settlements play within their locality and on a county-wide basis.

This option should reflect an understanding of the needs of local communities and focus growth in areas where it is needed to support communities and their aspirations for future growth and ongoing sustainability of facilities and services. This is likely to result in the allocation of smaller sites and a higher proportion of growth being directed to smaller settlements.

Positives

- Provides a balance between the contrasting urban and rural areas of the county which reflects the principles of sustainability.
- Apportioned growth would reflect the role which settlements play within their communities.
- Supports the ongoing use of community facilities and services in both rural and urban areas.
- Provides the potential to support the retention of younger people within the settlement.
- Could result in greater investment opportunities in the rural areas.
- Could allow for a flexible approach to small-scale growth in rural communities.
- Provides the potential to apportion growth in a manner which acknowledges and respects the characteristics of settlements.
- May contribute to social inclusion in rural areas through encouraging growth and investment in services and facilities, whilst reflecting, and where appropriate, enforcing the role of existing urban centres.

Negatives

- Could result in development in environmentally unsustainable locations.
- Could result in disproportionate growth in rural areas.
- Development in rural areas could generate significant car journeys which would be contrary to the principles of sustainability.
- It is unclear whether growth allocated to some settlements within rural areas, particularly the market towns, would materialise given that limited growth has successfully occurred within these areas in the past; this could compromise the delivery of the Plan.

Conclusions

This option seeks to be more responsive to individual aspects of the County and their communities. Whilst the perceived focus of growth would be in established centres it affords opportunity to reflect a wider distribution.

Feedback indicates that the option would need to be appropriately balanced to ensure growth is distributed in an appropriate and deliverable manner.

Option 5 – Swansea Bay City Region Influence Option

Description

Focusses growth to align with the areas identified for Swansea Bay City Deal projects.

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

The majority of the growth would be focussed in the Llanelli and Carmarthen areas with those adjoining and adjacent areas also receiving a proportion of the growth.

Summary Assessment

This option is focussed on the projects and investment planned as part of the Swansea Bay City Deal and channels growth to align with these geographical areas. The projects proposed for Carmarthenshire are:

- The Life Science and Well-being Village, Llanelli. This facility is a village providing facilities and services which promote and improve well-being. It is proposed to be a multi-faceted facility integrating business development, education, healthcare, leisure, tourism, wellness support and research in life-sciences in one location; and,
- Yr Egin, Carmarthen. This facility would be a new creative, digital and media hub to be based at the University of Wales Trinity St David

This Option is likely to see the majority of growth being focussed in Carmarthen and Llanelli and the surrounding areas, however, the settlements further away from Carmarthen and Llanelli may potentially see very little growth. It may provide opportunities for spin-off investments and entrepreneurship based activities by building on the City Deal priorities.

Positives

- Likely to result in significant job creation.
- The commitment already given to significant investment in these projects would improve the Option's deliverability.
- Development would build on, and benefit from, significant investment and resources focussed to facilitate the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.
- Future employment opportunities and residential development would be well aligned which should contribute to a more sustainable pattern of development.
- Would allow for continued regard for the existing settlement pattern.

Negatives

- Potentially limited growth focussed to the north of the county.
- Constrains development outside urban centres.
- Increases the potential for the over development of urban areas resulting in concentration and 'town cramming'.
- Development needs may result in pressures on urban green spaces.
- Places additional pressures on urban public services.
- Would restrict proposals within rural areas with potential impacts on local service provision and population level.
- The areas furthest away from the project areas will be likely to depend upon broadband provision and speed in order to benefit from the investment in these areas.

Conclusions

This option embraces, and is driven by the opportunities presented through the City Deal. It focuses on the locations of the 2 main projects within Carmarthenshire and as such would be less inclusive of the remainder of the County.

It should however be recognised that reflecting the potential of the City Deal to effect real change is essential in any preferred option.

Option 6 – Market Led Option

Description

Focusses growth in the areas which have proven most popular with the housing market over recent years.

Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected

Growth would be focussed in the top tier of the adopted LDP’s settlement hierarchy comprising Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford / Cross Hands areas.

Summary Assessment

This option will aim to meet the aspirations and requirements of the development industry by identifying sites and areas which are the most economically attractive to develop. This option looks at the market success of settlements within the County since 2008 and apportions growth in accordance with past delivery rates.

The past delivery rates indicate that the majority of growth took place in the Llanelli area with a significant amount of development also being directed to the Carmarthen growth area and parts of the Ammanford/Cross Hands growth area.

This approach could be construed as ‘planning based on numbers’. It would seek to direct growth in accordance with the highest delivery rates of the past and apply this trend to identify the location for future development. Future employment provision would reflect current take-up of employment land and would relate closely to the distribution of housing.

Positives

- A focus on delivery by market forces with minimal public sector involvement.
- New developments would be well related to the existing transport infrastructure and existing services and facilities.
- Likely to allow for financial viability and profitability.
- Provides homes in the areas which are popular with the majority and therefore would perform well in regards to the supply and demand of housing.

Negatives

- Given the proximity and accessibility of the Llanelli area to the County's boundary with Swansea County, this option could increase the supply of housing to meet demands from outside the plan area.
- Subject to market trends and influenced by economic boom and recession.
- This Option focusses growth in existing urban settlements and would be less likely to recognise the role of rural areas.
- Could contribute to congestion along the highway network in the areas identified for a higher proportion of growth, particularly in the Llanelli area.
- May not be sufficiently flexible to respond to changes in market demand, particularly in response to changes in the preferred locations.
- The spatial option would be informed by past build rates however this may not be a true reflection of what the market demands given that there could be a desire to build and live in other locations but other constraints and financial viability may impede the delivery of sites at these locations.
- Places pressure on communities in those areas that have historically taken most development.
- Places pressures on greenspaces in the areas identified to accommodate the majority of growth.

Conclusions

This option through its focus on the market would, whilst deliverable in a simplistic interpretation, be vulnerable to other considerations and constraints and would remove substantively any local influence. It is not considered a deliverable option in practicable terms but points clearly to the role of the market and development industry in contributing to a sound and deliverable plan.

The role of the market will inevitably be a contributing to the development of the preferred option.

Identifying the Preferred Spatial Option

The development of the preferred option has emerged from the consideration of the spatial options and other considerations, including but not limited to:

- the well-being objectives;
- the content of the Annual Monitoring Reports and Review Report; and,
- the engagement processes notably through the Key Stakeholder Forum.

In developing the preferred option, there was always an acceptance that there would be potential variations on the strategic options identified, including an option which would consider a mix of the positive outcomes from a number of those options. In considering the above, and having reference to the Issues, Objectives and Vision discussed earlier in the Preferred Strategy, a hybrid option emerged as the most appropriate approach in delivering a balanced and sustainable spatial strategy for all the communities across the County.

The following hybrid option has consequently emerged which reflects a number of characteristics from the identified options above. This emergence is in part, built from comments received as part of the engagement process.

Preferred Option - Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth Strategy.

This hybrid option builds on the approach highlighted through Strategic Option 4 - Community Led, but removes the prescriptive approach in assigning character areas within the County. The strategy will however retain an approach which reflects the role and function of settlements and will seek to be responsive in how it assigns growth, to urban and rural areas of the County.

- The option will recognise and reflect investment and economic benefits to the County and its communities through the City Deal, and other economic opportunities.
- It will seek to provide opportunities for rural areas ensuring the diversity of the County and communities is recognised;
- It will acknowledge that in delivering sustainable growth that it needs to be supported by the availability of a range of appropriate infrastructure;
- It will recognise that growth should be deliverable and orientated to a community's needs and market demand.

10. A New Strategy

The Strategy sets out to deliver the vision and strategic objectives and addressing the key issues identified within this Preferred Strategy. The Revised LDP will, as it progresses through to adoption, set out how the changes within Carmarthenshire over the Plan period will be managed and planned for. Through its policies and proposals, the Revised LDP will seek to provide for these changes and the respective levels of growth, and identify where such growth will be acceptable. This is achieved through identifying sites for specific land uses whilst protecting and enhancing the County's rich environmental, landscape and built historic interests. These detailed elements will be contained within the Deposit LDP.

The preparation of this Preferred Strategy has been informed by national and regional guidance with plans and strategies at all levels contributing, where appropriate to the

development of an emerging evidence and knowledge base. Engagement has also played a central role in preparing this Preferred Strategy (including issues generation and the strategic options).

A New Spatial Approach

The Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 recognises the diversity that exists within the County and the need to reflect this in its strategic approach. The Spatial Strategy identifies a settlement hierarchy but sets it within a settlement framework grouped under six clusters. These, and the distribution of growth, will focus on sustainable principles but will also recognise the respective role, function and contribution of settlements within particular clusters, whilst recognising and protecting and enhancing those valued aspects and environments. Each cluster will reflect the diversity that exists between them and their respective settlements. Growth will be distributed accordingly to identified centres whilst recognising the integral role of local growth and diversification to delivering for Carmarthenshire.

The strategic growth areas reflect the current urban form in the shape of Llanelli, Ammanford/Cross Hands and Carmarthen with their respective sustainability credentials and strong economic drivers from a market demand and delivery perspective. These three form part of the six clusters and whilst they will receive an appropriate proportion of the anticipated growth, there will be a balanced approach to distribution.

Other areas will include a focus on Local Growth and Diversification. These areas are those where growth will reflect the community, whilst understanding those wider delivery expectations associated with Plan making (e.g. national policy and guidance). Often incorporating areas which are more rural in character such areas play an integral role not only for the everyday life of their communities but are essential to a vibrant and thriving Carmarthenshire.

Regeneration and job creation are important components across the County. Allocated sites and the use of policies will provide a framework for the provision of employment and job creation opportunities. This will seek to provide a positive approach to help these areas meet their full potential and build on the opportunities within all of Carmarthenshire's communities. The Strategy is therefore firmly rooted within the "One Carmarthenshire" ethos as set out within the Vision.

The Plan will use allocations and development limits where appropriate, as well as using policies and criteria to ensure that the right development is in the right place, in addition to preventing unacceptable developments within Carmarthenshire's communities.

Across the Plan area there will be commonality of policies, however there may be specific variations to allow for a responsive policy approach.

Deliverable Growth

The new strategy seeks to provide balanced growth centred on the delivery of our communities' needs and the delivery of the region and the Council's strategic and regeneration objectives.

This LDP will provide the opportunity to deliver 9,887 homes over the Plan period. This is the equivalent of 659 homes per year from 2018 to 2033. This would allow for new homes to be provided in a sustainable manner which supports the aspirations of our communities and provides appropriate flexibility to respond to the Council's affordable housing objectives. This ambitious agenda for Carmarthenshire will allow the Plan to build upon the approximately 500 homes being provided per year under the current adopted LDP.

The new strategy ensures that sufficient opportunity exists to maximise affordable provision to support both rural and urban housing needs, whilst providing a strong basis for the provision of a deliverable market housing provision.

The new strategy provides an opportunity to balance the demographics of the County through the retention of, and migration of younger adults into the County, and address some of the issues which could be perceived from an aging population.

Such an approach will be supported through a strong economic environment with the delivery of a minimum of 5,295 jobs over the Plan period an important component. This reflects the growth and job creation objectives within the Council's Regeneration Strategy, and through the Swansea Bay City Region Deal.

Furthermore, supporting a positive approach to growth within Carmarthenshire will provide the younger demographic a further opportunity to live and work within the County.

In delivering the number of homes set above, this Preferred Strategy includes an additional flexibility as part of its supply (uplift) to ensure the delivery of sustainable growth and to overcome any potential unforeseen deliverability issues. A 6% flexibility through a further

593 homes, is included. This equates to a housing supply of 10,480 dwellings to deliver the 9,887 homes.

Sustainable Development, Well-being and Climate Change

In planning for a sustainable future for Carmarthenshire, this Preferred Strategy seeks to reflect and promote the principles of Sustainable Development (SD) and to embed the duties set through the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015. The planning system has a long standing track record in the promotion of SD and in this respect this Preferred Strategy and the LDP as it progresses through to adoption will seek to enhance the economic, social and environmental well-being of communities. It will also as part of this agenda play its part in tackling the causes and effects of climate change reflecting the contribution of the planning system as a whole.

The LDP seek to put a policy framework in place which tackles the causes and effects of climate change within our communities through the adoption of sustainable principles and development.

The LDP will promote the principles of sustainability by:

- Protecting and enhancing biodiversity, townscapes and landscapes;
- Minimising energy demand and consumption by facilitating the delivery of carbon neutral buildings and homes, including the promotion of the efficient use of resources including directing development to previously developed land wherever possible;
- Distributing and locating development in accordance with the settlement framework with a view to reducing unwarranted reliance of the private motor car. It will promote sustainable and 'green' travel alternatives building on advances in technology and promotes accessibility to alternative means of travel;
- The promotion of sustainable waste management;
- The promotion of sustainable water management (including ensuring a sustainable supply of water resources and water quality, promoting sustainable drainage modes and addressing flooding issues). This includes reducing the vulnerability of communities by ensuring that development is not located in flood risk areas;
- Promote the enhancement of wellbeing and social inclusion by supporting healthy, accessible and cohesive communities;

- Supporting the development of a resilient economy and facilitating appropriate future growth; and,
- The promoting and safeguarding the Welsh language and culture.

A New Strategy - Key Components

The key components of strategy are as follows:

- Provide for 10,480 new homes to deliver a household requirement of 9,887 homes;
- Provide opportunities to deliver a minimum of 5,295 new jobs in the County in supporting the Regeneration and strategic economic and employment ambitions within the County and region;
- Provide sufficient employment land to support economic growth and job creation;
- Promotes a settlement framework which supports cohesion between settlements and communities;
- Distribute development in accordance with the settlement hierarchy, reflecting the sustainability and functional attributes of settlements, their services and facilities as well as their ability to accommodate growth;
- To respect and enhance the rich and diverse environmental qualities of the County;
- To reflect the needs of rural areas and the rural economy;
- Recognise the cultural and linguistic character of the County;
- Contribute to the delivery of physical and social regeneration opportunities and provides for a diverse and cohesive range of settlements and communities;
- Reflect the diversity across the County, and within its settlements and communities;
- Provide for employment both through allocated sites and through policy provisions across the County recognising the need to sustain and enhance rural economies;
- Focus retail change in established centres whilst providing opportunities for provision throughout the hierarchy in a way which will assist in improving accessibility to services and facilities and help in achieving viable, self-supporting settlements and sustainable communities;
- Recognise the contribution of 'previously developed land' and utilises it as appropriate whilst recognising the County's largely rural context;
- To provide opportunities to cater for the County's visitor economy;
- Protect and enhances the natural, historic and built conservation qualities of Carmarthenshire and its high value landscapes; and,
- Contribute to an integrated transport network both within the County and region.
Seeks to make efficient use of the existing road and rail network by reflecting that the

public transport network can afford the opportunity for consolidation and improvement of service thus maintaining and improving accessibility. Promote opportunities to use and access alternative means of transport including walking and cycling.

(Insert key Diagram)

11. Strategic Policies

The following sections set out the Strategic Policies which form the framework for implementing and delivering the LDP. The format and structure reflects the core elements of sustainability and sustainable development, and the four well-being objectives or themes as identified within the Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan. This allows the Strategic Policies to cross reference to the strategic objectives set out in this document as well as the relevant Well-being goals. The strategic policies will therefore be set within the following themes:

- Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it
- Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.
- Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.
- Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

It is recognised that there will be some overlap between the respective themes and the policies and as such they should be read in conjunction with one another. Each strategic policy is accompanied by an explanatory text.

Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

The implications for the well-being of individuals, their families and communities is recognised within this Preferred Strategy through a focus on creating sustainable and inclusive places. This as part of a connected approach across all the themes allows long term solutions to ensure opportunities are available to maintain and enhance well-being.

It recognises that sustainable places are created from a balance of environmentally friendly, economically vibrant, and socially inclusive characteristics, that aim to benefit not only current inhabitants but also future generations.

Whilst it is recognised that there is an overlap between the themes and the assignment of policies the following having been identified under this theme:

- Strategic Policy – SP 1: Strategic Growth
- Strategic Policy – SP 2: Retail and Town Centres

It should be noted that specific policies will be developed as part of the Deposit LDP and will as appropriate be identified within the context of the relevant theme.

The following policies seek to support the delivery of the Plan's strategic objectives, but also provide high level links and broad conformity with the Well-Being Goals.

Strategic Policy – SP 1: Strategic Growth

The LDP will provide for the future growth of the economy and housing requirement through the provision of following:

- a) 10,480 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 9,887.**
- b) A minimum of 5,295 new jobs**

The focus on regeneration and growth reflects the Councils core strategic ambitions with development distributed in a sustainable manner consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy.

This Preferred Strategy puts at its heart the creation of a balanced and cohesive County. It recognises that to deliver this the County's role as a strong and economic driver for growth both locally and regionally, and that this places Carmarthenshire at the centre of a prosperous and sustainable Wales.

The strategy builds on the corporate emphasis on regeneration and the opportunities presented through the City Deal, whilst also recognising the opportunities presented through the rural economy and diverse needs of communities across the County. The strategy therefore, whilst not entirely employment led, has a strong recognition of the role employment plays in creating a prosperous County - with appropriate growth of housing with jobs and employment opportunities.

The Council, as part of its corporate policy, placed regeneration as its number one objective. This is reflected through:

- The Swansea Bay City Deal;
- Transformations – Carmarthenshire Regeneration Plan; and
- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: The Council's New Corporate Strategy 2018 – 2033.

This focus on job creation and investment is based on Carmarthenshire's strategic location and its regional economic role. This draft preferred strategy therefore seeks to recognise and reflect this, and the corporate objectives, in supporting and creating an attractive place to workers and investors.

The level of job growth and its relationship to the housing requirement in the Plan is recognised in developing this Draft Preferred Strategy. Ensuring that our housing growth requirements are reflective of, and in support of, our economic ambitions allows for a co-ordinated and integrated approach ensuring that the shared role that economic growth is not in isolation of housing and vice a versa.

This approach requires the development of a balanced set of population and household projections that challenge the Welsh Government 2014-based projections. This is to ensure there is a sufficient supply of homes to support the delivery of our economic ambitions and the needs of our communities.

The population and household trends, set through the Welsh Government's 2014-based projections, have been derived from demographic patterns during a recessionary period. We feel that they do not reflect the positive ambitions of the County and the region over the plan period (or the rates of housing completions over the preceding years).

This draft strategy and its growth levels are intended to be ambitious but deliverable, and reflect wider objectives that this LDP alone.

This draft Preferred Strategy will seek to distribute growth through a sustainable settlement hierarchy derived from the preferred spatial option. This recognises the role Carmarthenshire's rural areas as well as urban and their contribution in delivering this strategy and its vision for 'One Carmarthenshire'.

We will work closely with partners, infrastructure providers, developers and investors, and communities in delivering the LDP, its strategy, policies and proposals.

Strategic Policy – SP 2: Retail and Town Centres

Proposals for retail development will be considered in accordance with the following retail hierarchy.

Proposals will be permitted where they maintain and enhance the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres. They should protect and promote the viability and vitality of the defined retail centres, supporting the appropriate delivery of retail provision (comparison and convenience), leisure, entertainment, office and cultural facilities.

Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas where they accord with the settlement framework will be supported.

Retail provision within the County as identified through the retail hierarchy below reflects the role such centres play in providing essential goods and services which are readily accessible to residents, preferably by a choice of means of transport, whilst also providing the opportunity to access a wide range of other, non-essential goods and services within reasonable distances.

This recognises the general pattern of provision in a traditional hierarchy of centres ranging from the small localised provision through to the larger centres and providing a greater choice over a wider product range. The larger centres also act as locations for related activities in the leisure and entertainment sphere including cinemas and restaurants etc. and for commercial office uses including solicitors, accountants and estate agents etc.

In general, local provision represents goods and services required on a day-to-day basis (convenience items) and for which residents may make short journeys frequently, whilst the larger centres not only provide such facilities but also more specialised items (comparison

goods) sought less frequently and for which shoppers are prepared to travel further. Traditionally, shopping provision has evolved in a hierarchy of centres with overlapping catchments reflecting their size and importance.

It is this pattern of retail provision which characterises Carmarthenshire with the larger centres of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford serving extensive catchment areas with a broad and specialised range of goods and items. The smaller towns or market towns of, for example, Newcastle Emlyn, Llandeilo and St Clears with their smaller more localised catchments typically meet local needs with some specialised provision. This is supplemented by often larger villages which may provide essential items required to meet day to day needs.

As in many areas out-of-centre shopping with large retail warehouses (including bulky goods) has participated in changing retail trends and have in certain instances challenged the vibrancy and role of existing and established town centres. Whilst these challenges are recognised it is also noted that they can present opportunities in broadening the retail offer. The retail strategy of the LDP reflects the social, economic and environmental principles of sustainable development which underpins the Plan. It also seeks to reflect the changing nature of retailing and the need for traditional town centres to adapt to such changes. The Strategy seeks to:

- a. Protect and enhance the roles of the principal centres of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford in serving wide catchment areas for comparison shopping (clothing, footwear, electrical etc.) and specialised items to ensure their continued attractiveness as town centre and shopping destinations. The challenge will be to maintain their competitiveness and market share whilst understanding the needs of each centre and their respective role and contribution in retail terms;
- b. In other, smaller centres, ensure that local communities have reasonable access to a satisfactory range of high street facilities and services particularly convenience goods (food and other essential day-to-day requirements); and,
- c. In the larger villages, maintain the viability of the village shop and other local facilities.

The Updated Retail Study (2015) for Carmarthenshire examined retail issues across the County and assessed the capacity for growth across the retail sectors and was prepared to provide evidence in respect of policy formulation and in guiding decision making

PPW requires us to identify a retail hierarchy for the Plan area. Consequently, the “town centres first” principle in tandem with a sequential approach to the selection of sites will be used to promote town centres as the principal locations for new retail, office, leisure and health facilities. In doing so the aim will be to create more reasons why people should visit such centres with a resultant increase in social and economic activity thereby retaining its viability. The Retail Hierarchy is set out in the table below and comprises three tiers. The upper tier comprises the traditional Town Centres where there is a recognisable town centre and a wide range of uses such as retail, leisure, office, cultural and transport facilities. The middle tier comprises of a number of those settlements classified as Service Centres. Such centres include smaller retail centres and distinct groupings of retail and other uses. The Deposit LDP will identify town centres in both these tiers with further specific policies in respect of retail activity within the Principal Centres. The lowest tier is that of Local Centres which range from small shopping parades in often largely residential areas to loose clusters of retail and other uses in settlement or village centres.

| Principal Centres: | | |
|---|------------|-------------------|
| Carmarthen | Llanelli | Ammanford |
| | | |
| Service Centres: | | |
| Burry Port | Llandeilo | Llandovery |
| Newcastle Emlyn | St Clears | Whitland |
| | | |
| Local Provision (Service Centres): | | |
| Llanybydder | Kidwelly | Glanamman/Garnant |
| Trimsaran | Pontyberem | Pontyates |
| Brynamman | Laugharne | Llangadog |
| Ferryside | Hendy | |

The Plan recognises that certain types of retail and leisure facilities cannot be suitably accommodated within town centre locations and that Regional Centres (Retail Parks) can play a role in accommodating this need. However, the sequential approach should be adopted which means that first preference should be for existing town centre locations as listed in the retail hierarchy, and then for sites immediately adjoining town centres. If there are no suitable available sites in these locations, only then may development in the following existing regional centres (retail parks) be considered. This approach reflects the guidance set out within TAN4 Retail and Commercial Development which also states that ‘*Out of*

centre retail parks whose development has been based solely on retailing should not normally be included in the local hierarchy':

Regional Centres: (Retail Parks)

- Stephens Way, Carmarthen;
- Parc Pensarn, Carmarthen;
- Parc Trostre;
- Parc Pemberton, Llanelli;
- Cross Hands Retail Park.

We recognise that the role of town centres and traditional retail patterns is changing, as such both town centre and primary and secondary retail boundaries as identified previously will be reviewed and where appropriate revised. This recognition of the changing retail pattern and the potential for flexibility in maintaining occupancy and footfall, as part of the creation of vibrant and living environments.

Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.

The recognition of the issues (including poverty and deprivation) facing both rural and urban parts of our County within this Preferred Strategy is implicit as part of its “One Carmarthenshire” ethos. To this end, this Preferred Strategy seeks to tackle these issues by maximising opportunities for everyone to maintain and/or increase their sense of wellbeing.

These opportunities include the provision for new homes (including affordable homes) and jobs, as well as steering new investment and infrastructural priorities – whilst also respecting the County’s social fabric (including the Welsh language) and its sense of place.

Whilst it is recognised that there is an overlap between the themes and the assignment of policies the following having been identified under this theme:

- Strategic Policy – SP 3: Providing New Homes
- Strategic Policy – SP 4: Affordable Homes
- Strategic Policy – SP 5: Strategic Sites
- Strategic Policy – SP 6: Employment and the Economy
- Strategic Policy – SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture
- Strategic Policy – SP 8: Infrastructure
- Strategic Policy – SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision
- Strategic Policy – SP 10: The Visitor Economy
- Strategic Policy – SP 11: Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design

It should be noted that specific policies will be developed as part of the Deposit LDP and will as appropriate be identified within the context of the relevant theme.

The following policies seek to support the delivery of the Plan’s strategic objectives, but also provide high level links and broad conformity with the Well-Being Goals.

Strategic Policy – SP 3: Providing New Homes

In order to ensure the overall housing requirement of 9,887 homes for the plan period 2018-2033 is met, provision is made for 10,480 new homes in accordance with the settlement framework.

It is a fundamental aim of the Plan to facilitate the delivery of the required number and range of quality new homes, which will meet the identified housing needs of our future generations.

The housing requirement figure for the County is based on the Population Growth (PG) - Long Term projections scenario. This scenario projects a housing requirement which would support the economic ambitions of the County through supporting job creation, and re-address the imbalance of an ageing population within Carmarthenshire. The rationale for using this preferred growth option also considers the past build rates within the County over the previous 10 years and allows an ambitious, yet sound basis, on which to deliver the Council's overall strategic aims.

This Draft Preferred Strategy factors in a number of various contributors to meet this housing need, together with a flexibility (uplift) to ensure that the overall aim of the strategic policy to provide new homes is met. The housing supply is made up of the following elements: ²¹

| | |
|--|--------|
| Housing Allocations (over 5 homes) | xxxxxx |
| Windfall and Regeneration Allowance | xxxxxx |
| Small Site Component (less than 5 homes) | xxxxxx |
| Windfall Component (5+ Homes) | xxxxxx |
| Flexibility (6%) | xxxxxx |

Housing Allocations

A key source in meeting the identified housing land requirement is through sites allocated for residential development within the LDP. These housing allocations will be identified within the specific housing policies, or included as part of mixed use allocations.

The specific policies will consider the developments which have been commenced / committed since the base date of the revised LDP, and they will be monitored through the work undertaken as part of the Joint Housing Land Availability (JHLA) Study.

²¹ The table will be populated as part of the preparation of the Deposit LDP.

Windfall

The windfall allowance is made up of the below two factors:

- The first relates to the potential contributions of sites of less than five dwellings (small sites) within the defined settlements.
- Secondly, there will be a windfall allowance through sites of five or more dwellings which have traditionally made an important contribution to housing delivery within Carmarthenshire. Existing windfall sites which make a contribution in the adopted LDP may be considered as housing allocations within the revised LDP, provided that the homes are completed after the base date of the revised LDP, and that evidence is provided to show its potential deliverability.

Strategic Policy – SP 4: Affordable Homes

The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of XXXX affordable homes. ²²

Affordable housing represents a key issue to be considered in the preparation of the Revised LDP particularly in contributing to the development of sustainable and balanced communities.

This policy seeks to reflect the requirements set out in TAN 2 – Planning and Affordable Housing which seeks to put mechanisms in place to ensure that affordable housing is accessible to those who cannot afford market housing, both on first occupation and for subsequent occupiers.

In assessing the need for affordable dwellings appropriate regard will be had to the most up to date Carmarthenshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA). However, whilst the LHMA identifies the level of housing need, it is not expected that the planning system alone will, or should provide for this shortfall.

The Plan will also take into account the Council's Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2016-2020 which sets out a five year vision for delivering affordable housing, with the initial

²² The level of affordable housing provided will be populated as part of the preparation of the Deposit LDP.

programme set to deliver over 1,000 additional affordable homes over its five year period. The revised LDP and the planning system will make a significant contribution to this target through various affordable housing mechanisms, in addition to mechanisms through other policies and strategies. The LDP can support the aims of achieving this target through:

- On-site provision of affordable housing as a percentage of the overall development, or on sites acquired by social housing providers;
- Commuted sum contributions to support the delivery of affordable housing; and
- Local Need housing.

The location of affordable homes should be related to identified need and be in accordance with the Plan's Spatial Strategy. Proposals should address locational considerations including safe and convenient accessibility to open space, education, employment and other services.

Strategic Policy – SP 5: Strategic Sites

In reflecting their contribution to the future growth requirements for Carmarthenshire and as key components of the Swansea Bay City deal, two Strategic Sites have been identified as making an important contribution to the overall provision for growth during the Plan period:

- **The Llanelli Life Science and Well-being Village; and**
- **Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster**

Llanelli Life Science and Well-being Village

The Life Science and Well-being Village will create a physical village providing facilities and services which promote and improve well-being, integrate business development, education, healthcare, leisure, tourism, wellness support and research in life-sciences in one location and deliver transformational social and economic benefits.

The village will include an institute of life science providing space for research and development into new medical devices and healthcare technologies. The institute will also offer large office, laboratory and clinical space for growing and new regional companies as well as opportunities for business start-ups.

There will be a wellness hub which will include a leisure centre, outdoor sports facilities, recreation opportunities and well-being promotion activities. There will be assisted living, a care home and dedicated housing for people with cognitive impairment or in medical rehabilitation.

There will be a life science and well-being centre where a range of wellness services from health, public, private and third sectors will be available in one location. The centre

will also include training opportunities which will be developed to meet skills shortages. There will be relaxation opportunities to improve wellness²³

This 'world class' village will be situated along the Llanelli coastline. It will be the largest ever regeneration project in South West Wales, and aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people across the region, creating up to 2000 high quality, well paid jobs and boosting the economy by a staggering £467 million over 15 years. It will be interlinked and integrated within the natural landscape, set around a freshwater lake and located within walking distance of the Millennium Coastal Park.²⁴

The outstanding coastal setting in post-industrial South Llanelli is testimony to a long standing track record regeneration initiatives by the Council and its partners, including Welsh Government.

In noting the strategic context, this project remains firmly rooted in the promotion of wellness at a local level. The opportunity to increase in wellbeing within those current and future generations residing in the nearby communities, as well enable the delivery of a renowned physical development, are fully in keeping with the Strategy of the Revised LDP.

Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster

The Egin project will create a new digital and creative cluster in Carmarthen, provide start up and development space for creative and digital companies and promote the Welsh Language.

The project will build a new creative, digital and media hub on the University of Wales Trinity Saint David's (UWTSD) Campus in Carmarthen. It will be the base for the Welsh language broadcaster S4C and will provide start up and development space for creative and digital companies.

The facility will create a cluster of businesses in the creative and digital industry, encouraging collaboration, providing common facilities and generating opportunities for shared learning.

By taking advantage of the new infrastructure proposals of the Internet Coast, Yr Egin will create major and positive change in the creative and digital economy of Wales.²⁵

The opportunities afforded by this project are many and varied. In spatial terms, it is envisaged that it will re affirm the role of Carmarthen as a key hub on the gateway to West Wales and a focal point for those rural communities to the north.

²³ <http://www.swanseabaycitydeal.wales/life-science-and-well-being/life-science-and-well-being-village/>

²⁴ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/development-investment/delta-lakes/#.W5kToOmQy70>

²⁵ <http://www.swanseabaycitydeal.wales/economic-acceleration/yr-egin-creative-digital-cluster/>

Strategic Policy – SP 6: Employment and the Economy

Sufficient and appropriate land will be allocated for the provision of employment opportunities for the Plan period (figure to be quantified) in accordance with the Plan's Spatial Strategy / Settlement Framework.

The future development of employment sites, and indeed the future economic development of the County, should be viewed in the wider context. The Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in 2017, securing £1.3 billion for Swansea, Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot and Pembrokeshire councils. It is anticipated that the Deal will transform the economic landscape of the area, boost the local economy by £1.8 billion, and generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years.

The Deal will see three specific projects for Carmarthenshire – a Wellness and Life Science Village at Delta Lakes, Llanelli; a creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen; and a skills and talent initiative which will support skills development.

The Council commissioned an Employment Sectoral Study (ESS) in 2016, the focus of which, in respect of the LDP, was on providing an understanding of future employment need in respect of the nine priority sectors identified by the Welsh Government. In so doing the study sought to review employment land provision and job figures and to subsequently provide a figure for the amount of employment land that would be required for the Revised LDP period.

The ESS calculated that up to 127ha of employment land would be required to be delivered in Carmarthenshire by 2032 in order to accommodate the forecasted employment need of 18,681 new jobs. The database (and forecasting model) for the ESS was developed with the functionality to test a number of different scenarios. Subsequent work on population growth models undertaken as part of the spatial strategy for the Revised LDP estimates that a smaller number of new jobs would be required over the Plan period and that consequently less land needed for employment purposes.

So whilst the 127ha figure is therefore aspirational, it nevertheless recognises that the distribution of employment opportunities throughout the County is crucial in supporting the aims and objectives of the economic aspirations of the County as set out within *Transformations – a Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire 2015-2030*.

Whilst the Study emphasises the new strategic focus associated with the new Swansea Bay City Deal, new sites located outside of the highest tiers of the hierarchy can make a significant contribution to the settlements and communities they serve, especially in rural areas where opportunities for new businesses to establish or existing businesses to expand would be severely constrained in the absence of appropriate sites and premises.

With respect to sectoral employment, the sectors identified are the nine 'priority sectors' identified by the Welsh Government. However, as well as the headline numbers of jobs in each sector, it is also important to acknowledge that certain sectors will be generating significant number of 'valued added' jobs in the priority sectors. This is particularly the case for the estimated 2,500 Life Science jobs as these are likely to generate significant amounts of additional economic wealth locally compared to jobs in more traditional sectors such as construction.

In order to meet this potential, a range and choice of sites would be required, with a larger proportion of land being allocated in the larger centres, but also extending into rural areas in order to sustain these areas through helping to create self-supporting and viable communities and settlements.

Consequently, the LDP will provide a range of sites for potential inward investment and relocations through the employment land allocations. These will provide an appropriate range and choice to meet the needs of a variety of potential employers. This includes potential sites for larger employers as well as sites to accommodate smaller scale uses with the policy framework also providing scope for new and start-up businesses.

It should be noted that allocated employment sites, and thus the total land provision, includes non-operational land with scope for landscaping, buffer zones and other such uses.

Strategic Policy – SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture

The Plan supports development proposals which safeguard and promote the interests of the Welsh language and culture in the County. Development proposals which have a detrimental impact on the vitality and viability of the Welsh language and culture will not be permitted unless the impact can be mitigated.

The Welsh language and culture play an important role in the social, cultural and economic life of Carmarthenshire's residents and visitors. The proportion of Welsh speakers in Carmarthenshire is significantly higher than the Welsh national average and as such is a significant part of the social fabric of the County's communities, providing a strong sense of place and identity.

The Plan seeks to 'promote the Welsh language and culture'²⁶ and is committed to contributing to the Welsh Government's long-term aim of achieving 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050²⁷. To deliver on this aim, the Council will support and promote the Welsh language by ensuring that there are sufficient and proportionate employment and housing opportunities to sustain both the rural and urban communities in the County. In doing so, the Plan seeks to ensure that the local population remain in Carmarthenshire rather than leave in search of work opportunities and housing.

The need to safeguard and promote the Welsh language applies to developments proposed across the County and is not restricted to specific areas within the County. Development proposals will be required to acknowledge the official status of the Welsh language and commit to treating the Welsh and English languages equally.

Specific policies will provide further guidance to ensure that development of an appropriate scale, type and character is delivered to meet the needs of the communities. Furthermore, it will aim to ensure that development occurs at a rate which can be absorbed and assimilated without damaging the character of the community.

The Plan also seeks to safeguard and promote the Welsh language in Carmarthenshire through other relevant policy objectives, namely through the provision of housing and affordable housing, promoting a vibrant economy and employment opportunities and the provision and retention of community facilities.

Strategic Policy – SP 8: Infrastructure

Development will need to be directed to locations where the infrastructure, services and facilities considered necessary to deliver and support the development proposal are available.

²⁶ Carmarthenshire's Wellbeing Objectives 2018-18

²⁷ Cymraeg 2050 A Million Welsh Speakers, Welsh Government (2017)

Development proposals will need to demonstrate that there is sufficient capacity in the existing infrastructure to deliver and support the proposed development. Where this cannot be achieved, proposals will need to demonstrate that suitable arrangements are in place to provide the infrastructure capacity considered necessary to deliver and support the development.

Planning obligations may be sought to ensure that the infrastructure, services and facilities needed to deliver and support the development are delivered.

The provision of appropriate infrastructure, services and facilities is vital to ensure the delivery of the Plan's policies and proposals. Appropriate infrastructure is key to facilitate development but is also a necessity to support the ongoing needs and demands of a development and Carmarthenshire's communities.

The infrastructural requirements of developments will vary greatly according to their location, existing infrastructure provision, scale and type. In considering the needs of development proposals the following infrastructure, services and facilities may be required:

- Roads and other transport facilities including sustainable transport;
- Schools and other educational facilities;
- Affordable Housing;
- Health;
- Public open spaces and green infrastructure;
- Flood defences;
- Leisure, sporting and recreation;
- Utility services;
- Biodiversity and environmental protection;
- Community facilities;
- Other facilities and services considered necessary

The requirements of planning obligations will take into consideration the financial viability of a proposed development. In instances where there is dispute regarding the impact which the requirements have upon the financial viability of the scheme, the applicant will be required to meet the costs of securing an independent viability appraisal, completed by a suitably qualified and approved third party.

The Plan seeks to ensure that the infrastructure, services and facilities needed to support development is delivered in a timely manner prior to, or upon commencement, of the development, or where appropriate phased through the development process. The Plan

encourages the delivery of infrastructure is undertaken in a coordinated manner with minimal disruption caused to existing communities.

Contributions to infrastructure will be secured through Planning Obligations in accordance with the legislative and policy framework provided.²⁸

Strategic Policy – SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision

Land will be allocated within the Llanelli area to meet the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and to allow for the potential future expansion of Gypsy and Traveller Households.

To consider the future Gypsy and Traveller provision within Carmarthenshire, the County Council has undertaken and published a Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) which identifies the current unmet need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches within the County. The Assessment considered the methodology set out by Welsh Government Guidance and outlines two types of the assessment of need; the first considers the first 5 years of the GTAA period; and the second considers the full 15 year GTAA period.

Based on this assessment, Carmarthenshire's estimated provision for the first 5 years is for 29 additional pitches. A large proportion of this need has arisen from households living in bricks and mortar, and new household growth from within these households. The make-up of this need is located within Llanelli, where a large number of these households had previously lived on the public site at Penybryn.

An estimate has also been made for newly arising Gypsy and Traveller households in years 6-15 of the GTAA. This would include, for example, young adults living on existing sites who, in time, will form their own household and therefore would require their own pitch. The GTAA estimates a need for a 10 further pitches in years 6-15, totalling a requirement of 39 pitches through to 2031.

²⁸ Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended); Planning Policy Wales; Welsh Office Circular 13/97 Planning Obligations

Further evidence will be provided which will consider the pitch requirement for the last 2 years of the Plan period.

In accordance with the Housing (Wales) Act 2014, the Council must undertake a new GTAA every five years. The requirement and take-up of pitches will be closely monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report and the requirement for additional pitches will be reviewed in the latter part of the Plan period through the monitoring framework.

Specific criteria based policies to support the development of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation will be considered within the Deposit LDP.

Strategic Policy – SP 10: The Visitor Economy

Proposals for tourism related developments will be supported where they:

- (a) add value to our visitor economy; and,**
- (b) preserve our social, economic and environmental fabric for future generations; and,**
- (c) are sustainably located.**

Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire’s economy. It is a major source of employment and revenue supporting over 6,000 full time equivalent jobs either directly or indirectly. It generates over £434m revenue to the County’s economy annually (STEAM Trend Report 2017).²⁹

The County is home to a wide range of attractions, including Ffos Las Racecourse, the National Botanic Gardens and Pembrey Country Park. Carmarthenshire is the “cycling hub of Wales”, with the Cycling Strategy capturing the Council’s aspirations to be a national lead in the provision of cycling infrastructure events and development.³⁰

Tourism is a dynamic industry with a wide demographic / customer base. Carmarthenshire is well poised to capitalise on the sector’s potential given that it is a beautiful county located within a four hour drive of London and within easy reach of Ireland via sea. The ever

²⁹ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/tourism/statistics-and-trends/#.W59p--mQy70>

³⁰ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/tourism/tourism-priorities/cycling/#.W59p3umQy70>

changing demands and trends within the sector do however provide challenges in terms of drafting 15 year land use planning policies.

This strategic policy sets the framework for a policy approach within the Revised LDP that is sufficiently responsive and flexible to market demand up to 2033, whilst also seeking to protect the very communities, landscape and townscape that makes Carmarthenshire a fantastic place to visit and enjoy. Whilst the strategic policy provides the overarching context, it will be for the specific policies to provide the detail. This would include clarifying any role that the settlement limits of defined settlements play in informing the determination of proposals.

In interpreting this policy, it should be noted that tourism related developments includes new, as well as extensions to existing facilities. Extensions to existing facilities should be subordinate in scale and function to the existing facility and proposals that constitute substantive extensions should be construed as new development.

Adding Value

Proposals can add value to the County's visitor economy by contributing to the creation of a diverse, high quality, all year round destination and accommodation offer. Economic benefits could range from an increase in visitor numbers and visitor days to job creation, contributing to a wider mix of accommodation and attraction types – as well as extending the tourism season beyond the summer months. There are opportunities for proponents to seek to align to and support those emerging corporate priorities, including the Council's cycling aspirations. It is accepted that added value will be commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposal.

Respecting the County's social, economic and environmental fabric

A "One Carmarthenshire" approach underpins this policy. All parts of the County possess qualities that contribute to the overall sense of place. These include landscape, nature conservation, social fabric and built environment. These are assets which must be protected for our future generations and cannot be unduly compromised by tourism related development.

There should also be an emphasis on high quality in all aspects of proposals, particularly design. In considering the acceptability of proposals, consideration will be given to location, siting, design and scale, access to the primary and core highway network and the impact of

any resultant in traffic generation. Furthermore, the extent to which the site is serviceable by public transport, walking and cycling are important considerations. The scale, size and type of any proposals will be appraised along with siting and impact. Proposals should reflect the character and appearance of the area with appropriate landscaping and screening utilised as required.

Sustainably located

Tourism related development should be directed to sustainable locations. Regard should be had to the LDP spatial strategy in determining the appropriateness of any location. In this respect the scale and nature of the proposal will be important considerations, as will its siting, appropriateness and its spatial context. The specific policies will provide further more specific guidance on the implementation of this spatially driven approach.

Tourism related proposals should reflect the character of the area and the impacts on the vicinity of the site as part of a place making approach. A recognition of the sense of place within the vicinity of the proposal should be implicit within the context of the cluster based approach which groups the settlement framework.

In spatial terms, this would indicate that those larger scale high trip generating tourism proposals lend themselves to being situated in the south of the County where the infrastructure is in place to support them.

In noting the established primarily coastal offer that characterises the south west of the County, due regard will need to be given to any landscape impact arising from any potential for an over intensification of uses.

The County's rural areas are well placed to accommodate proposals for high quality and sustainable proposals that are of an appropriate scale. Proposals should respect the County's assets whilst supporting vibrant rural communities.

Some tourism related developments, by their very nature, must be located in the countryside. It is important that these developments do not have any significant negative impact on the landscape, natural environment or amenity.

Strategic Policy – SP 11: Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design

In order to facilitate sustainable development, new development should acknowledge local distinctiveness and sense of place, and be designed to high standards that are adaptable to climate change.

In order to achieve this, all development should:

- a) Contribute towards the creation of attractive, safe places and public spaces, which enhance the well-being of communities, including safeguarding amenity, landscaping, the public realm and the provision of open space and recreation;**
- b) Retain and where appropriate incorporate new green infrastructure which encourages opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity;**
- c) Be adaptable to climate change and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;**
- d) Exhibit and demonstrate a clear understanding of the existing natural and built heritage, local character and sense of place;**
- e) Be accessible and integrated allowing permeability and ease of movement;**
- f) Have regard to the generation, treatment and disposal of waste;**
- g) Manage water sustainably, including incorporating sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) into development proposals where feasible.**

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government (WG). Its central objective is to promote and provide a framework for sustainable development within Wales. One of the key factors in achieving this is the promotion of sustainability through good design.

The WG is committed to promoting more sustainable forms of development, and their sustainable development scheme, One Wales: One Planet, (2009) sets out their approach to sustainable development. Through the planning system in Wales, good design can be used to play a major role in delivering sustainable forms of development and PPW and TAN 12: Design provide guidance on how the planning system in Wales can achieve this.

Achieving good design and creating an effective sense of place requires an understanding of the relationship between all elements of the natural and built environment. Design is a fundamental component in creating sustainable development, which is itself at the forefront of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.

The Act means that public bodies such as local authorities must work to ensure that developments should acknowledge and seek to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of an area.

There are environmental, social, as well as economic benefits to creating a well-designed development. Designing a high quality environment is an essential ingredient to achieving economic prosperity as it will be more attractive to potential investors as well as being more appealing to customers, key workers and tourists. Similarly, better designed buildings and places for work will result in more productive employees. At the same time, well-designed neighbourhoods will create happier and healthier communities that will be more committed to the maintenance of their surroundings. The environmental benefits might include less pollution through the reduction in traffic, the protection or enhancement of biodiversity, and the conservation of the built heritage. All these benefits are central to achieving sustainable development and to the long term economic prosperity of an area.

This policy is intended to ensure that development proposals can achieve positive economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes, and can minimise adverse ones. It will, along with the more detailed policies to be developed in the Deposit LDP, form the basis of all planning decisions, and indicators will be developed as part of the Plan's monitoring framework to show the effectiveness of the policies.

Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment.

The well-being implications arising from health conditions and varying life expectancy are recognised within this Preferred Strategy through its emphasis on protecting and enhancing the County's built & historic as well as natural environment.

The Preferred Strategy embraces the wellbeing potential afforded by our natural environment and access to our green spaces, particularly if this is done in a connected way. It is also noted that such spaces provide an opportunity to soften the impact of our changing climate.

Whilst it is recognised that there is an overlap between the themes and the assignment of policies the following having been identified under this theme:

- Strategic Policy – SP 12: Rural Development
- Strategic Policy – SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment
- Strategic Policy – SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

It should be noted that specific policies will be developed as part of the Deposit LDP and will as appropriate be identified within the context of the relevant theme.

The following policies seek to support the delivery of the Plan's strategic objectives, but also provide high level links and broad conformity with the Well-Being Goals.

Strategic Policy – SP 12: Rural Development

The Plan supports development proposals which will contribute towards the sustainability of the County's rural communities. Development proposals in rural areas should demonstrate that they support the role of the rural settlements in the settlement hierarchy to meet the housing, employment and social needs of Carmarthenshire's rural communities.

The rural settlements of the County have an important role to play in improving the sustainability of the wider geographical area in which they are located as well as the County's overall sustainability. The Plan's strategy and settlement hierarchy reflects the

significant role which the rural communities play through supporting growth of a proportionate scale which can make a positive contribution towards the long-term sustainability of the rural economy and rural communities.

Proportionate and sensitive development can provide the level of growth required to retain and enhance the services and facilities provided in the County's rural settlements. It can also serve to safeguard and promote the Welsh language in rural areas and enhance rural employment opportunities. However, the Plan seeks to ensure that development and growth does not have negative impacts upon a community's sustainability. Key to this is ensuring that development is not permitted at a scale or rate which would affect the community's ability to absorb and adapt to growth and change. This is imperative when considering the impacts which development can have upon the local infrastructure, the vitality of the Welsh language and the sustainability of the countryside and natural environment.

The Council is committed to addressing and safeguarding the needs of rural communities and to this end have established a Rural Affairs Task Group with the aim of assessing the needs of rural communities and taking positive steps to address these. The Plan supports the aims of the Task Group through its strategy and policies, principally through policies relating to the provision of housing and affordable housing, the economy and employment, the Welsh language and the natural environment; development proposals will need to demonstrate that they accord with these policies as well as the provisions of national planning policy.³¹

Strategic Policy – SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment

Proposals for development will be expected to protect and enhance the County's natural environment.

Proposals must reflect the role an ecologically connected environment has in protecting and enhancing biodiversity, defining the landscape, creating a sense of place and contribute to a sense of Well-being.

Carmarthenshire has a rich and diverse natural environment with a number of designated sites and protected species. This policy seeks to recognise the quality and value of the

³¹ Planning Policy Wales; Technical Advice Note 6 Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (July 2010)

natural environment and landscapes across the Plan area, and their fundamental role in defining the County's identity, character and distinctiveness.

The protection and enhancement of these elements form an important component of the Strategy, which looks to reflect not only those international and national designations, but also the contribution of sites and landscapes at the local level. The LDP will also seek to conserve and enhance natural resources such as geodiversity, water, soil and air quality.

This policy also recognises the often interconnected components of the natural environment and their contribution towards maintaining and enhancing biodiversity, as well as the creation of attractive and cohesive spaces for communities and the well-being of Carmarthenshire's population.

Protection and enhancement of connectivity, and the contribution it makes to the quality of Carmarthenshire's landscape, natural environment and biodiversity is an important consideration. As a result, the potential impact of the Plan and its policies and proposals upon nature conservation interests, amenity value, water/soil/air quality, hydrology, geology and geomorphological regimes will continue to inform the plan-making process.

A Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) has been undertaken to assess the impacts of the Plan on European protected sites, including those in the candidate stage of designation.

Whilst the Plan recognises the need for new development for both social and economic purposes, the Council will, where appropriate, seek to safeguard Carmarthenshire's environmental qualities. We will seek to ensure the protection and enhancement of the natural environment through detailed policy.

In addition, and reflecting the duties placed upon Local Authorities, we will have regard to the National Park designation and the purpose for which it is designated, where it may affect the consideration of planning proposals.

Strategic Policy – SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment.

Development proposals should preserve or enhance the built and historic environment of the County, its cultural, townscape and landscape assets, and, where appropriate, their setting.

Proposals will be expected to promote high quality design that reinforces local character and respects and enhances the cultural and historic qualities of the plan area.

Carmarthenshire has a rich and diverse historical and cultural built heritage, with a range of Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, and Scheduled Ancient Monuments etc. The recognition of the Plan area's built heritage and its conservation is essential providing a sense of history, character and to as a sense of place.

The Plan area also contains archaeological sites and features including many of which have not yet been discovered. The Policy and the Plan aims, in conjunction with primary legislation on the built environment and historic buildings, to safeguard the cultural integrity of the historic settlements, features and buildings within the Plan area, and where applicable contribute to the enhancement of the historic and built environment. This recognises that our historic assets are irreplaceable resources and their conservation provides social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits.

Such historic assets include:

- listed buildings;
- conservation areas;
- historic parks, gardens and landscapes; and
- Un-designated assets which provide character to the area.

The County's historic buildings, townscape and landscape should be regarded as assets and positively conserved and enhanced for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. The special and often diverse character of the County, with its unspoilt countryside, industrial heritage and wealth of historic towns and villages, reflects the changes experienced through the ages, linking the past to the present and maintaining the area's distinct cultural identity.

Such features and structures not only affected by change and neglect, but also by changes to their setting. As such this is an important consideration in making decisions on proposals which may have an effect.

The need for new appropriate development across the County must be recognised, and as such the LDP will seek to direct and manage potential growth in a way which respects the importance of the built and historic environment

Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

This Preferred Strategy recognises the importance of community and sense of place by seeking to distribute new development in manner that recognises and respects the role and function of our settlements.

By distributing growth in a sustainable manner and in a way that acknowledges our key connectivity routes, this Preferred Strategy can assist in the creation of connected communities that are resilient, vibrant and can foster a well-being amongst residents.

Whilst it is recognised that there is an overlap between the themes and the assignment of policies the following having been identified under this theme:

- Strategic Policy – SP 15: Climate Change
- Strategic Policy – SP 16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework
- Strategic Policy – SP 17: Transport and Accessibility
- Strategic Policy – SP 18: Mineral Resources
- Strategic Policy – SP 19: Waste Management

It should be noted that specific policies will be developed as part of the Deposit LDP and will as appropriate be identified within the context of the relevant theme.

The following policies seek to support the delivery of the Plan's strategic objectives, but also provide high level links and broad conformity with the Well-Being Goals.

Strategic Policy – SP 15: Climate Change

Where development proposals respond to, are resilient to, adapt to and minimise the causes and impacts of climate change they will be supported. In particular proposals will be supported where they:

- a) Reflect sustainable transport principles and minimise the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;**
- b) Avoid, or where appropriate, minimise the risk of flooding including the incorporation of measures such as SuDS and flood resilient design;**
- c) Promote the energy hierarchy by reducing energy demand, promoting energy efficiency and increasing the supply of renewable energy;**

d) Incorporate appropriate climate responsive design solutions including orientation, layout, density and low carbon solutions (including design and construction methods) and utilise sustainable construction methods where feasible.

Proposals for development which are located within areas at risk from flooding will be resisted unless they accord with the provisions of Planning Policy Wales TAN 15.

The need to tackle climate change represents a fundamental challenge if sustainable development and the obligations under the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 are to be delivered. The economic, social and environmental implications arising from Climate change will be profound and a failure to address it will result any effort to plan for sustainability unsuccessful.

The changing climate and the impacts for Wales predicted by the UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) present the planning system with serious challenges. In addressing them, Planning Policy Wales (PPW) outlines a series of objectives which should be taken into account during the preparation of a development plan.

The LDP categorises settlements into a hierarchy which reflects their relative sustainability. The Plan's aspiration of minimising the need to travel, particularly by private motor car, and its contributory role towards the facilitation of an integrated transport strategy seeks to direct development to appropriate locations which serve to achieve this.

The potential impact of flood risk forms an important consideration in the assessment of the appropriateness of sites for inclusion within the LDP. In this regard, a precautionary approach will be adopted in the identification of sites for inclusion in the Plan. The consideration of any proposals in respect of flooding have regard to the provisions of PPW and TAN15: Development and Flood Risk which provides guidance on assessing developments at risk from flooding.

Proposals affected by flood risk will be required to submit a Flood Consequences Assessment as part of any planning application and the Council will consult with Natural Resources Wales (NRW). Where a site is in part impacted upon by flood risk, the developer will need to consider the impact of the risk on the developability of the remainder of the site. Where appropriate they should undertake the necessary evidential work (including a flood consequences assessment and/or topographical survey) to the satisfaction of NRW.

Developments will be expected to exhibit good design principles to promote the efficient use of resources, including minimising waste and pollution generation, and maximising energy efficiency and the efficient use of other resources. Reference should be had to policy SP X in relation to the waste and the waste hierarchy and minimisation of waste.

Development proposals will be expected to make full and appropriate use of land. The potential impacts of climate change should be central to the design process, including the contribution that location, density, layout and built form can make towards climate responsive developments.

The Welsh Government is committed to using the planning system to optimise renewable energy and low carbon energy generation. PPW states that Local Planning Authorities can make a positive provision by considering the contribution that their area can make towards developing and facilitating renewable and low carbon energy, and enable this contribution to be delivered. Renewable energy targets have been set by the Welsh Government, one target is for Wales to be generating 70% of its electricity consumption from renewable energy by 2030.

Proposals/land uses and land management practices will be encouraged where they help to secure and protect carbon sinks (including peat). Such an approach will enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change and to reducing the causes of climate change through the protection of carbon sinks and as a sustainable energy source³².

PPW sets out clear guidance in terms of requirements for climate responsive developments and sustainable buildings. Reference should be made to the Practice Guidance – Planning for Sustainable Buildings (WG, 2014).

³² Planning Policy Wales: Edition 9 Para 4.6.4.
<https://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/161117planning-policy-wales-edition-9-en.pdf>

Strategic Policy – SP 16: Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework

The provision of growth and development will be directed to sustainable locations in accordance with the following spatial framework.

| | Cluster 1 | Cluster 2 | Cluster 3 | Cluster 4 | Cluster 5 | Cluster 6 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Tier 1 – Principal Centre | Carmarthen | Llanelli | Ammanford/Crosshands | | | |
| Tier 2 Service Centre | Pontyates/ Meinciau/ Ponthenri | Burry Port | Brynamman | Newcastle Emlyn | Llandovery | St Clears / Pwll Trap |
| | | Pembrey | Glanamman/Garnant | Llanybydder | Llandeilo | Whitland |
| | | Fforest/Hendy | Pontyberem/Bancffosfelen | Pencader | Llangadog | Laugharne |
| | | Llangennech | | | | |
| | | Trimsaran/Carway | | | | |
| | | Kidwelly | | | | |
| | | Ferryside | | | | |
| Tier 3 – Sustainable Villages | Cynwyl Elfed | Mynyddygarreg | Carmel | Drefach/ Felindre | Caio | Llanboidy |
| | Llanybri | Five Roads/Horeb | Cwmgwili | Waungilwen | Ffarmers | Glandy Cross |
| | Llansteffan | Llansaint / Broadway | Foelgastell | Llangeler | Llansawel | Efailwen |
| | Bronwydd | | Maesybont | Pentrecwrt | Rhydcymerau | Llangynin |
| | Cwmffrwd | | Ystradowen | Saron/Rhos | Talley | Meidrim |
| | Llangyndeyrn | | Llannon | Llanllwni | Cwrt Henri | Bancyfelin |
| | Brechfa | | Llanedi | Cwmann | Llanfynydd | Llangynog |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | Llangain | | | Capel Iwan | Llanwrda | Pendine |
| | Idole and Pentrepoeth | | | Llanfihangel ar Arth | Cwmdu | Llanddowror |
| | Peniel | | | Trelech | Cwmifor | Llanmiloe |
| | Alltwalis | | | Pontyweli | Salem | |
| | Llanpumsaint | | | Cenarth | Abergorlech | |
| | Llandyfaelog | | | | | |
| | Rhydargaeau | | | | | |
| | Llanfihangel-ar-arth | | | | | |
| | New Inn | | | | | |
| | Llanarthne | | | | | |
| | Capel Dewi | | | | | |
| | Nantgaredig | | | | | |
| | Pontargothi | | | | | |
| | Llanddarog | | | | | |
| | Porthyrhyd | | | | | |
| | Crwbin | | | | | |
| | Cwmduad | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Tier 4 - Rural Villages (No Development Limits) | | | | Penboyr | Ffaldybrenin | Cwmfelin Mynach |
| | Hermon | Cynheidre | Capel Seion | Drefelin | Crugybar | Cwmbach |
| | Abernant | Four Roads | Derwydd | Cwmpengraig | Cwm-du | Blaenwaun |
| | Blaenycloed | | Heol Ddu | Cwmhiraeth | Ashfield Row | Llanglydwen |
| | Bancycapel | | Maesybont | Pentrecagal | Felindre (Llangadog) | Cwmfelin Boeth |
| | Nantycaws | | Milo | Pontarsais | Cynghordy | Cross Inn |

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Croesyceiliog | | Pantllyn | Gwyddgrug | Golden Grove | Llansadurnen |
| | Felingwm Uchaf | | Pentregwenlais | Dolgran | Broad Oak | Broadway |
| | Felingwm Isaf | | Temple Bar | Bancyfford | Trapp | Red Roses |
| | Llanegwad | | Cefnbrynbrain | Bryn Iwan | Manordeilo | Llanfallteg |
| | Pontantwn | | Rhosamman | Pencarreg | Penybanc | |
| | Nebo | | Drefach (Llandyfan) | | Felindre, (Dryslwyn) | |
| | Talog | | Stag and Pheasant | | Dryslwyn | |
| | Cross Inn | | Mynyddcerrig | | Rhydcymerau | |
| | Penybont | | | | Waunystrad Meurig | |
| | Whitemill | | | | Bethlehem | |
| | Pont-Newydd | | | | Capel Isaac | |
| | | | | | Llangathen | |
| | | | | | Llansadwrn | |
| | | | | | Rhandirmwyn | |
| | | | | | Porthyrhyd | |
| | | | | | Pumsaint | |
| | | | | | Siloh | |

The Plan seeks to distribute growth and development spatially across the County having regard to the spatial strategy and spatial framework and national policy³³. This emphasises the need for a settlement strategy to provide the basis for a spatial pattern of housing development, balancing social, economic and environmental needs. Whilst the majority of development will be directed to the top tiers of the settlement hierarchy, the diversity of the County is recognised and regard will be had to housing in rural areas and the value such areas play within the County, its communities and to the economy.

The Plan seeks to distribute the growth in a way which reflects the diversity of the settlement clusters and in a sustainable manner. It will have regard to the role and function of the settlements but also accepts that some settlements which may by virtue of services and facilities available may not necessarily be the most appropriate options for all the growth. This may reflect a number of factors not least environmental constraints but also historical delivery of growth within such settlements. Additionally, cross-border influences and proximity to adjacent settlements are influencing factors to varying extents. These include: Pontarddulais, Lampeter, Adpar, Narberth and Llandysul.

The approach will avoid any assumption that that every settlement in every tier must contribute towards growth, rather it will consider the settlements on their merits having whilst having regard to their sustainability and position within the framework. Therefore, it does not seek to apportion development spatially within the hierarchy purely by the use of proportional distribution or quotas.

The strategy accepts that the principal centres will be the main focus of growth, with its precise spread across the County being responsive and not constrained by a rigid proportional distribution. Regard will be made to the scale and character as well as the role of the settlement.

The following sets out an indicative apportionment of residential growth by tier; this will be further developed as the Plan progresses through its preparatory stages:

Principal Centre 50 - 55%; Service Centre 15 - 20%; Sustainable Villages 15 - 20%; Rural Villages 15- 20% and Non-Defined Rural Settlements < 1%.

³³ Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9)

The rural villages will have provision for small scale housing opportunities focused on infill and logical extensions as well as small scale rural exceptions for affordable housing. This provides scope for limited market housing provision.

Within the undefined rural settlements, new housing development will be limited to small scale opportunities where local needs affordable housing is provided. Such proposals will be focused around infill and opportunities for logical extensions. Both these tiers will not have development limits with proposals considered through criteria based policies.

Whilst the above refers specifically to residential growth, the settlement framework will, in conjunction with specific policies, also guide the consideration of appropriate locations and scale of other developments (including employment).

The following sets out an indicative outline on the nature of development likely by tier including their scale and type. Further details will be developed as part of the Deposit Plan, as will the specific criteria policies necessary to support to consideration of proposals such as rural exceptions and defined rural villages:

Principal Centres

Strategic Sites
Large and small scale Employment Areas
Housing Allocations
Small housing sites (under 5 homes);
Affordable Housing Provision on sites of 5 or more units
Windfall housing opportunities

Service Centres:

Small Scale Employment Areas
Housing Allocations
Affordable Housing Provision on sites of 5 or more units
Small housing sites (under 5 homes);
Windfall housing opportunities

Sustainable Villages:

Housing Allocations
Affordable housing on sites of 5 or more units
Small housing sites (under 5 homes);
Windfall housing opportunities
Small Scale Rural Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing adjoining settlement boundaries

Rural Villages (No Development Limits):

Small sites – housing through infill or logical extensions/rounding off.
Small Scale Rural Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing

Non Defined Rural Settlements:

Local needs affordable housing and Small Scale Rural Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing

Strategic Policy – SP 17: Transport and Accessibility

Sustainable and deliverable development requires an integrated, accessible, reliable, efficient, safe and sustainable transport network to underpin delivery. The Plan therefore contributes to the delivery of a sustainable transport system and associated infrastructure through:

- a. Reducing the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;**
- b. Addressing social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities;**
- c. Supporting and where applicable enhancing alternatives to the motor car, such as public transport (including park and ride facilities and encourage the adoption of travel plans) and active transport through cycling and walking;**
- d. Re-enforcing the function and role of settlements in accordance with the settlement framework;**
- e. Promoting the efficient use of the transport network;**
- f. Enhancing accessibility to employment, homes, services and facilities at locations accessible to appropriate transport infrastructure – including significant trip generating proposals;**
- g. The incorporation of design and access solutions within developments to promote accessibility. Provide walking and cycling routes, linking in with active travel networks and green infrastructure networks; and**
- h. Adopt a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking.**

The strategy reflects and promotes the principles of sustainability and accessibility to essential services and facilities with the aim of achieving viable, self-supporting settlements and sustainable communities thus increasing social inclusion and cohesion. The settlement framework reflects the sustainability of settlements where services, jobs, shopping and leisure facilities are located whilst recognising the diversity of the County and its communities including the rural areas.

In achieving the above the strategy has regard to the highway and rail network along with accessibility to public transport and the potential for growth of settlements reflecting levels of accessibility (to be considered as part of the Deposit LDP).

Due to the diversity of the County, accessibility and the aim of reducing the need to travel (and reducing CO2 emissions) remains a challenge for a large part of Carmarthenshire. This challenge is particularly evident when addressing the need to sustain rural areas and ensure that their communities do not suffer social exclusion. This must also relate to a realistic acceptance that the motor car remains an important means of travel in such areas.

Minimising travel may also be possible through an integrated transport strategy and the development of self-sustaining communities (including the availability of services and facilities) and the availability of alternatives through appropriate initiatives such as 'Bwcabus'. It is however also recognised that as technology progresses the potential impact or otherwise of the motorcar will change.

The LDP will seek to positively promote solutions which encourage access to technological changes, including electric charging points, in promoting a reduction in harmful emissions and enhancing social inclusion and accessibility.

Road schemes that are identified within the relevant Transport Plan will, where there is sufficient certainty, be identified within the Deposit LDP and where appropriate safeguarded. Where a scheme is identified as requiring further feasibility, design and preparation it may not be identified in the Deposit LDP as this reflects the potential for an absence of clear indications of delivery.

The role of the County as a centre for cycling in Wales is recognised and the publication of the Cycling Strategy will be considered and where appropriate reflected as the LDP progresses. In this respect the role of the cycling network as an economic driver and leisure and tourism asset is recognised. Similarly, its contribution to the promotion of accessibility and benefits to our communities is also recognised - as is that afforded through the public footpath network and bridleways.

Strategic Policy – SP 18: Mineral Resources

The County's identified mineral resources will be sustainably managed by:

- a) Ensuring supply by maintaining an adequate landbank of permitted aggregate reserves (hard rock and sand and gravel) throughout the Plan period;**

- b) Encouraging the efficient and appropriate use of high quality minerals and maximising the potential for the re-use and recycling of suitable minerals as an alternative to primary won aggregates;**
- c) Safeguarding areas underlain by minerals of economic importance where they could be worked in the future to ensure that such resources are not unnecessarily sterilised by other forms of development;**
- d) The use of buffer zones to reduce the conflict between mineral development and sensitive development;**
- e) Securing appropriate restoration which can deliver specific environmental and community benefits.**

The LDP should ensure that the County provides mineral resources to meet society's needs and that such resources, are safeguarded from sterilisation. In doing so, the LDP seeks to ensure that a proper balance is struck between this fundamental requirement, the need to ensure a prudent use of these finite resources, and the protection of existing amenity and the environment.

Carmarthenshire has a wide variety of mineral resources as a result of its complex geology. The main feature in the south of the County is the broad sweep of the Coal Measures outcrop, fringed to the north by Carboniferous Limestone. Limestone quarrying is the largest of the extractive industries in the County. The northern parts of the County are underlain by older rocks of Ordovician and Silurian age, mainly sandstones, shales and slates. The economic significance of these is variable.

The South Wales Regional Technical Statement (RTS) 2014 sets out the contribution that each constituent local authority should make towards meeting the regional demand for aggregates (both hard rock and sand and gravel). The LDP's second Annual Monitoring Report (AMR, 2016/17) establishes that the County's landbank figures, for both hard rock and sand and gravel, is notably in excess of the minimum requirements set out in Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1: Aggregates, and consequently there is no requirement to allocate new sites for mineral development.

Strategic Policy – SP 19: Waste Management

Provision will be made to facilitate the sustainable management of waste through:

- a) The allocation of adequate appropriate land to provide for an integrated network of waste management facilities;**
- b) Supporting proposals for waste management which involve the management of waste in accordance with the ranking set out within in the waste hierarchy;**
- c) Supporting proposals for new in-building waste management facilities at existing and allocated industrial sites which are suitable for waste management facilities;**
- d) Acknowledging that certain types of waste facility may need to be located outside the development limits of settlements;**
- e) Ensuring that provision is made for the sustainable management of waste in all new development, including securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste.**

The system of waste management and waste planning is undergoing a rapid transition. Targets for waste minimisation and recycling and will require new methods of managing waste, together with a potential significant increase in the number of facilities to enable these methods to be implemented and the targets to be met.

In accordance with the Overarching Waste Strategy Document for Wales *Towards Zero Waste* (TZW), and Planning Policy Wales, local authorities are required to develop a sustainable approach to the management of waste, including the support of proposals for waste operations which move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy, and the identification of land appropriate to facilitate an integrated and sustainable network of waste facilities.

New technological advances and changes in legislation, policies and practices, mean that modern in-building waste management facilities now have the external appearance of any other industrial unit, and contain methods of industrial de-manufacturing or energy generation no different to modern industrial processes. The in-principle suitability of B2 industrial sites therefore has become accepted and allows a greater scope of possible sites.

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 21 sets out that collaboration between local planning authorities will be necessary to monitor progress towards establishing an integrated and adequate network for the disposal of waste and recovery of mixed municipal waste.

Consequently, the Country has been split into 3 regions which each have the task of producing an annual Waste Planning Monitoring Report (WPMR).

One of the principal roles of the WPMR is to present data to enable the effective monitoring of how the region's residual waste arising's are managed, particularly the progress being made towards alternatives to landfill, in order to assess the region's performance against the targets set out in TZW. The information and analysis presented in the reports should provide a basis for local authorities (and other organisations) to take action on the waste arising's within their area. The Reports should also provide an information base to assist the waste management industry make key investment decisions.

In formulating development proposals, consideration should be given to the implications for waste. The location and scale of developments should have regard to the availability and capacity of waste management facilities in the area. In this respect, proposals should not result in unnecessary trip generation.

Appendix 1: Policy Assessment

| Strategic Policy: SP1 Strategic Growth | |
|---|--|
| Strategic Objectives | SO3 - To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all. |
| Local Well-being Goals | <p>Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.</p> <p>Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.</p> |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| Strategic Policy: SP2 Retail and Town Centres | |
|--|--|
| Strategic Objectives | SO4 - To ensure that the principles of equal opportunities and social inclusion are upheld by promoting access to a high quality and diverse mix of public services, healthcare, shops, leisure facilities and work opportunities, as well as vibrant town centres. |
| Local Well-being Goals | <p>Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it.</p> <p>Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.</p> |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| Strategic Policy: SP3 Providing New Homes | |
|--|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP4 Affordable Homes | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP5 Strategic Sites | |
|--|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO12 - To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |
|-------------------|--|

| | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Policy: SP6 Employment and the Economy | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO12 - To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Policy: SP7 Welsh Language and Culture | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO11 - To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| Strategic Policy: SP8 Infrastructure | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO14 - To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband). |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Strategic Policy: SP9 Gypsy and Traveller Provision | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO10 - To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| | |
|---|--|
| Strategic Policy: SP10 The Visitor Economy | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO13 - To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP11 Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO9 - To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP12 Rural Development | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO2 - To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment. Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP13 Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO1 - To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced. |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | |
| Local Well-being Goals | Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| | |
|--|---|
| Strategic Policy: SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO5 - To safeguarded and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| | |
|--|--|
| Strategic Policy: SP15 Climate Change | |
| Strategic Objectives | SO7 - To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP16 Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework | |
|---|--|
| Strategic Objectives | SO6 - To ensure that the principles of spatial sustainability are upheld by directing development to sustainable locations with access to services and facilities and wherever possible encouraging the reuse of previously developed land. |
| Local Well-being Goals | <p>Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change.</p> <p>Prosperous People and Places - To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county.</p> |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| Strategic Policy: SP17 Transport and Accessibility | |
|---|---|
| Strategic Objectives | SO8 - To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change. |
| Monitoring | <p>The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy:</p> <p>To be developed as part of the deposit LDP.</p> |

| Strategic Policy: SP18 Mineral Resources | |
|---|--|
| Strategic Objectives | SO7 - To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

| Strategic Policy: SP19 Waste Management | |
|--|--|
| Strategic Objectives | SO7 - To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources. |
| Local Well-being Goals | Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change. |
| Monitoring | The following indicators will monitor the effectiveness of the policy: To be developed as part of the deposit LDP. |

Appendix 2 - Strategic Sites - Maps

To be inserted

**Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development
Plan 2018 – 2033**

Draft Initial Sustainability Appraisal

Report to Executive Board

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1. Introduction

This Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report forms part of the Council's pre-deposit proposal documents for the Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan (LDP). The purpose of the SA is to identify any likely significant economic, environmental and social effects of the LDP, and to suggest measures to minimise the positive ones. This process promotes more sustainable development and foster a more inclusive and transparent process of producing a LDP, and helps to ensure that the LDP is integrated with other policies.

Sustainability Appraisal is a statutory requirement for Local Development Plans under Section 62(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal is to assess the social and economic effects of the component policies, proposals and strategy elements of the Local Development Plan to ensure that decisions accord with the principles of sustainable development.

The Welsh Government define sustainable development in Wales through the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 as:

“the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals”.

Welsh Government Guidance on the Preparation of Local Development Plans identifies that a Sustainability Appraisal must integrate the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations. The requirements of EU Directive 2001/42/EC (also known as the SEA Directive) have been transposed into Welsh Law through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004. Strategic Environmental Assessment requires the formal assessment of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment; this includes LDPs.

The SA process also integrates the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Process, the Welsh Language Impact Assessment, and the Equalities Impact Assessment. It is undertaken in parallel to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

SA/SEA and the LDP process

The LDP Manual outlines five main stages in undertaking an SA (see Table 1). SA is an iterative process, resulting in comment and feedback at each stage of the LDP and thus allowing the potential sustainability implications of proposed options/policies to be considered and the process to be transparent. If necessary, the LDP can be refined throughout its preparation to ensure it is a sustainable document.

Table 1 Stages in the SA Process and their relationship to LDP. Adapted from the LDP Manual (2nd Edition).

| SA/SEA Stage | LDP Stage |
|---|--|
| Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope | Evidence Gathering and objectives |
| A1 Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes; and sustainability objectives | |
| A2 Collecting baseline information | |
| A3 Identifying sustainability issues and problems | |
| A4 Developing the Sustainability Appraisal framework | |
| A5 Consulting on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal | |
| Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects | Strategic Options and Preferred Strategy |
| B1 Testing the LDP objectives against the Sustainability Framework | |
| B2 Developing the LDP options | |
| B3 Predicting the effects of the LDP options | |
| B4 Evaluate the effects of the LDP options | |
| B5 Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects | |
| B6 Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the LDP | |
| Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report | |
| C1 Preparing the Environmental Report | |
| Stage D: Consultation on the Draft LDP and the Environmental Report | |
| D1 Consulting on the LDP Preferred Strategy and the Initial SA report | |
| D2(i) Appraise any significant changes from consultation | Submission, Examination and Adoption |
| Update the SA Report | |
| Examination | |
| D2(ii) Appraising significant changes resulting from representations | |
| D3 Making decisions and providing information | Monitoring and Review |
| Adoption statement and final SA report | |
| Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects on implementing the LDP | |
| E1 Finalising aims and methods for monitoring | |
| E2 Responding to adverse effects | |

Progress and Compliance with Regulations

Stage A

The Council completed Stage A in July 2018 with the publication of the draft Scoping Report for consultation. The draft Scoping Report contained:

- **A1 Plan/Policy/Programme Review and Sustainability Objectives**
A number of Plans, Policies and Programmes that could have an impact upon the LDP were examined, including those at international, national, regional and local levels, as well as adjacent authorities Local Development Plans. An updated version of the list is presented in Appendix 3.
- **A2 Baseline Information**

The draft scoping report an up to date collation of the state of the environment, economy and society in Carmarthenshire. This also forms the baseline for monitoring the outcomes of the LDP post adoption.

- **A3 Identifying issues and problems**

The report highlights sustainability issues, problems but also opportunities which can be addressed via the revised LDP.

- **A4 Developing the Sustainability Framework**

The SA Framework provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared and was developed in considerations of the issues and opportunities raised. This framework provides a basis by which the sustainability of the LDP can be tested.

- **A5 Consulting on the Scope of the Sustainability Appraisal**

The Scoping Report was published for consultation on 18th July 2018 for a six week period. It was available to view on the Carmarthenshire County Council website and notifications emails and letters were sent out to inform consultation bodies and persons who had registered for updates on the LDP process.

Comments were received from a number of stakeholders, all of which are collated in Appendix XX. Amendments to the SA have been made as a result of these comments, where appropriate, and any comments considered to relate more to the LDP were noted and passed on to the LDP team for their consideration.

Stage B

This initial SA report has been prepared to comply with Stage B of the SA process.

- **B1 Testing the LDP objectives against the Sustainability Framework**

This report will test the objectives of the LDP preferred strategy against the Sustainability Framework. This is documented in Chapter 3 of this report.

- **B2 Developing the LDP options**

- **B3 Predicting the effects of the LDP options**

- **B4 Evaluate the effects of the LDP options**

This report will develop, predict and evaluate the LDP strategic options, for both growth and spatial distribution, as well as the strategic policies that will be put in place to implement them.

This process is documented in Chapter 5 and 6 of this report.

- **B5 Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.**

This is discussed in Chapter 7 of this report

- **B6 Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the LDP**

This is discussed in Chapter 8 of this report.

2. Appraisal Methodology

Approach

The SA methodology has referenced guidance provided in a number of documents. These include:

- Welsh Government LDP Manual, Edition 2 (2015)¹,
- ODPM Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (2005)²
- ODPM A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005)³
- RTPI Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of SEA/SA for Land Use Plans (2018)⁴

The Sustainability Framework

The SA Framework provides a consistent basis for describing, analyzing and comparing the sustainability effects of the objectives, options and specific proposals of the LDP. The SA Framework is objective-led and is therefore each of the revised LDP's strategic objectives and options are assessed on its contribution to achieving the SA objectives.

The framework sets out sustainability objectives that are based on sound evidence and reflect the challenges faced within the plan area. The objectives were developed in consideration of the following inputs, all of which are detailed in the SA Scoping Report:

- The Review of Plans, Programmes and Policies
- Baseline information
- Identified sustainability issues and opportunities

The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Framework was presented within the SA Scoping Report⁵. The objectives were selected in order to assess how the revised LDP will meet the criteria of the SEA Directive and contribute to sustainable development. The full SA framework is provided in Appendix 1. In summary, the objectives reflect the themes identified within Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations as well as additional objectives relating to climate change and socio-economic factors.

The 15 SA Objectives that make up the framework are:

- SA1 Sustainable Development
- SA2 Biodiversity
- SA3 Air Quality
- SA4 Climactic Factors
- SA5 Water

¹ Welsh Government Local Development Plan Manual, Edition 2 August 2015.

<https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/policy-and-guidance-on-development-plans/ldpmanual/?lang=en>

² Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister 2005.

³ A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Welsh Assembly Government, Scottish Executive and Department of Environment Northern Ireland 2005.

⁴ Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of SEA/SA for Land Use Plans, Royal Town Planning Institute 2018

⁵ Revised Local Development Plan Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report July 2018

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1215166/sa-scoping-report-final.pdf>

- SA6 Material Assets
- SA7 Soil
- SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environments
- SA9 Landscape
- SA10 Population
- SA11 The Welsh Language
- SA12 Health and Well-being
- SA13 Education and Skills
- SA14 Economy
- SA15 Social Fabric

To aid in the assessment process each objective is supported by a number of sub-objectives and accompanying 'decision making criteria', which will facilitate the assessment process and assist in the interpretation of the main objective.

Determining effect significance

The Environmental Report must document any Annex II of the SEA Directive sets criteria for the determining of likely significant effects. Prediction of effects involves identifying changes to the environmental baseline which are predicted to arise from the implementation of the plan, including alternatives. Prediction of effects should also include consideration of the following:

- The **magnitude** of the plan's effects, including the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects, the degree to which it influences other plans, and environmental problems relevant to the plan.
- The **sensitivity** of the receiving environment, including the value and vulnerability of the area, exceeded environmental quality standards, and effects on designated areas or landscapes.
- **Effect characteristics**, including probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, cumulative effects, transboundary effects, risks to human health or the environment, and the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects.

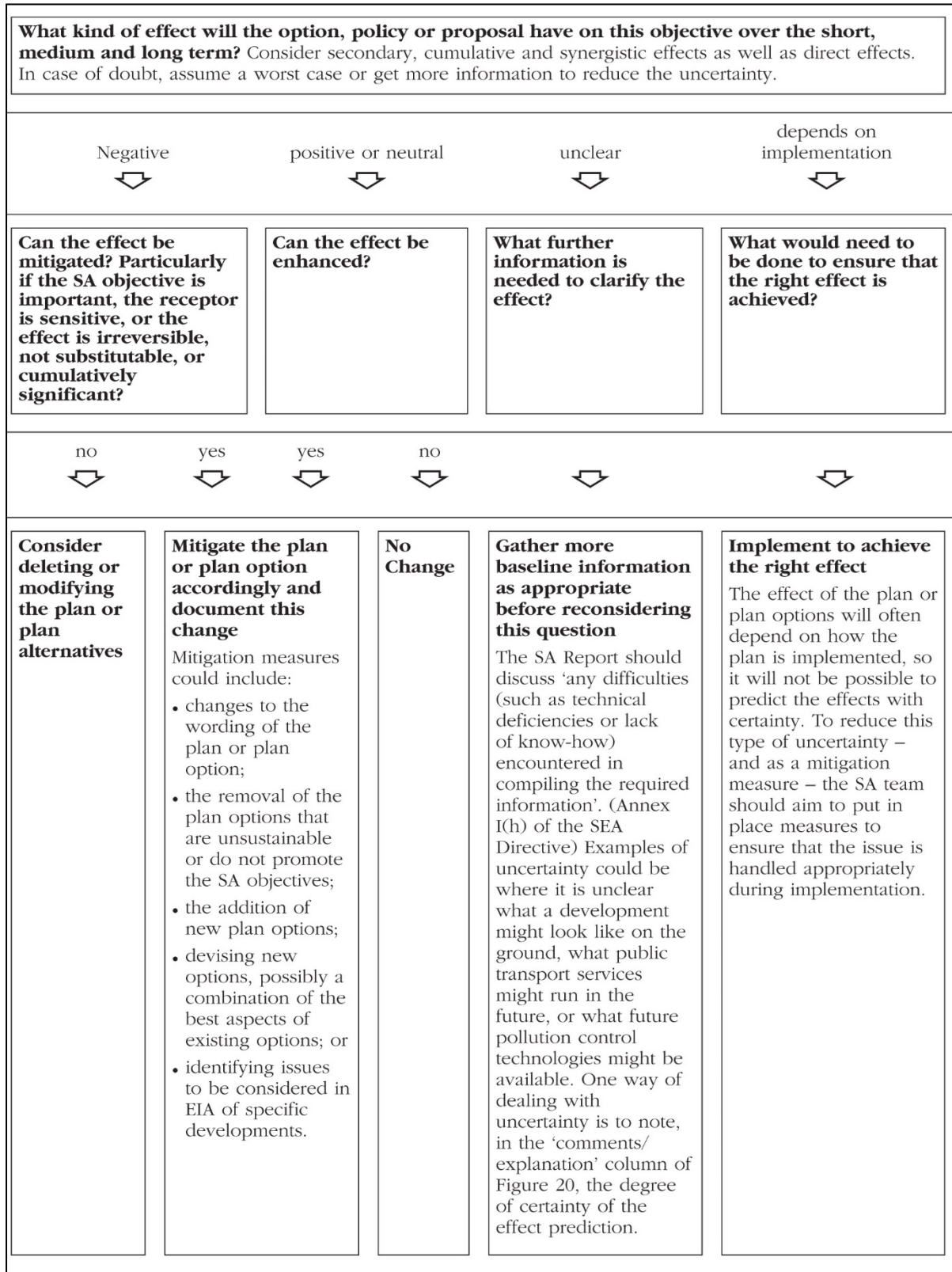
Given the broad nature of plan proposals and the difficulty of separating other causes of the effects, a qualitative approach is considered to be the most meaningful approach. However, qualitative does not mean 'guessed' and predictions need to be supported by evidence. Once the evidence has been considered, a judgement must be formed on whether or not the predicted effect is considered significant. Figure 1 provides a framework by which judgements of significance can be made consistently and ensuring prediction, evaluation and mitigation are all incorporated into the appraisal.

Timescales

The SEA Directive also requires the analysis of effects to include "short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary ... effects" (Annex I(f)). Effects may vary over different timescales, e.g. adverse short term effects from disturbance of habitats but beneficial ones in the long term from reductions in air pollution or greenhouse gases. With this in mind, the SA will consider effects over three timescales.

- Short Term (S): 0 – 5 years
- Medium Term (M): 6 – 10 years
- Long Term (L): 11 – 20 years

Figure 1 The Sustainability Appraisal Process



Baseline Scenario

To meet SEA requirements (SEA Regulations – Regulation 12 and Schedule 2(2)) it is necessary to identify the likely evolution of the plan area without implementation of the plan. Establishing what the situation might be without the plan, i.e. the business-as-usual scenario, involves asking how current policies, practices and trends might change in the future in the absence of any active intervention through the LDP. The business as usual situation should be used as a benchmark against which to compare the implications and performance of other options. As this is a revision of the current LDP the baseline against which all options and policies are considered is how the area would change under the current development plan in the absence of new policies being introduced.

This appraisal has been carried out with consideration of existing plans, programmes and policies in place as part of the baseline scenario. It is important to be aware that some of these plans, programmes and policies may already mitigate some of the negative effects that have the potential to occur as the result of the LDP and this has been considered as part of the assessment. A full list of relevant plans, programmes and policies is included in Appendix 3. Particular regard is had to existing national planning policy including associated Technical Advice Notes (TANs).

Impact Matrices

In order to test the compatibility of the strategic options and policies with the SA Framework, matrices have been used to summarise the appraisal using the criteria outlined in Table 2. The manner in which the objectives, options and sites contribute to achieving the SA Framework objectives is indicated by the following symbols:

Table 2 Sustainability Appraisal Criteria

| Symbol | Predicted Effect | Suggested action/response |
|--------|--|---|
| ++ | Very positive effect – the subject of the appraisal would significantly help in achieving the Sustainability objective. | Consider whether very positive effect can be further enhanced |
| + | Positive effect - the subject of the appraisal would help in achieving the Sustainability objective. | Consider whether positive effect can be further enhanced |
| +/- | Positive and negative effects – the subject of the appraisal would help some elements of the Sustainability objective whilst hindering others. | Consider mitigation for negative effects and whether positive effects can be enhanced |
| - | Negative effect - the subject of the appraisal would be in conflict with the Sustainability objective. | Consider mitigation such as delete/reconsider/amend the policy or site allocation; reconsider the policy or proposed use. |
| -- | Very negative effect - the subject of the appraisal would be in significant conflict with the Sustainability objective. | Significant mitigation measures to reduce severity or effect; reconsider the policy or proposed use |
| | Effect on the Sustainability objective depends on how the policy and allocation are implemented | Suggestions for implementation |
| ? | Uncertain effect – need more information | Consider where this will come from – who has it? What will be done about collecting it? When will it be collected? |

4. Appraisal of the Strategic Objectives

The LDP Vision and Objectives must accord with sustainability principles and have been assessed against each of the SA objectives, in order to identify if there will be any significant effect on the environment, or unsustainable outcomes. This process has helped to refine the Vision and Objectives to ensure that they embody and reflect the principles of sustainability.

The Draft Revised LDP vision

The role of the Vision is to establish the core purpose of the revised LDP and to provide a framework for developing policies and measuring the extent to which the implementation of the plan is successful. The LDP vision provides a spatial perspective which gives the plan purpose and direction and to ensure delivery through the land use planning system. The revised LDP vision draws on strategic planning priorities identified in national policy and local strategies, as well as the identified Key Issues for the County (Figure 2).

Figure 2 The Draft Revised LDP vision

One Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities are valued and respected.

It will have prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities providing increased opportunities, interventions and connections for people, places and organisations in both rural and urban parts of our County.

It will have a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.

The vision was assessed against the SA framework and is shown in Table 3. This assessment concluded that the Draft Vision performed well against most aspects of sustainable development, in particular against Biodiversity, Material Assets, Population, Health and Well Being, Education and Skills, Economy and Social Fabric.

It is difficult to establish what effect the vision will have on more specific environmental sustainability objectives, such as Air Quality, Climatic Factors, Water, Soil, Cultural Heritage and Landscape as there is no direct reference made to these factors in the Vision. There is however reference to Carmarthenshire's 'environmental qualities [being] valued and respected' which does establish a basis for a positive effect on these sustainability objectives.

There is also no direct reference made to the Welsh Language so at this time there is no link between the LDP Vision and the Welsh Language SA objective.

Sustainability Appraisal of the Strategic Objectives

The LDP Objectives should provide clear statements of intent and focus on how the LDP Vision is to be delivered. They provide a framework by which the strategic policies are formed, and will later inform the formulation of detailed policies for the Deposit Plan. The Strategic Objectives also set the context for the development of the Strategic Growth and Spatial Options.

The draft Strategic Objectives are set out in full in Table 3 below, and a summary of their performance against the SA framework is summarised in Figure 3. A detailed commentary is provided in Table 4.

Table 3 Draft Revised LDP Objectives

Healthy Habits – People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment

- **SO1** To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced
- **SO2** To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside
- **SO5** To safeguard and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings.

Early Intervention – To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

- **SO3** To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all.
- **SO4** To ensure that the principles of equal opportunities and social inclusion are upheld by promoting access to a high quality and diverse mix of public services, healthcare, shops, leisure facilities and work opportunities, as well as vibrant town centres.

Strong Connections – Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

- **SO6** To ensure that the principles of spatial sustainability are upheld by directing development to sustainable locations with access to services and facilities and wherever possible encouraging the reuse of previously developed land.
- **SO7** To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources.
- **SO8** To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods

Prosperous People and Places – To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county

- **SO9** To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place.
- **SO10** To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities.
- **SO11** To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric.
- **SO12** To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal.
- **SO13** To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives.
- **SO14** To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband).

Overall, the 14 Strategic Objectives show positive alignment with the principles of Sustainable Development and perform well against the Sustainability Framework, with very few potential conflicts highlighted. This demonstrates that aspects of sustainability have been fully considered throughout the development of the Strategic Objectives.

For many of the Sustainability Objectives the impact of the LDP Objectives are unknown as the outcome depends on the type of development, activity or location. The appraisal also highlights some potential conflicts, in particular with regards to Biodiversity, Air Quality, Water and Cultural Heritage. These uncertain and potentially negative impacts should, where possible, be resolved through the detailed LDP policies and appropriate mitigation.

Table 4 Commentary of Sustainability Appraisal of Strategic Objectives

| | |
|------------|--|
| SO1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly supports the protection of biodiversity, habitats and species (SA2). • Aligns positively with improving air quality (SA3) and resilience to climatic factors (SA4) by safeguarding green spaces, trees and other natural vegetation that contribute to air purification and reduction of greenhouse gases. • Ensuring the safeguarding and enhancement of species and habitats, of which there are many riverine, estuarine, coastal and marine examples in Carmarthenshire. Their protection should require that water quality be improved which aligns positively with SA5. • Encouraging sustainability and sustainable modes of transport (SA6) aligns positively with reducing transport and congestion related impacts on species and habitats. • Protection of the natural environment increases access to green spaces for the purposes of wellbeing (SA12), however this could encourage unsustainable recreational pressures to habitats and species that are highly sensitive to external pressures. |
| SO2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and its protection and enhancement in rural and urban areas (SA2) increases access to the natural environment for recreational and wellbeing purposes. However, this may lead to unsustainable recreational pressures to habitats and species that are highly sensitive to external pressures. • Maintaining a high level of water quality (SA5) ensures water based community, leisure and recreational facilities are accessible at a high standard. However, increased recreational use of water resources could place increase pollution pressures on sensitive water bodies. • Promotion and integration of different modes of transport (in particular cycling and walking) (SA6) is positively aligned with SO2. • SO2 contributes positively to promoting social inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society through promotion of access to wellbeing opportunities and facilities (SA10/SA15). • This objective directly aligns with SA12. |
| SO3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligns positively with the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups, as well as promoting the retention of young people in the community |

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| | <p>(SA10/SA12/SA15) by promoting access to education and skills training opportunities for all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthenshire supports both Welsh and English medium learning facilities, and their promotion will aligned positively with the promoting of the Welsh Language throughout the County (SA11). • The objective directly aligns with SA13. • Supporting a more educated and skilled population positively supports a sustainable economy with good employment opportunities (SA14). |
| SO4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring services and facilities are accessible as well as promoting vibrant town centres encourages needs to be met locally, reducing the distances people will be required to travel and increasing access to public transport (SA3/SA4/SA6) • Equal opportunities and social inclusion align positively with SA10 and SA15. • Establishing vibrant town centres with a diverse mix of facilities supports the enhancement of townscapes (SA9). • Access to services and facilities provides encouragement for the retention of young people (SA10) and Welsh speakers (SA11) within the County, and supports sustainable economic growth throughout Carmarthenshire (SA14). |
| SO5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This objective directly aligns with SA8. • Both SO4 and SA9 promote the reuse of derelict land and redundant buildings and the enhancement of local townscapes. • This objective also aligns with SA7 as it offers potential to ensure brownfield sites are redeveloped, and minimises development of greenfield sites and river corridors where soils of high agricultural value are located • Safeguarding and enhancement of the built and historic environment ensures that Welsh cultural assets are protected (SA11) and are accessible to people in Carmarthenshire for wellbeing purposes (SA12). |
| SO6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limits the potential for extensive rural development and resulting habitat fragmentation (SA2) as development is concentrated in sustainable locations. • Needs provided locally reduces the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport (SA4, SA6), contributing to reducing the reliance on the private car which leads to positive impacts on air quality (SA3). • It also ensures that development is focussed in areas with existing infrastructure to support development e.g water resources (SA5), access to health, education and training facilities (SA12,SA13, SA15). • Encouraging the reuse of previously developed land aligns positively with SA9 and SA7. |
| SO7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective directly aligns with SA4. • Tackling the causes of climate change aligns positively with promoting access to alternative transportation and public transport infrastructure (SA6) and as a result can have positive effects on other elements such as air quality (SA3). |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapting to the effects of climate change includes making space for water and minimising flood risks (SA5). Promotion of efficient use and safeguarding of resources also aligns positively with SA6. |
| SO8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing an accessible and sustainable transport system, including alternative transport methods aligns positively with improving air quality (SA3) and reducing greenhouse gas emissions (SA4) The objective aligns directly with SA6 Access to public transport promotes the inclusion of disadvantaged groups in society (SA10, SA15), allowing them to access facilities and services regardless of social situation. Encouragement of alternative methods of transportation such as walking and cycling aligns positively with SA12. |
| SO9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carmarthenshire's biodiversity, natural environment (SA2), cultural heritage (SA8) and unique landscape (SA9) all contribute to a sense of place and should be protected. Creating a strong sense of place and vibrant communities within Carmarthenshire are important the retention of young people in the county (SA10). The County has a strong Welsh identity that must be protected and enhanced (SA11) to maintain Carmarthenshire's distinctiveness and character. Placemaking should improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions, especially for disadvantaged and minority groups in society (SA10, SA15). |
| SO10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision for a mix of high quality homes across the county aligns positively with both SA8 and SA9. Equality of opportunities will ensure that disadvantaged and minority groups as well as young people are given the opportunity to access suitable housing across the county (SA10, SA15), which may also lead to the retention of Welsh speaking residents in the County (SA11). |
| SO11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This objective directly aligns with SA11 and SA15. Aligns positively with SA10, as Carmarthenshire's population has a strong Welsh identity, with a high proportion of the population born in Wales. Promotion of the Welsh language will positively impact on levels of Welsh literacy (SA13). |
| SO12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed plans for the support the regional delivery of the Swansea Bay City deal focusses new developments in Llanelli and Carmarthen, both of which have a number of sensitive biodiversity (SA2) and air quality (SA3) and water quality (SA5) areas which could be negatively impacted. Creation of employment opportunities in both rural and urban areas throughout the county may lead to a positive reduction in the requirement for private car use for outward commuting (SA4/SA6). However, initial plans for |

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| | <p>developments situated in Carmarthen and Llanelli do not currently support this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is difficult to determine what effect this objective will have on SA11 as economic development and the resulting job creation has the potential to retain skilled Welsh speaking residents in the County. However, this may also encourage an inward migration of non-Welsh speakers to the county, which could dilute the Welsh speaking culture in Carmarthenshire. • This objective will have a positive effect on job creation, which in turn will promote economic growth and sustainable business in Wales (SA14). • This will also contribute towards the education, upskilling and retention of young people and professionals within Carmarthenshire (SA10/SA13) as good quality employment opportunities are made available for all sections of the population (SA15). • The plans for a life science and wellbeing village as part of the Swansea Bay City deal will be a strong positive driver of Health and wellbeing throughout Carmarthenshire. |
| <p>SO13</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing levels of tourism in the county has the potential to increase recreational pressure on some of Carmarthenshire’s biodiversity and cultural heritage designated sites, in particular coastal and marine sites with high recreational value (SA2/SA5/SA8). • The increasing traffic pressures associated with tourism is likely to have a negative impact on areas with existing air quality issues as well as habitats/species that are sensitive to such pressures (SA2/SA3). • Provision for year round tourism related initiatives is likely to result in an increase in employment and associated education, skills and training opportunities (SA13), which in turn will have a positive effect on the local economy (SA14) and the retention of young people in the county (SA10) |
| <p>SO14</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring new development is supported by sufficient hard and soft infrastructure ensures that water resources are used sustainably and that systems have sufficient capacity to deal with sewerage and diffuse pollution.(SA5) • It is also likely that SO14 will positively align with SA3, SA4 and SA6 in encouraging needs to be met locally and reducing the need to travel to access facilities and services. • This objective is likely to have a positive alignment with increased access to services, in particular for those disadvantaged or minority groups in society (SA10/SA15). • It is also likely to support access to wellbeing facilities and services (SA12) as well as education, skills and training facilities and quality employment opportunities (SA14). |

Figure 3 Testing of Revised LDP Strategic Objectives against the Sustainability Objectives framework

| Vision and objectives | SA1 | SA2 | SA3 | SA4 | SA5 | SA6 | SA7 | SA8 | SA9 | SA10 | SA11 | SA12 | SA13 | SA14 | SA15 |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Vision | + | + | ? | ? | ? | + | ? | ? | ? | + | | + | + | + | + |
| SO1 | + | + | + | + | + | | | | | | | ? | | | |
| SO2 | + | ? | | | ? | + | | | | + | | + | | | + |
| SO3 | + | | | | | | | | | + | + | | | | + |
| SO4 | + | | + | + | | + | | | + | + | + | | | + | + |
| SO5 | + | | | | | | + | + | + | | + | + | | | |
| SO6 | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | | + | | | + | + | | + |
| SO7 | + | | + | + | + | + | | | | | | | | | |
| SO8 | + | | | + | | + | | | | + | | + | | | + |
| SO9 | + | + | | | | | | + | + | + | + | | | | + |
| SO10 | + | | | | | | | + | + | + | + | | | | + |
| SO11 | + | | | | | | | | | + | + | | + | | + |
| SO12 | + | - | - | ? | - | ? | | | | + | ? | + | + | + | + |
| SO13 | + | - | - | | - | | | - | | + | ? | + | + | + | |
| SO14 | + | | + | + | + | + | | | | + | | + | + | + | + |

| | |
|---|--|
| + | Positive alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective |
| ? | Unknown alignment between Revised LDP Strategic Objective and Sustainability Objective |
| | No direct link between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective |
| - | Potential conflict between Revised LDP Strategic Objectives and Sustainability Objective |

5. Appraisal of Strategic Options and Alternatives

The LDP must identify land use strategy and policy options to achieve its Vision. In formulating the Preferred Strategy variations in the overall levels of growth and the spatial distribution of new development were assessed

The SEA Directive requires an environmental report to describe and evaluate the environmental impacts of the plan 'and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan' (Article 5.1), and to include 'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with' (Annex 1h). The Welsh Assembly Government's LDP Manual explains that:

"The purpose of this task is to predict the social, environmental and economic effects of the options being considered in the LDP preparation process. The main technique is to predict both positive and negative effects of each option on the environmental baseline and objectives set out in the SA framework. The performance of each option can then be compared, taking account where necessary of the "business as usual" scenario, i.e. how sustainability would change under the current development plan" (Sec. 6.4.1).

The results of the SA of the Strategic Growth Options and the Spatial Options are discussed below.

Assessment of Strategic Growth Options

The revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan will need to consider population, housing and economic growth within the County over the fifteen year plan period. In order to inform the number of dwellings that will need to be provided for by the LDP, Edge Analytics were commissioned to provide a range of different demographic projection scenarios termed 'Strategic Growth Options'. The growth options and the trends on which they are based are summarised in Table 4 below.

The report considered the latest demographic evidence published by Welsh Government, the Office of National Statistics and the Office for Budget Responsibility, as well as drawing on existing economic strategies including the Swansea Bay City Deal⁶, Carmarthenshire's Strategic Regeneration Plan ⁷and Employment Sectoral Study⁸, linking economic growth, population change and housing.

The demographic scenarios considered by Edge Analytics include:

- WG 2014 based principal projection
- Long Term (16 years of migration data)
- Medium Term (10 years of migration data)
- Short Term (Last 6 years of migration data)
- Pre-Recession (pre 2008) migration data

⁶ https://www.swansea.gov.uk/media/7514/Swansea-Bay-City-Region-Economic-Regeneration-Strategy/pdf/Swansea_Bay_City_Region_Economic_Regeneration_Strategy.pdf

⁷ <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212060/strategic-regeneration-plan-for-carmarthenshire-2015-2030-pdf.pdf>

⁸ <http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1212564/employment-sectoral-study-final-english-1.pdf>

They also considered two employment-led scenarios:

- Fixed Commuter Rate
- Reducing Commuter Rate

The demographic scenarios take into consideration trends in population, migration, household membership, births and deaths and the vacancy rate of current housing in Carmarthenshire in order to project population change and how many dwellings will be needed over the revised LDP plan period. It is the timescales over which these trends are considered that result in the different scenarios listed above.

Household and dwelling growth under the demographic scenarios has been estimated using assumptions from the WG 2014-based household projection model in conjunction with a percentage vacancy rate, which takes into account the number of vacant properties or second homes in Carmarthenshire. The 2011 Census records a vacancy rate of 6.3%¹ for Carmarthenshire, however more recent statistics from Welsh Government and council tax data indicate a lower dwelling vacancy rate for Carmarthenshire of 3.4%, which is the rate used in this analysis.

The employment-led scenarios include these factors but attempt to link changes in population to employment growth. To do this, they also consider rates of economic activity, employment and the balance between the size of the resident workforce and local employment (commuting ratio).

The summary of the resulting projections is provided in Table 5.

The growth options should be compared against a 'business as usual' scenario which is considered as the baseline. For a revised LDP, business as usual will mean a continuation of an existing plan or programme, as an alternative to preparing a new one. The current LDP makes provision for 1,013 dwellings to be delivered per year, based on Welsh Government 2008 projection levels.

The social, environmental and economic effects and overall sustainability of each option was tested against the SA framework. A summary of the assessment is shown in Figure 4. A commentary on the main impacts of each option are discussed in Table 6.

Table 5 Carmarthenshire Demographic Scenario Projections 2018-2033

| Growth Option 1: Welsh Government 2014 based | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| This option is based on migration assumptions on a five year period between 2009/10 and 2013/14, which recorded notably lower net in migration to Carmarthenshire. | | | |
| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 1.7% | 4.0% | 224 | 3,367 |

| Growth Option 2: Welsh Government (based on 10 year average migration data) | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| This option replicates the WG 2014-based 10yr average migration variant population projection. Migration assumptions are based on the ten year period prior to 2014 (i.e. 2004/05–2013/14). | | | |
| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 5.8% | 7.7% | 436 | 6,542 |

| Growth Option 3: Short Term (based on 6 years of migration data) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a six year historical period (2011/12 – 2016/17). This is a similar time period to that covered in Option 1, however includes the most recent three years of data. This option results in the lowest population change over the plan period, as a result of the lower net migration flows evident in 2011/12-2013/14. | | | |
| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 5.7 % | 8.4 % | 470 | 7,044 |

| Option 4: Medium Term (based on 10 years of migration data) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a ten year historical period between 2007/08 and 2016/17. | | | |
| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 6.3% | 8.6% | 482 | 7,236 |

| Option 5 Long Term (based on 16 years of migration data) | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a sixteen year historical period (2001/02 – 2016/17). This provides some 'smoothing' of annual peaks and troughs. Under this scenario, higher net migration flows are estimated, resulting in a higher population change and subsequent dwelling growth. | | | |
| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 9.4 % | 11.7 % | 659 | 9,887 |

| Option 6: Pre-Recession (based on pre-2008 data) | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the period pre-2008 recession (2001/02 – 2007/08), in which higher in-migration flows to Carmarthenshire were recorded. As a result, estimations of future net migration is highest under this option. | | | |

| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 14.2% | 16.6 % | 939 | 14,090 |

Option 7: Commuter Rate (CR) Reducing

This option assumes a reduction in the commuting ratio from 1.09 to 1.06 by the end of the plan period

| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 19.3% | 20.5% | 1,160 | 17,396 |

Option 8: Commuter Rate (CR) Fixed

This option applies the 2011 Census commuting ratio of 1.09, fixed throughout the plan period.

| Change over plan period (2018 – 2033) | | Dwellings Required | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Population (%) | Households (%) | Annually | Total over plan period |
| 22.2% | 23.2% | 1,313 | 19,690 |

Figure 4 Testing of Strategic Growth Options against the Sustainability Objectives framework

| Growth Option | SA1 Sustainable Development | SA2 Biodiversity | SA3 Air Quality | SA4 Climatic Factors | SA5 Water | SA6 Material Assets | SA7 Soil | SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | SA9 Landscape | SA10 Population | SA11 Welsh Language | SA12 Health and Well-being | SA13 Education and Skills | SA14 Economy | SA15 Social Fabric |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|--|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Option 1 224 dwellings a year | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | | + | | | -- | - | -- | ? | -- | -- |
| Option 2 436 dwellings a year | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | | +/- | | | - | - | - | ? | - | - |
| Option 3 470 dwellings a year | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | | +/- | | | - | - | - | ? | - | - |
| Option 4 482 dwellings a year | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | | +/- | | | - | - | - | ? | - | - |
| Option 5 659 dwellings a year | + | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | | +/- | | | + | + | ? | ? | + | + |
| Option 6 939 dwellings a year | + | +/- | +/- | +/- | - | | +/- | | | + | + | ? | ? | + | + |
| Option 7 1,160 dwellings a year | - | - | - | - | - | | - | | | + | +/- | + | ? | ++ | + |
| Option 8 1,313 dwellings a year | - | - | - | - | -- | | - | | | + | +/- | + | ? | ++ | + |

Table 6 Sustainability Commentary for the Strategic Growth Options

| Option 1 – Welsh Government 2014 based | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| <p>This option is based on migration assumptions on a five year period between 2009/10 and 2013/14, which recorded notably lower net in migration to Carmarthenshire.</p> <p>Population Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option sees a net outflow of -282 persons in the 15-19 age group per year from the County, over the plan period. This is linked to out-migration for higher education opportunities. This option will see a decrease in 0-15 and 16-64 age groups by -4% and -7% respectively over the plan period. This option would see an increase of 28% in 65+ age group and 66% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period. This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 56% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018. <p>Employment Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option would support an employment growth of -55 jobs per year. This is significantly less than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182, estimated in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study. This reflects a decline in the labour force projected over the plan period, driven by an aging population and lower in-migration. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is unlikely to contribute towards a sustainable economy or supporting a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. However, this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 231 per year which would significantly reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting pressure on biodiversity assets in the county. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This growth option projects a household growth of 4.0%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh |

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| | | Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | + | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | ! | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | ! | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA10 – Population | -- | This option sees a significant decline in the number of young people in the County, with a decrease of 1,373 in the 0-15 year age groups and 7,735 in the 16-64 year age group over the plan period. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | - | This option will see a drastic decline in young people in the County over the plan period, which is likely to result in a decline of Welsh speakers, most of which are taught Welsh through the education system. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | -- | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a decline in the population of school going age which has the potential to ease pressure on the education system in areas that are near capacity. However, lower demand for school places may result in some education facilities closing due to declining pupil numbers. |
| SA14 – Economy | -- | This option sees a decline in employment growth, as a result of the projected decline of the labour workforce under this option. A low level of growth will have a significant impact on local building trade. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. This could affect accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society. Low growth will also reduce contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

Option 2 –Welsh Government (based on 10 year average migration data)

This option is based on migration assumptions on a ten year period prior to 2014 (2011/12 – 2016/17)

Population Change

- This option sees a net outflow of -358 persons in the 15-19 age group per year from the County, over the plan period. This is linked to out-migration for higher education opportunities.
- This option will see an increase in 0-15 age cohort of 1% by a decrease of -2% of 16-64 age groups.
- This option would see an increase of 29% in 65+ age group and 67% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period.
- This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 53% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018.

Employment Growth

- This option would support an employment growth of +198 jobs per year. This is significantly lower than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182 in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is unlikely to contribute towards a sustainable economy or supporting a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. However, this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 436 per year which would significantly reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting pressure on biodiversity assets in the county. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This growth option projects a household growth of 7.7%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |

| | | |
|--|-----|--|
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | +/- | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | - | This option sees a decrease of young people across the plan period, which, matched by significant increases in the 65+ age cohort does not result in a balanced population demographic. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | - | This option will see a decline in young people in the County over the plan period, which is likely to result in a decline of young Welsh speakers that currently make up the highest proportion of Welsh speakers in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a decline in the population of school going age which has the potential to ease pressure on the education system in areas that are near capacity. However, lower demand for school places may result in some education facilities closing due to declining pupil numbers. |
| SA14 – Economy | - | This option sees an increase in employment growth, however there is still a projected decline of the labour workforce under this option. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. This could affect accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society. Low growth will also reduce contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

Option 3 – Population Growth (PG) Short Term

This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a six year historical period (2011/12 – 2016/17). This is a similar time period to that covered in Option 1, however includes the most recent three years of data. This option results in the lowest population change over the plan period, as a result of the lower net migration flows evident in 2011/12-2013/14.

Population Change

- This option sees a net outflow of -358 persons in the 15-19 age group per year from the County, over the plan period. This is linked to out-migration for higher education opportunities.
- This option will see a decrease in 0-15 and 16-64 age groups by -2% and -4% respectively over the plan period.
- This option would see an increase of 35% in 65+ age group and 71% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period.
- This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 56% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018.

Employment Growth

- This option would support an employment growth of +126 jobs per year. This is significantly lower than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182 in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is unlikely to contribute towards a sustainable economy or supporting a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. However, this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 484 per year which would significantly reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting pressure on biodiversity assets in the county. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This growth option projects a household growth of 8.4%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh |

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|--|-----|--|
| | | Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | +/- | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | - | This option sees a decline in the number of young people in the County, with a decrease of 533 in the 0-15 year age groups and 4,126 in the 16-64 year age group over then plan period. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | - | This option will see a decline in young people in the County over the plan period, which is likely to result in a decline of young Welsh speakers that currently make up the highest proportion of Welsh speakers in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a decline in the population of school going age which has the potential to ease pressure on the education system in areas that are near capacity. However, lower demand for school places may result in some education facilities closing due to declining pupil numbers. |
| SA14 – Economy | - | This option sees an increase in employment growth, however there is still a projected decline of the labour workforce under this option. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. This could affect accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantages sections of society. Low growth will also reduce contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

Option 4 – Population Growth (PG) Medium Term

This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a ten year historical period between 2007/08 and 2016/17.

Population Change

- This option sees a net outflow of -330 persons in the 15-19 age group per year from the County, over the plan period. This is linked to out-migration for higher education opportunities.
- This option will see a 1% increase in 0-15 age groups but a decrease of -3% of 16-64 age groups over the plan period.
- This option would see an increase of 33% in 65+ age group and 72% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period.
- This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 55% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018.

Employment Growth

- This option would support an employment growth of +178 jobs per year. This is significantly lower than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182 in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is unlikely to contribute towards a sustainable economy or supporting a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. However, this option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 497 per year which would significantly reduce the need for development on greenfield land and resulting pressure on biodiversity assets in the county. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This growth option projects a household growth of 8.6%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |

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| SA7 - Soil | +/- | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | - | This option sees a decrease of young people across the plan period, which, matched by significant increases in the 65+ age cohort does not result in a balanced population demographic. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | - | This option will see a decline in young people in the County over the plan period, which is likely to result in a decline of young Welsh speakers that currently make up the highest proportion of Welsh speakers in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a decline in the population of school going age which has the potential to ease pressure on the education system in areas that are near capacity. However, lower demand for school places may result in some education facilities closing due to declining pupil numbers. |
| SA14 – Economy | - | This option sees an increase in employment growth, however there is still a projected decline of the labour workforce under this option. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | - | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with a decline in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. This could affect accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society. Low growth will also reduce contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

Option 5– Population Growth (PG) Long Term

This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow based on a sixteen year historical period (2001/02 – 2016/17). This provides some ‘smoothing’ of annual peaks and troughs. Under this scenario, higher net migration flows are estimated, resulting in a higher population change and subsequent dwelling growth.

Population Change

- This option will see an increase in 0-15 and 16-64 age groups by +3% and +1% respectively over the plan period.
- This option would see an increase of 36% in 65+ age group and 75% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period.
- This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 54% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018.

Employment Growth

- This option would support an employment growth of +353 jobs per year. This is lower than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182 in Carmarthenshire’s Employment Sectoral Study.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This option is likely to contribute positively to supporting a sustainable economy and a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. This option sees a decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 680 per year which may alleviate pressure somewhat on biodiversity assets. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This growth option projects a household growth of 11.7%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water’s (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | +/- | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required |

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| | | under this growth option is significantly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | + | This option goes some way to addressing the balance of the population, with an increase projected in the 0-15 and 16-64 age groups. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | + | Increasing numbers of young people is likely to have a positive effect on the Welsh language as more young people are educated through the medium of Welsh in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | ? | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with low growth in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a projected increase in the population of school going ages which has the potential to increase pressure on the education services in areas that are near capacity. However, increased demand for school places may result in some education facilities being able to remain open if pupil numbers increase. |
| SA14 – Economy | + | This option falls short of reaching the growth target set out in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral study. However, this option sees increases in labour workforce ages which go some way to balancing the increase in 65+ age groups. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with increases in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the population in the County. Higher growth levels will also support contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

Option 6 – Population Growth (PG) Pre-Recession

This option is based on internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the period pre-2008 recession (2001/02 – 2007/08), in which higher in-migration flows to Carmarthenshire were recorded. As a result, estimations of future net migration is highest under this option.

Population Change

- This option will see an increase in 0-15 and 16-64 age groups by +8% and +6% respectively over the plan period.
- This option would see an increase of 40% in 65+ age group and 82% increase in 80+ age group over the plan period.
- This option sees a move to a more elderly population on balance, with the number of people aged 65+ equivalent to 53% of the labour workforce (ages 16-64) by 2033. This is an increase from 40% in 2018.

Employment Growth

- This option would support an employment growth of +632 jobs per year. This is lower than the projected annual employment growth of +1,182 in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This option is likely to contribute positively to supporting a sustainable economy and a healthy, balanced society. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. This option sees a slight decrease in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 969 per year which may alleviate pressure somewhat on biodiversity assets. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is lower than the current LDP requirement and so may alleviate some pressure on areas of poor air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is significantly lower than the current requirement and so may result in less greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | - | This growth option projects a household growth of 16.6%, which is above the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | +/- | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. |

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| | | However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is slightly lower than the current LDP requirement and so loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces will be reduced. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | + | This option goes some way to addressing the balance of the population, with an increase projected in the 0-15 and 16-64 age groups. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | + | Increasing numbers of young people is likely to have a positive effect on the Welsh language as more young people are educated through the medium of Welsh in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | ? | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with low growth in the labour workforce age groups which could result in significant challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a projected increase in the population of school going ages which has the potential to increase pressure on the education services in areas that are near capacity. However, increased demand for school places may result in some education facilities being able to remain open if pupil numbers increase. |
| SA14 – Economy | + | This option falls short of reaching the growth target set out in Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral study. However, this option sees increases in labour workforce ages which begins to balance increases in 65+ age groups. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with increases in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the population in the County. Higher growth levels will also support contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

| Option 7 – Commuting Ratio (CR) Reducing | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| <p>This option considers the population and housing implications of Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study, which estimates an average annual employment growth of +1,182 per annum. This option applies the 2011 Census commuting ratio, but assumes a reduction from 1.09 to 1.06 by the end of the plan period.</p> <p>Population Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option will see an increase in population of 19.3% over the plan period. • This option would see a net-in migration of 2,483 per year. • This would result in a requirement of 1,196 dwellings per year throughout the plan period, in order to support the 1,182 jobs per year estimated by Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is not likely to result in a sustainable level of development in the County. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. This option sees an increase in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 1,196 per year which may place additional pressure on biodiversity assets. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | - | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is higher than the current LDP requirement and so is likely to increase pressures on air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | - | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is higher than the current LDP requirement and so is likely to result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | - | This growth option projects a household growth of 20.5%, which is above the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | - | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is above that of the current LDP requirement and so may result in an increase of loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |

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| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | + | This option would see a high number dwellings required to accommodate high employment growth. This is likely to provide an attractive housing and employment market for young people in the County. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | This option would see high housing and employment growth which is likely to create an attractive market by which to retain young people in the County. Higher in migration has the potential to dilute the Welsh language. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | This option would see a high number dwellings required to accommodate high employment growth. Which are likely to help retain and grow the labour workforce age groups and may address challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a projected increase in the population of school going ages which has the potential to increase pressure on the education services in areas that are near capacity. However, increased demand for school places may result in some education facilities being able to remain open if pupil numbers increase. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | This option aligns with the target set out in Carmarthenshire’s Employment Sectoral study, supporting the level of employment growth projected for the County over the plan period. This option would see increases in labour workforce ages which begins to balance increases in 65+ age groups. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with increases in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the population in the County. Higher growth levels will also support contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

| Option 8 – Commuting Ratio (CR) Fixed | | |
|---|------------------|--|
| <p>This option considers the population and housing implications of Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study, which estimates an average annual employment growth of +1,182 per annum. This option applies the 2011 Census commuting ratio of 1.09, fixed throughout the plan period.</p> <p>Population Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This option will see an increase in population of 22.2% over the plan period. • This option would see a net-in migration of 2,814 per year. • This would result in a requirement of 1,354 dwellings per year throughout the plan period, in order to support the 1,182 jobs per year estimated by Carmarthenshire's Employment Sectoral Study. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | - | This option is not likely to result in a sustainable level of development in the County. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | The choice of site and the manner in which they are developed will influence the impact of this growth option on SA2. This option sees an increase in the number of dwellings required from the current LDP number of 1,013, to 1,354 per year which may place additional pressure on biodiversity assets. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | - | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is higher than the current LDP requirement and so is likely to increase pressures on air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | - | Any level of growth infers increasing transport and economic activity, with associated carbon emissions. However, the number of dwellings required under this option is higher than the current LDP requirement and so is likely to result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | -- | This growth option projects a household growth of 23.2%, which is above the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | No direct link |
| SA7 - Soil | - | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, the number of dwellings required under this growth option is above that of the current LDP requirement and so may result in an increase of loss of high quality soils and greenfield land to non-permeable surfaces. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this option with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|---|
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this option with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | + | This option would see a high number dwellings required to accommodate high employment growth. This is likely to provide an attractive housing and employment market for young people in the County. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | This option would see high housing and employment growth which is likely to create an attractive market by which to retain young people in the County. Higher in migration has the potential to dilute the Welsh language. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | This option would see a high number dwellings required to accommodate high employment growth. Which are likely to help retain and grow the labour workforce age groups and may address challenges in the funding and delivery of health and social care services throughout the County |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | This option sees a projected increase in the population of school going ages which has the potential to increase pressure on the education services in areas that are near capacity. However, increased demand for school places may result in some education facilities being able to remain open with increasing pupil numbers. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | This option aligns with the target set out in Carmarthenshire’s Employment Sectoral study, supporting the level of employment growth projected for the County over the plan period. This option would see increases in labour workforce ages which begins to balance increases in 65+ age groups. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This option sees high growth in the 65+ age cohort, coupled with increases in the labour workforce age groups which would go some way to balancing the population in the County. Higher growth levels will also support contribution of the LDP to affordable housing. |

SA of Growth Options - Summary

In summary, the Growth Options present the following issues and opportunities:

- **Growth Options 1 and 2** perform better with regard to preserving the County's natural environmental resources. However neither option sufficiently address existing socio-economic issues within the County, including the need for affordable housing, accessibility to community and health facilities and the retention of young people. Both options also provide for significantly lower employment growth than that projected in the Councils, Employment Sectoral study, and would not provide sufficient employment opportunities. The level of growth under Options 4 and 5 are more likely to deliver these social and economic benefits.
- **Options 4 and 5** have the most potential for negative environmental impacts, compared to other options. These impacts could be mitigated by sustainable site selection and sensitive implementation, with consideration for Carmarthenshire's largely rural landscape and habitats of high biological value.
- All options have the potential to impact negatively on the County's air quality due to increased transport and economic activity. Again, these impacts can be mitigated by sustainable site location with sufficient access to public transport. It is also important that Green Infrastructure (GI) is considered and where possible protected as GI assets can have air purification functions.
- All options support growth in the population and are therefore likely to contribute to increases in consumption, waste and other activities such as transport. This could be addressed through sustainable design, integrating sustainable waste and transport solutions into new development. Protecting green infrastructure is also important to mitigate the effects of growth across the County, providing important carbon sink functions as well as providing land drainage and cooling effects.
- All of the options have the potential to impact negatively on historic and cultural assets and landscape, depending on the selection of sites and implementation of development. These impacts could be mitigated by ensuring that design of new developments is sympathetic to local character and distinctiveness, and that the cultural and historic assets are protected.

Sustainability Appraisal of Spatial Options

The Council has identified and developed a range of strategic spatial options which demonstrate different ways in which the strategic objectives can be achieved, whilst best reflecting development needs and constraints, and supporting the aims of other international, national and local level strategies, plans and policies.

The development of these options has been informed by the available baseline evidence, as well as stakeholder views and the integrated objectives. These options are based on an understanding of the development potential of the County and the need to accommodate future growth requirements. In developing the options regard has also been had to the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the wellbeing objectives developed by Carmarthenshire County Council and the Public Service Board.

The options identified assume that housing development without employment opportunities in the same broad location, and vice versa, is less sustainable and is to be avoided. Similarly, infrastructure improvements need to be aligned with new development, including improvements to transport networks, utilities, green infrastructure, health, education and social facilities. Consequently, the term 'development' is used in the Spatial Options for Growth to refer to the balance of housing, employment opportunities and the accompanying infrastructure.

The SA process helps to inform the selection of the spatial strategy contained in the Preferred Strategy and provides a mechanism through which reasonable alternatives are considered. It is acknowledged that following SA appraisal, no single option may be considered as 'preferable' and there is scope and flexibility for options to be adapted and new option to be devised, that may be a combination of existing options.

The spatial options have been assessed against the sustainability objectives and a detailed commentary is presented in the subsections below. Figure 5 summarises the results of the appraisal but note does not consider the effects of existing or potential mitigation. In the absence of certainty that mitigation measures would be implemented and be successful, a precautionary approach has been taken to the appraisal. A detailed commentary is provided on pages 41 – 63. Suggested mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts are discussed in Section 7 of this report.

Figure 5 Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Spatial Options

| SA Objective | Option 1 | Option 2 | Option 3 | Option 4 | Option 5 | Option 6 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| SA1 Sustainable Development | + | - | - | + | ? | ? |
| SA2 Biodiversity | | + | | | + | |
| SA3 Air Quality | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SA4 Climatic Factors | +/- | +/- | +/- | +/- | - | - |
| SA5 Water | +/- | + | - | + | - | - |
| SA6 Material Assets | + | - | - | + | - | - |
| SA7 Soil | | + | - | | + | + |
| SA8 Cultural Heritage | | | | | | |
| SA9 Landscape | | | - | | | |
| SA10 Population | ++ | - | - | ++ | +/- | +/- |
| SA11 Welsh Language | + | - | - | + | +/- | - |
| SA12 Health and Wellbeing | + | - | - | ++ | +/- | +/- |
| SA13 Education and Skills | + | - | - | + | ++ | ? |
| SA14 Economy | + | - | - | + | ++ | ? |
| SA15 Social Fabric | + | - | - | ++ | - | - |



This option focuses growth proportionally across a hierarchy underpinned by the principles of sustainability. In doing so, this option:

- Encourages the dispersal of employment, housing and other types of development to identified settlements and village groups or clusters in a manner reflective of their existing scale, population and availability of facilities and services.
- Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned appropriately to urban and rural use areas.
- Focuses the majority of employment growth in larger towns and villages.

| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|---|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| | | S | M | L | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | S | + | + | + | + | - | + | - | + | + | + | +/- | + | + | + | + | + |
| | M | + | - | - | + | +/- | + | - | - | - | ++ | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| | L | + | - | - | +/- | +/- | ++ | - | - | - | ++ | + | + | + | + | + | + |

Spatial Option 1 – Sustainability Commentary

SA1. Sustainable Development

This option is likely to contribute positively to achieving a sustainable economy and addressing local need throughout the County.

SA2 Biodiversity

Limits the potential for extensive rural development and habitat fragmentation as development is concentrated within identified urban centres and rural clusters. Some urban growth areas such as Llanelli and Carmarthen are in close proximity to designated sites and focussed development in these areas will increase the potential for negative impacts. Some rural development will be required and uncertainty remains as to how this would impact biodiversity in the medium to long term. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of biodiversity importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term | Long Term |

SA3 Air Quality

Focus of development on urban centres and rural clusters based on need means that services can be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport services. Concentrated development in urban growth areas may exacerbate air quality issues due to increasing congestion, in particular in the established AQMA's in Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo. It is predicted that it would lead to a negative effect in the medium to long term without mitigation measures.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA4 Climatic Factors

Focus of development on urban centres and rural clusters based on need means that services will be provided and retained locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport services. However, directing growth to urban growth areas has the potential to increase development in coastal areas such as Llanelli, Burry Port and Pembrey, which are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas and at a higher risk of flooding in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term +/- Long Term +/-

SA5 Water

Limits the potential for development outside of previously developed areas, thereby minimising the risk to waterbodies and diffuse pollution. Increased concentration of development in existing urban centres and rural centres has the potential to increase pressure on water resources, in areas that have historically seen high levels of growth.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term +/- Long Term +/-

SA6 Material Assets

This spatial option increases the potential to encourage means to be met locally. It would also support the use of the public transport network and use of different modes of transport.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term ++

SA7 Soil

Increasing development outside of urban growth areas increases the probability of greenfield land being used for development as opposed to the redevelopment of brownfield sites.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

This option would reduce potential impacts on areas with less development with high numbers of cultural assets and townscapes. Concentrating development in urban centres and rural clusters may result in pressure on existing townscapes and archaeological heritage interests. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of cultural heritage importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term | Long Term |

SA9 Landscape

Development within existing settlements reduces the likelihood of features of landscape importance and natural landscapes being disturbed. This option does however, provide some flexibility to avoid sensitive areas, which would depend on choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term | Long Term |

SA10 Population

Development distributed within identified urban centres and rural clusters based on need would support the viability of existing settlements and provide development including education and employment facilities where required. This option would also maximise the viability of existing public transport infrastructure and promote access based on distribution of local services.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA11 Welsh Language

Locating development in urban and centres and rural clusters based on need would support the viability and growth of existing settlements, providing employment and education opportunities for Welsh speakers in the county, and helping to retain young Welsh speakers.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term + Long Term +

SA12 Health and Well-being

This option would encourage access to health services on a local basis and ensure that services are supported by the local population and accessible by alternative modes of transport to the private car.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA13 Education and Skills

This option would encourage access to education services on a local basis and would maximise the use of public transport networks.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA14 Economy

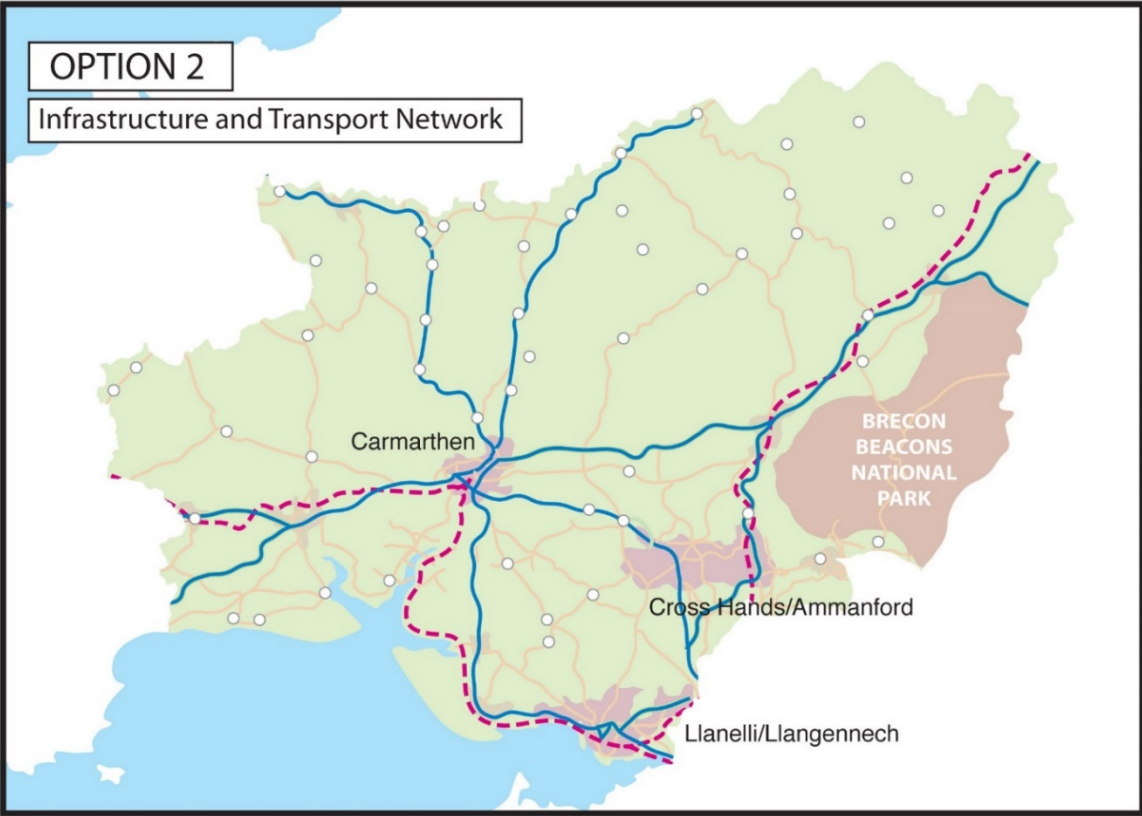
Development within existing urban centres and rural clusters would support existing economic development as well as supporting inward investment by creating viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and market. Concentrating development in areas where, previously development has been focussed may lead to a lack of economic growth in smaller rural communities

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA15 Social Fabric

This option would largely support the delivery of services required by the local population. Access to services would be increased, and the future viability is likely to be enhanced, as the location of facilities is driven by identified need.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +



This option looks at the existing provision of utility infrastructure and the highway network across the County and aims to focus the majority of growth in areas with the capacity for growth. This option seeks to encourage growth in areas which it can most feasibly be accommodated by:

- Encouraging growth along the key transport routes and junctions of the M4, A40, A48, A484, A474 and A485, as well as in locations accessible to other modes of transport including the rail network, cycle network and pedestrian linkages.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there is either current or planned capacity for the supply and treatment of water and waste water.
- Encouraging growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities to support communities.

| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| | | S | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | - | +/- | + | + | + | - |
| M | - | + | - | +/- | + | - | + | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| L | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Spatial Option 2 – Sustainability Commentary**SA1. Sustainable Development**

This option would address needs locally in the short term, however in the long term development would not be sustainable as it would lead to disparity between rural and urban economies and would not address the needs of rural communities.

SA2 Biodiversity

In the short term, it is likely that due to the avoidance of rural and greenbelt development, this option will have a largely positive effect on biodiversity. However, concentration of growth along transport corridors has the potential to encroach on green spaces and habitats, and direct growth to areas that have historically seen high levels of urbanisation, to the detriment of biodiversity.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term -

SA3 Air Quality

Siting growth in locations accessible to alternative modes of transport will reduce the need for private car use, and therefore transport related pollutants. However, aligning development with transport corridors is likely to concentrate transport related emissions and pollutants to areas already at high risk of air quality objectives being compromised. This is of particular risk in Carmarthenshire's three existing AQMA's in Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo. .

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term --

SA4 Climatic Factors

Access to alternative modes of transport and growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities may reduce the need for private car use, leading to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. However, some major transport routes (e.g. A40) follow river corridors and focussed development in such areas is likely to fall somewhat within C1 and C2 flood zones. Focus of development in urban centres has the potential to increase development in coastal areas such as Llanelli, Burry Port and Pembrey, which are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas, which could result in climate related flooding in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term +/- Long Term -

SA5 Water

Focus of growth in areas with current or planned capacity for supply and treatment of water and waste water reduces the likelihood of negative impacts on water resources. However, increasing urbanisation of areas means an increase in hard standings which will result in high surface water runoff and associated pollution issues.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term -

SA6 Material Assets

Concentration of development along transportation corridors is unlikely to encourage needs to be met locally, which could lead to an increase in the need to travel, especially in rural areas. However, focussing development along major transport routes would increase access to established public transport services and cycle routes, promoting the integration of different modes of transport.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA7 Soil

Development along transportation corridors may not favour the redevelopment of brownfield sites or contaminated land. Some major transport routes (e.g. A40) follow river corridors and focussed development in such areas may impact on land with high agricultural value. However this option will largely avoid rural development and is therefore less likely to impact on greenfield sites.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

Focussed development along transportation corridors, would avoid impacting on more rural areas that have high quality cultural assets and townscapes. This option does limit provision to site development away from sites of cultural heritage importance and place increasing pressure in areas that have historically seen most development. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of cultural heritage importance would be affected in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA9 Landscape

Focussed development along transportation corridors would limit flexibility to take sensitive landscape locations into account when siting development, however this option would reduce the likelihood of impacts on rural and natural landscapes by siting growth in largely urban areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA10 Population

Development along transportation corridors is unlikely to address existing community needs and could increase the relative deprivation of areas currently facing social exclusion

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA11 Welsh Language

This option would see development directed to areas that have historically seen high levels of development. These areas may not have the potential to absorb changes in character and so Welsh language could be adversely effected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA12 Health and Well-being

Siting growth in areas with access to cycle networks and pedestrian linkages will encourage walking and cycling as alternative means of transport. However, development along transportation corridors is unlikely to address existing community needs which may result in an increase of private car use in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA13 Education and Skills

Development along transportation corridors is unlikely to result in equal access to education services between rural and urban areas, and will not address rural need in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA14 Economy

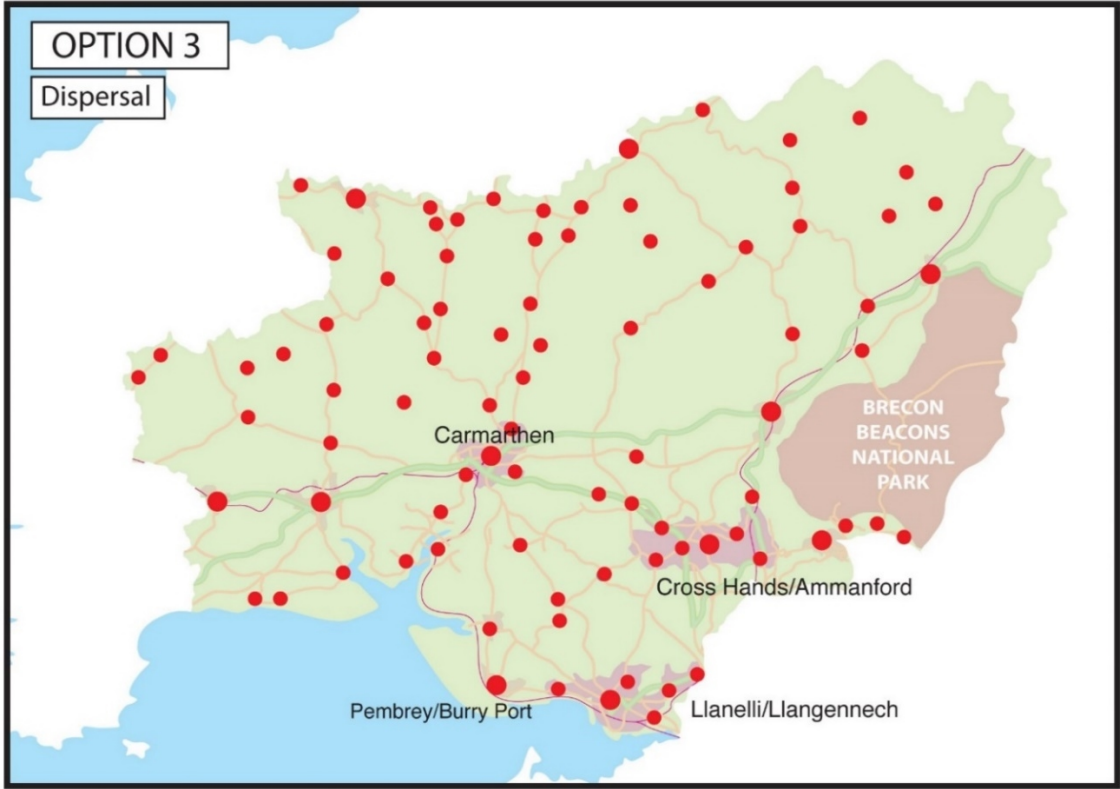
This option would site growth in areas that have previously seen population and employment growth and so aligns with existing market growth in the short term. Does not address economic issues in more rural areas of the county in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA15 Social Fabric

Development along transportation corridors is unlikely to result in equal access to services and facilities between rural and urban areas and will not address rural needs. Would not respect the existing pattern of development which will increase barriers to positive social interactions.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term - Long Term -



This option distributes housing, employment and other forms of development on a broad basis between settlements within the County, both urban and rural. It allows settlements to grow incrementally without necessarily taking account of the availability of services or facilities nor the impact which growth could have upon the existing communities and their capacity to accommodate and absorb growth.

This option would see a higher proportion of the County's growth being directed to the rural areas and a lower proportion to the existing urban areas.

| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|---|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| | | Tudalen 17 | S | - | - | - | +/- | +/- | - | - | + | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | M | - | - | - | +/- | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | L | + | - | + | +/- | - | + | - | - | - | + | - | + | + | - | + | + |

Spatial Option 3 – Sustainability Commentary

SA1. Sustainable Development

Dispersal of growth does not consider supporting infrastructure and so is largely unsustainable in the short and medium terms. In the long term, facilities and services may become established around areas of growth and may result in clusters of sustainable communities.

SA2 Biodiversity

Dispersal of development is likely to result in no discrimination of growth between rural and urban areas, increasing the potential for currently undisturbed and biodiversity sensitive areas to be developed in short, medium and long term. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of biodiversity importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA3 Air Quality

Dispersal of growth would result in a lack of access to public transport and would not address existing need for availability of services as they would be provided disparately. Both of these factors would reinforce the need for residents to rely on the private car as a means of transport in the short to medium term. However, in the long term, established rural settlements may be better able to retain services and facilities, meaning they are more accessible locally.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA4 Climatic Factors

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones in the short term although increasing development in rural areas with no regard to existing services is likely to reduce access to public transport and increase reliance on the private car. However in the longer term, dispersal of growth is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas, but could increase access to services as they become more established around growth areas and so would reduce private car use.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA5 Water

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas, many of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones in the short term, but dispersal of growth is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas and places development outside of previously developed areas which increases risk to water bodies and diffuse pollution. Development will not be located in areas where there are sufficient water treatment services and would therefore likely have a detrimental effect on water quality.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA6 Material Assets

This option does not consider access to public transport networks or location of services and facilities. It is therefore likely to contribute to an over reliance on private cars. However, services and facilities may develop and be retained in rural areas and so may led to a reduction of private car use in the long term

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA7 Soil

Dispersal of development in settlements across the county reduces the potential to redevelop previously used land and increases the potential for undeveloped areas and soils to be lost.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

In the short term, dispersing new settlement across the county would relieve development pressure on existing urban townscapes and archaeological or built heritage interests that have historically seen the most development. However, in the medium to long term, higher development within rural settlements may affect the setting of a greater number of cultural assets and townscapes across the county.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA9 Landscape

Dispersal of new settlement across the county would increase the likelihood of impacts on sites designated as special landscape areas which are predominantly rural. This option would also limit the ability to encourage future use of derelict land.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA10 Population

This option does not discriminate between growth in rural and urban areas and so may increase access to services across the County, however growth is not responsive to local needs specifically, so is unlikely to have a positive effect in the short to medium term. However, services and facilities may develop and be retained in rural areas and so may led to a reduction of private car use in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA11 Welsh Language

This option will see high growth directed to rural areas at a level that is unlikely to be absorbed without negative effects.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA12 Health and Well-being

This option does not discriminate between growth in rural and urban areas and so may lead to a broader access to services across the County, simply by chance in the longer term. However growth is not responsive to specific local needs and so is unlikely to have a positive effect in the short to medium term. This option also does not consider access to infrastructure or public transport.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA13 Education and Skills

This option does not consider access to services including education facilities and is therefore unlikely to have a positive effect on access to Education and Skills services and facilities

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA14 Economy

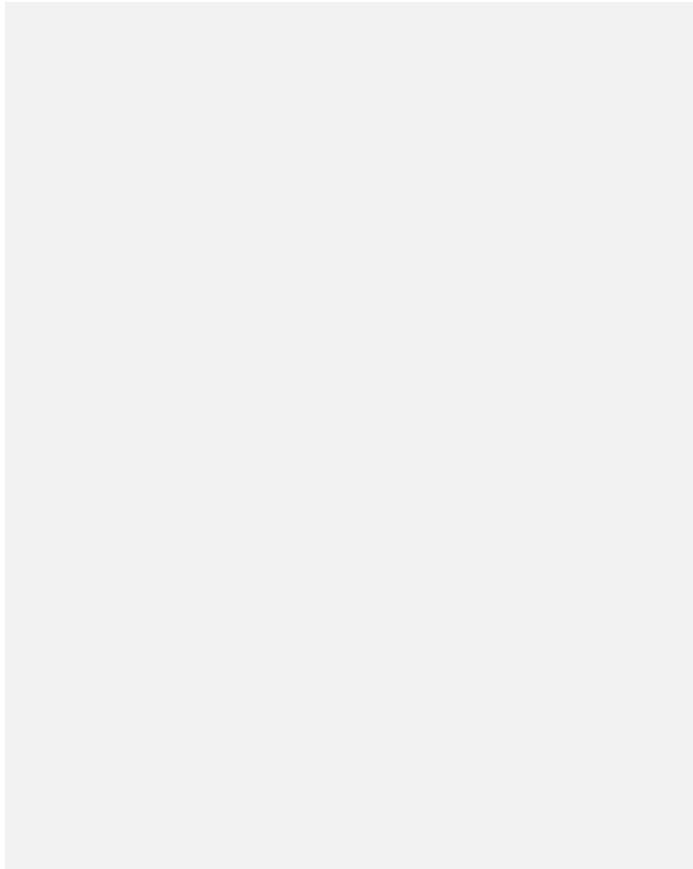
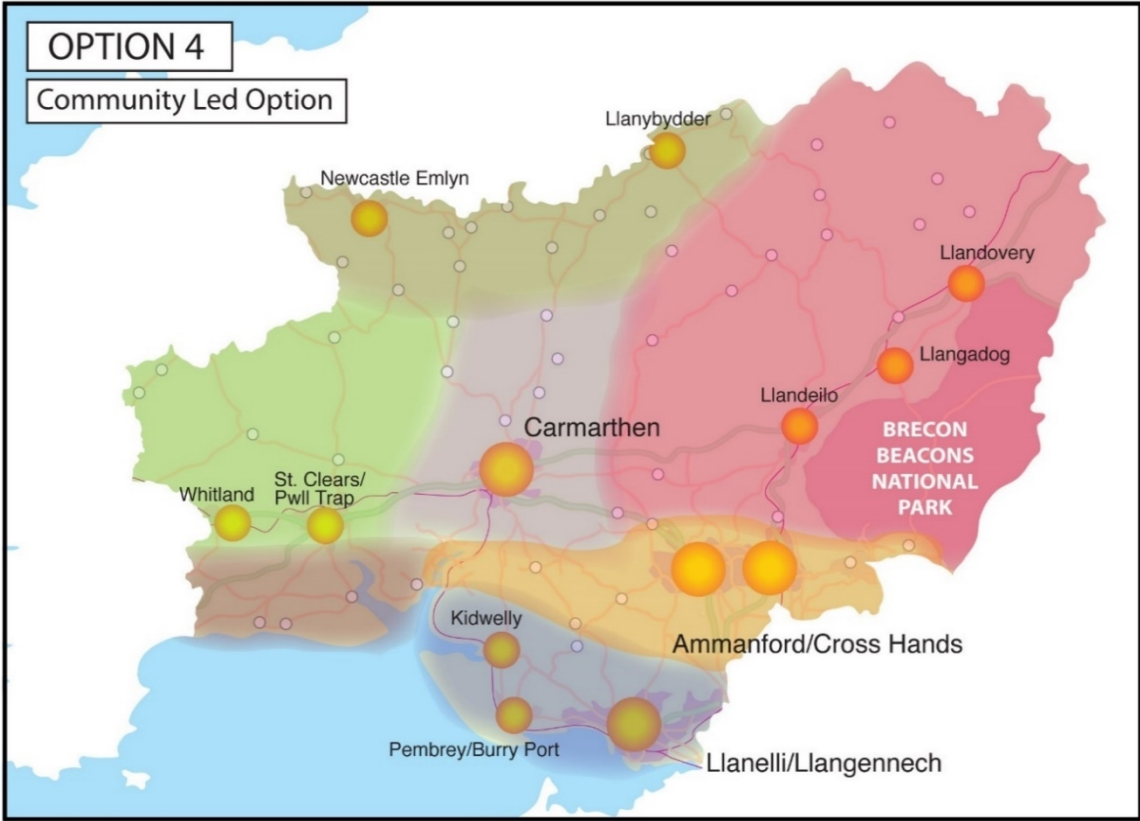
This option has no regard to local need, the market or the supporting infrastructure and is therefore unlikely to create attractive areas for investment and economic growth.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term - Long Term -

SA15 Social Fabric

This option does not consider access to services when locating growth and therefore is unlikely to improve general accessibility in the short to medium term. However, because this option does not discriminate between growth in urban and rural areas, it may result in improved access to services in rural areas in the longer term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term - Long Term +



| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|
| | | S | - | - | - | +/- | + | - | - | + | - | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| M | + | - | - | +/- | + | + | - | - | - | - | ++ | + | ++ | + | + | ++ | + |
| L | + | - | + | +/- | + | ++ | - | - | - | - | ++ | + | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ |

Spatial Option 4 – Sustainability Commentary**SA1. Sustainable Development**

This option is likely to contribute positively to achieving a sustainable economy and addressing local need throughout the County.

SA2 Biodiversity

This option would see increased development in rural areas and so may have a negative impact on currently undisturbed and biodiversity sensitive areas. Effects in the medium to long term would be dependent on the choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA3 Air Quality

In the short term, encouragement of growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions. However, in the medium to long term, facilities, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars will likely reduce.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term +/- Long Term +

SA4 Climatic Factors

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones. However, growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions in the short term. In the longer term, growth in rural areas is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas. However, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars will likely reduced.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term +/- Long Term +/-

SA5 Water

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones in the short term. This option also takes into consideration the existing infrastructure when apportioning growth to rural settlements although this may need to be address in some areas in the short term. In the medium to long term, it is likely that sufficient infrastructure and water issues addressed will become established in areas of growth and so positive effects are predicted.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term + Long Term +

SA6 Material Assets

In the short term, growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in services and facilities needing to be accessed by private car due to areas not being serviced by public transport or having sufficient facilities to support growth. However, in the medium to long term, facilities, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and so needs are more likely to be met locally or access via alternative transport methods.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term + Long Term ++

SA7 Soil

Increasing development outside of urban growth areas increases the probability of greenbelt land being used for development as opposed to the redevelopment of brownfield sites. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of soil would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

In the short term, this option would relieve development pressure on existing urban townscapes and archaeological or built heritage interests that have historically seen the most development. However, in the medium to long term, higher development within rural settlements may affect the setting of a greater number of cultural assets and townscapes across the county. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of heritage importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term | Long Term |

SA9 Landscape

This option has the potential to increase impacts on sites designated as special landscape areas which are predominantly rural. This option does however, provide some flexibility to avoid sensitive areas, which would depend on choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA10 Population

This option has the potential to support existing settlements with regards to services and facilities which in turn is likely to have a positive effect on the retention of young people in the county. It has enough flexibility to address local need and will go some way to addressing rural needs.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA11 Welsh Language

This option has largely positive effects on Welsh Language, as growth directed to more rural areas will help to ensure that Welsh speakers, in particular young people, can afford housing and access jobs in rural areas and are retained in these areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA12 Health and Well-being

This option encourages growth in both rural and urban areas and so may lead to a broader access to services across the County and allows enough flexibility to ensure that growth can address specific local needs. This is likely to have strong positive effects in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA13 Education and Skills

This option would encourage access to education services on a local basis, in particular in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA14 Economy

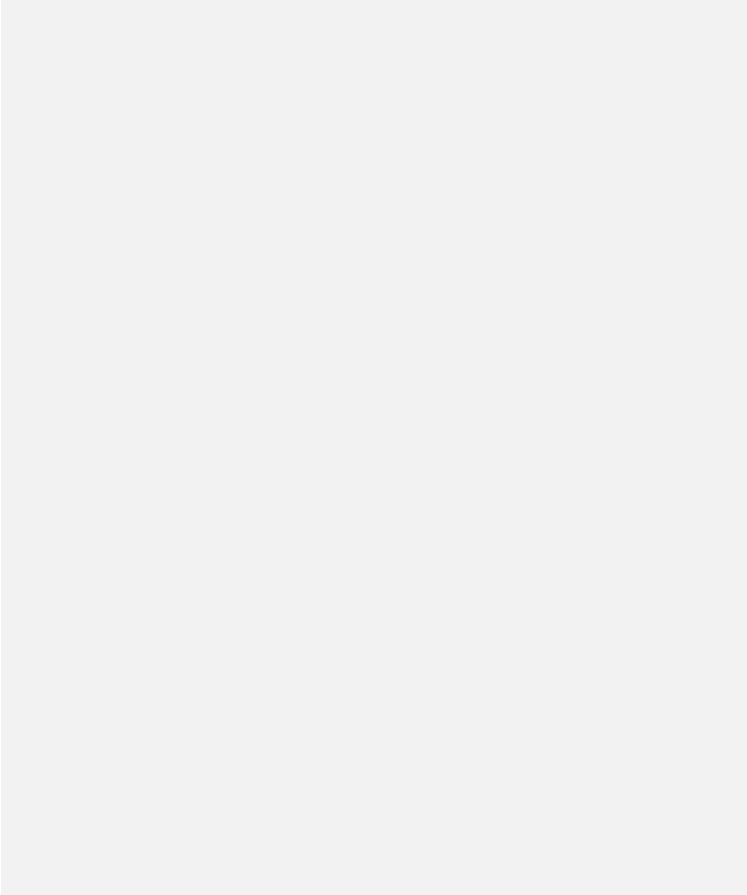
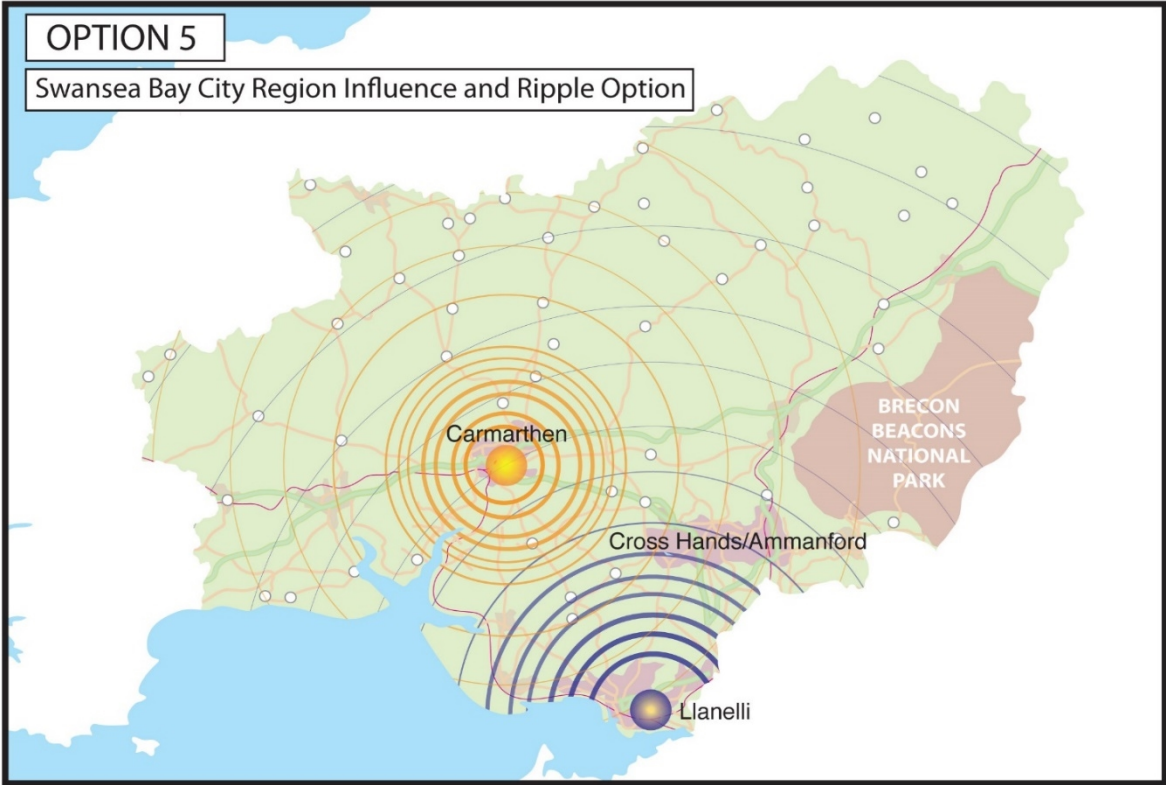
Balanced development in both urban and rural areas would support existing economic development as well as supporting the rural economy by creating viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and markets.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term ++

SA15 Social Fabric

This option gives the opportunity for needs to be addressed on a local level which will improve accessibility to services, especially for disadvantaged sections of society, in both rural and urban areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++



| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall (Median) |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|---|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | | S | M | L | S | M | L | S | M | L | S | M | L | S | M | L | S |
| Sudalen 18 | S | + | + | +/- | + | + | + | + | + | + | +/- | +/- | +/- | ++ | ++ | + | + |
| | M | - | + | - | - | - | - | + | - | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | ++ | ++ | - | - |
| | L | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | ++ | - | - | - |

Spatial Option 5 – Sustainability Commentary

SA1. Sustainable Development

This option would address needs locally in the short term, however in the long term development would not be sustainable as it would lead to disparity between rural and urban economies and would not address the needs of rural communities.

SA2 Biodiversity

Limits the potential for extensive rural development and habitat fragmentation as development is concentrated within the urban areas of Carmarthen/Llanelli. However, Llanelli and Carmarthen are both in close proximity to designated sites and focussed development in these areas will increase the potential for negative impacts. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of Biodiversity importance would be affected in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term |

SA3 Air Quality

Focus of development in Llanelli/Carmarthen areas means that services for new growth will be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport, however it fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use. Concentrated development in Llanelli/Carmarthen may also exacerbate existing air quality issues in these areas, in particular in the established AQMA's in both Carmarthen and Llanelli.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term - Long Term --

SA4 Climatic Factors

Focus of development in Llanelli/Carmarthen areas means that services for new growth can be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport, however it fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use. Increased development in Llanelli and surrounding areas such as Burry Port and Pembrey has the potential to put new development at a higher risk of flooding as these areas are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA5 Water

This option limits the potential for development outside of previously developed areas, thereby minimising the risk to waterbodies and diffuse pollution. However, concentration of development in Llanelli will likely increase surface water runoff and associated pollution issues, which may have implications for the Burry Inlet SPA/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC without mitigation.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA6 Material Assets

Focus of development in Llanelli/Carmarthen areas means that services for new growth can be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport, however it fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA7 Soil

Offers potential to ensure brownfield sites are redeveloped, and minimises development of greenfield sites and river corridors where soils of high agricultural value are located. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which soil would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

This option would reduce potential impacts on rural areas with high numbers of cultural assets and townscapes. Concentrating development in urban centres and rural clusters may result in pressure on existing townscapes and archaeological heritage interests. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of cultural heritage importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA9 Landscape

Development within existing settlements reduces the likelihood of further features of landscape importance and natural landscapes being disturbed and would increase the likelihood of existing derelict land being repurposed.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA10 Population

Focusing development in Llanelli/Carmarthenshire ensures areas of new growth will have access to services and facilities and maximising the viability of existing public transport. It will also align residential development with significant, skilled employment opportunities which is likely to encourage the retention of young people in the county. The option would not however, improve rural access to services and facilities, putting these communities at a disadvantage.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA11 Welsh Language

Focused growth around the Swansea Bay city region developments in both Carmarthen and Llanelli has the potential to create a vibrant environment in which Welsh speakers may be encouraged to remain in the county. However, this option would see development directed to areas that have historically seen high levels of development. These areas may not have the potential to absorb changes in character and so Welsh language could be adversely effected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA12 Health and Well-being

Focusing development in Llanelli/Carmarthenshire ensures new growth will have sufficient access to health and recreation services and facilities and active travel networks. The option would not however, improve rural access to health and recreation services and facilities, putting these communities at a disadvantage.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA13 Education and Skills

Focusing growth around the Swansea Bay City Region developments at both Llanelli and Carmarthen is likely to increase access to the high quality educational and skills facilities and provided by the developments. This option will not improve rural access to services, however they may also benefit from the inflow of skills in the long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term ++ Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA14 Economy

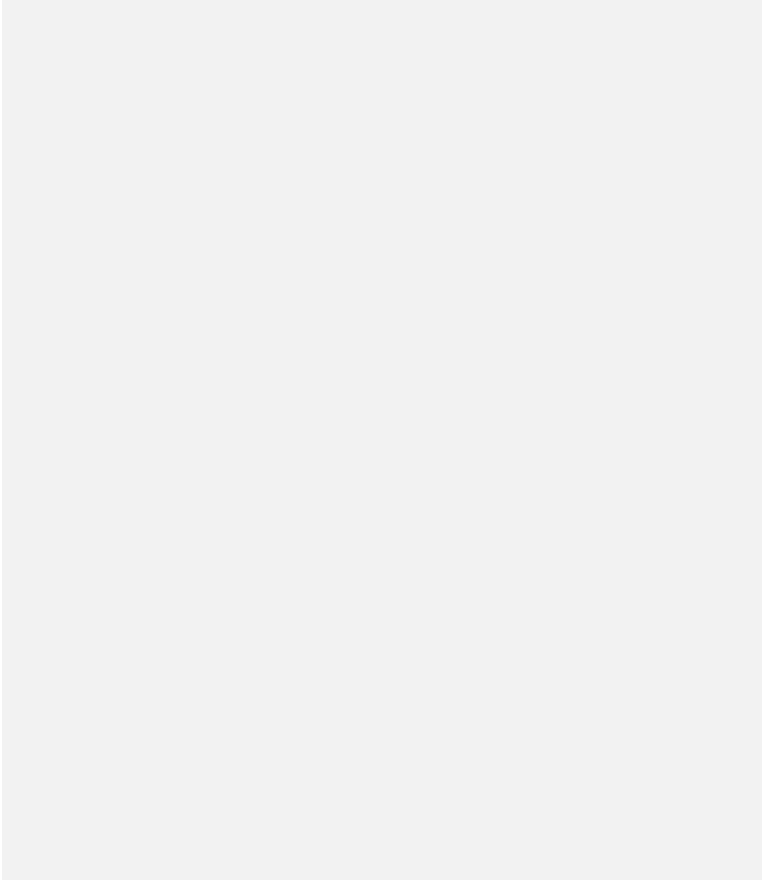
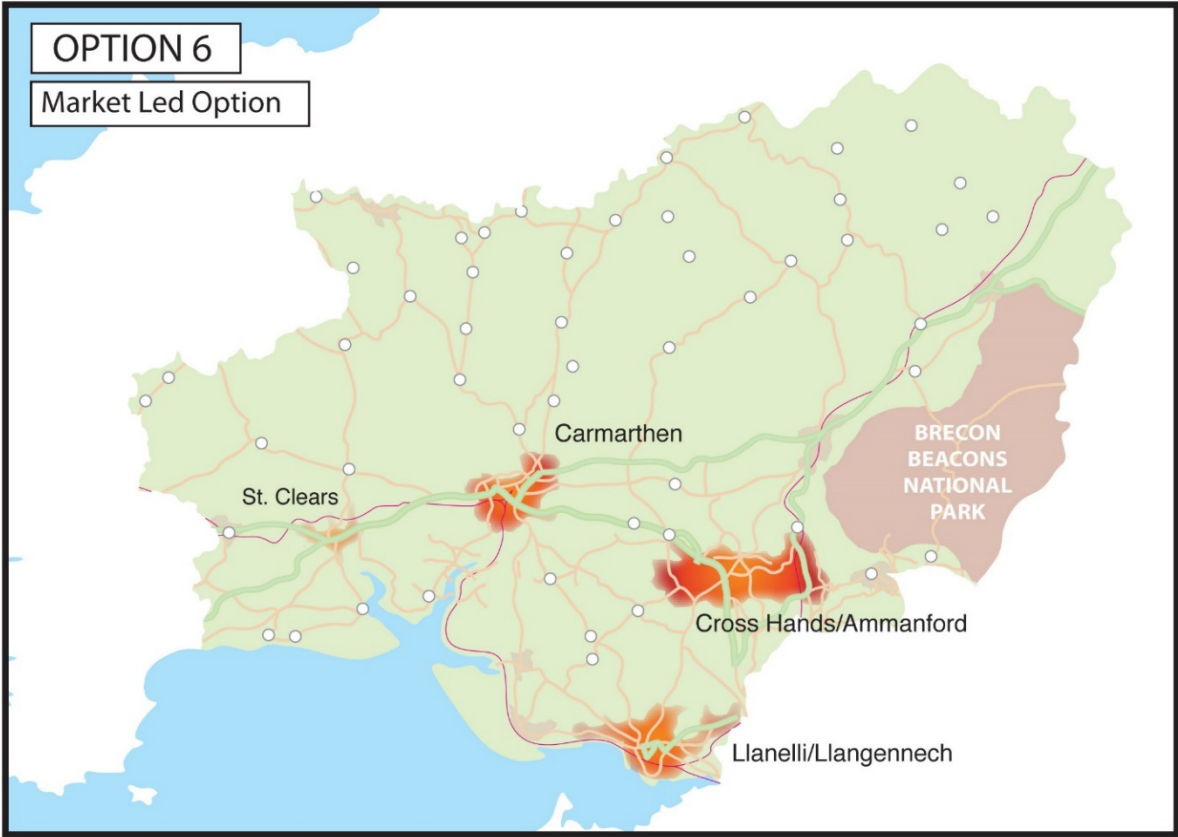
This option is likely to support high economic growth, including significant job creation, in Llanelli, Carmarthen and their surrounding areas, following inward investment via the Swansea Bay City deal. Settlements outside of these areas may benefit from the inward investment in these areas, however there is a risk that in the long term, it may create a larger disparity in economic standing between the north and south of the county.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term ++ Medium Term ++ Long Term ?

SA15 Social Fabric

Focusing development in Llanelli/Carmarthenshire ensures areas of new growth will have access to services and facilities and maximising the viability of existing public transport. However, this option is unlikely to improve rural access to services and facilities, especially for disadvantaged members of society, and is unlikely to contribute to removing social barriers.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -



| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall (Median) |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | | S | + | +/- | +/- | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | +/- | +/- | +/- | + | + |
| M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | + | - | - | +/- | - | +/- | ? | ? | - | - |
| L | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | +/- | - | +/- | ? | - | - | - |

Spatial Option 6 – Sustainability Commentary

SA1. Sustainable Development

This option would address needs locally in the short term, however in the long term development would not be sustainable as it would lead to disparity between rural and urban economies and would not address the needs of rural communities.

SA2 Biodiversity

Limits the potential for extensive rural development and habitat fragmentation as development is concentrated within existing growth areas. However, areas that have seen high levels of development historically such as Llanelli, Carmarthen and Cross Hands are in close proximity to designated sites and continued development in these areas will increase the potential for negative impacts.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term | Long Term |

SA3 Air Quality

Focus of development in existing growth areas means that services and facilities will be readily accessible, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport. However, this option fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use. Concentrated development in Llanelli/Carmarthen may also exacerbate existing congestion and air quality issues in these areas, in particular in the established AQMA's in both Carmarthen and Llanelli.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term - Long Term --

SA4 Climatic Factors

Focus of development in existing growth areas means that services for new development can be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport. However this option fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use. Increased development in Llanelli and surrounding areas such as Burry Port and Pembrey has the potential to put new development at a higher risk of flooding as these areas are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA5 Water

This option limits the potential for development outside of previously developed areas, thereby minimising the risk to waterbodies and diffuse pollution. However, concentration of development in growth areas, in particular in Llanelli will likely increase surface water runoff and associated pollution issues, which may have negative implications for the Burry Inlet SPA/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC without mitigation.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA6 Material Assets

Focus of development in existing means that services for new development can be provided locally, reducing the distances people are required to travel and increases access to public transport. This option however, fails to address rural need in any way and so rural areas will likely still be heavily reliant on private car use.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

SA7 Soil

Offers potential to ensure brownfield sites are redeveloped, and minimises development of greenfield sites and river corridors where soils of high agricultural value are located. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which soil would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

This option would reduce potential impacts on rural areas with high numbers of cultural assets and townscapes. Concentrating development in urban centres and rural clusters may result in pressure on existing townscapes and archaeological heritage interests. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of cultural heritage importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA9 Landscape

Development within existing settlements reduces the likelihood of further features of landscape importance and natural landscapes being disturbed. It also increases the likelihood of derelict land being reused for development.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA10 Population

Focusing development in existing growth areas ensures these developments will have access to services and facilities and maximising the viability of existing public transport. The option would not however, improve rural access to services and facilities, putting these communities at a disadvantage and would exacerbate social exclusion in these areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA11 Welsh Language

This option would see development directed to areas that have historically seen high levels of development. These areas may not have the potential to absorb changes in character and so Welsh language could be adversely effected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA12 Health and Well-being

Focusing development in existing growth areas ensures new development will have sufficient access to health and recreation services and facilities and active travel networks. The option would not however, improve rural access to health and recreation services and facilities, putting these communities at a disadvantage.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term Medium Term Long Term

SA13 Education and Skills

Focussed development in areas that have historically seen high growth will mean that, in the short term, education and training facilities would be more easily accessible. However, this option is likely to place pressure on these resources in the medium to long term and may not be sustainable. The option would not, improve access to education and training facilities for rural communities, putting these communities at a disadvantage.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term ? Long Term ?

SA14 Economy

Delivery of development based on the market is likely to facilitate a short to medium term economic boost, but once which is sensitive to economic cycles or changes in market demand. This is unlikely to contribute to a sustainable economy in the long term, and would likely contribute to a larger disparity in economic standing between the north and south of the county.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ? Long Term -

SA15 Social Fabric

Focusing development in existing growth areas ensures new development will have access to services and facilities and will maximise the viability of existing public transport. However, this option is unlikely to improve rural access to services and facilities, especially for disadvantaged members of society, and is unlikely to contribute to removing social barriers.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term - Long Term -

Summary of Sustainability Appraisal of Spatial Options

In particular, the sustainability appraisal highlighted the following issues and opportunities:

- **Options 1 and 4** both perform well overall against the sustainability framework, in particular in terms of economy, improving social fabric and addressing the needs of both rural and urban areas. This is in contrast to **Options 2 and 3** which do not specifically address rural economy or need, and do not perform favourably against improving social equality across the county. **Option 5** is predicted to have positive effects on education, skills and economy due to the 'ripple' effect of inward investment and knowledge and skills to the county. It is also likely to have highly positive effects on population structure, by aligning residential development with significant, skilled employment opportunities, creating attractive areas for young people.
- Although **Options 2,5 and 6** would reduce private car use in the short term by directing growth to areas that currently have sufficient services and facilities, the medium to long term is likely to see an increase in traffic, congestion and associated emissions in areas which already breach UK Air Quality Objectives. In contrast, **Options 1, 4 and 3** direct higher growth to rural areas which in the short term may not have sufficient access to services and so would increase public car use. However, in the long term, it is likely that services centres would be established and retained around rural settlements and public transport links improved, leading to a reduction in car use and associated air quality issues.
- **Options 1, 3 and 4** all have both negative and positive impacts with respect to Climatic Factors. Directing growth to rural areas will reduce pressure on urban areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones. However, growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions in the short term. In the longer term, growth in rural areas is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas. However, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars will likely reduced. **Option 2** would result in an increase in access to alternative modes of transport and growth in areas where there are sufficient services and facilities, reducing the need for private car use. However, some major transport routes (e.g. A40) follow river corridors and focussed development in such areas is likely to fall somewhat within C1 and C2 flood zones. Growth directed to urban areas such as Llanelli, Pembrey and Burry Port, which are partially or wholly within C1 and C2 areas could result in new development being at risk of climate related flooding in the long term. It is for this reason, coupled with rural needs not being addressed that **Options 5 and 6** are predicted to have negative impacts on this objective.
- Performance against sustainability objectives such as cultural heritage, biodiversity and landscape is largely dependent on site selection and implementation due to the localised nature of these features and so appraisal of impact at this strategic level is difficult. However, **Options 2 and 5** are likely to have broadly positive effects on biodiversity due to them directing growth to areas which have historically seen development, as opposed to areas more likely to result in the development of green belt land.

- **Options 2 and 6** that direct growth to areas that have historically seen high levels of growth and as a result, changes in demographics, are less likely to be able to absorb further changes in character and would therefore likely see negative impacts on Welsh Language. **Options 1 and 4** look to distribute growth more proportionally between urban and rural areas, and will also support vibrant communities and economy, all of which are likely to have positive effects on the Welsh Language, in particular through the retention of young people **Option 3** would see an unsustainable amount of growth provision in rural areas, that has the potential to dilute the Welsh speaking communities in these areas. Option 5 has both the negative effects of Options 2 and 6 but may also have positive effects as a result of the job creation and skills associated with the Swansea Bay City Region (in particular Yr Egin , which houses S4C's offices) that will help to retain young people in the County.

Hybrid Option – Balanced Community and Sustainable Growth

As a result of this Sustainability Appraisal, and subsequent stakeholder engagement, it is recommended that a hybrid option is considered as the preferred option which reflects a number of characteristics from the options above. This hybrid option seeks to build on the approach highlighted through Strategic Option 4 - Community Led, seeking to provide opportunities for rural areas and ensuring the diversity of the County and communities is recognised, but removing the prescriptive approach of assigning character areas within the County. This option aims to retain an approach which reflects the role and function of settlements and will seek to be responsive in how it assigns growth, to urban and rural areas of the County.

The hybrid option will incorporate elements of Option 5, recognising and reflecting investment and economic benefits to the County and its communities through the Swansea Bay City Deal, and other economic opportunities. As is the primary focus in Option 2, it also acknowledges that sustainable growth needs to be supported by the availability of a range of appropriate infrastructure. In line with Option 6, it will recognise that growth should also be deliverable and orientated to a community's needs and market demand.

The hybrid option has been assessed against the Sustainability Objectives and a detailed commentary is presented in the below. Figure 6 summarises the results of the appraisal against the original six spatial options.

Figure 6 Summary of the Sustainability Appraisal of Spatial Options, including Hybrid Option

| SA Objective | Option 1 | Option 2 | Option 3 | Option 4 | Option 5 | Option 6 | Hybrid |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| SA1 Sustainable Development | + | - | - | + | ? | ? | + |
| SA2 Biodiversity | | + | | | + | | |
| SA3 Air Quality | - | - | - | - | - | - | + |
| SA4 Climatic Factors | +/- | +/- | +/- | +/- | - | - | +/- |
| SA5 Water | - | + | - | + | - | - | + |
| SA6 Material Assets | + | - | - | + | - | - | + |
| SA7 Soil | | + | - | | + | + | |
| SA8 Cultural Heritage | | | | | | | |
| SA9 Landscape | | | - | | | | |
| SA10 Population | ++ | - | - | ++ | +/- | +/- | ++ |
| SA11 Welsh Language | + | - | - | + | +/- | - | + |
| SA12 Health and Wellbeing | + | - | - | ++ | +/- | +/- | ++ |
| SA13 Education and Skills | + | - | - | + | ++ | ? | ++ |
| SA14 Economy | + | - | - | + | ++ | ? | ++ |
| SA15 Social Fabric | + | - | - | ++ | - | - | ++ |

NEW HYBRID OPTION HERE

| SA Objective | Timescale | 1. Sustainable Development | 2. Biodiversity | 3. Air Quality | 4. Climactic Factors | 5. Water | 6. Material Assets | 7. Soil | 8. Cultural Heritage and Historic | 9. Landscape | 10. Population | 11. The Welsh Language | 12. Health and Wellbeing | 13. Education and Skills | 14. Economy | 15. Social Fabric | Overall (Median) | |
|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|---|
| | | S07 | S | | - | +/- | +/- | +/- | - | - | + | - | + | + | ++ | + | + | + |
| | M | | - | + | +/- | + | + | - | - | - | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | + | + |
| | L | | - | + | + | + | ++ | - | - | - | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | + |

Spatial Option 7 – Sustainability Commentary**SA1. Sustainable Development**

This option is likely to contribute positively to achieving a sustainable economy and addressing local need throughout the County.

SA2 Biodiversity

This option would see increased development in rural areas and so may have a negative impact on currently undisturbed and biodiversity sensitive areas in the short term. Effects in the medium to long term would be dependent on the choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA3 Air Quality

In the short term, encouragement of growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions. However, in the medium to long term, facilities, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars may reduce.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term + Long Term +

SA4 Climatic Factors

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones. However, growth outside of urban centres is likely to result in an increase in public car use and associated emissions in the short term. In the longer term, growth in rural areas is likely to increase development of greenfield land which may reduce upland flood storage areas. However, services and public transport links are likely to become more established and retained in rural areas following growth and so the need for private cars will likely reduced.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term +/- Long Term +

SA5 Water

This option would relieve pressure in urban growth areas in the short term, some of which are partially or wholly in C1/C2 flooding zones in the short term. This option also takes into consideration the existing infrastructure when apportioning growth to rural settlements although this may need to be address in some areas in the short term. In the medium to long term, it is likely that sufficient infrastructure and water issues addressed will become established in areas of growth and so positive effects are predicted.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term +/- Medium Term + Long Term +

SA6 Material Assets

In the short term, directing growth to areas outside of urban centres is likely to result in services and facilities needing to be accessed by private car, due to areas lack of access to public transport or areas initially having sufficient facilities to support growth. However, in the medium to long term, facilities, services and public transport links are likely to become more established in these areas and so needs are more likely to be met locally or access via alternative transport methods.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term ++

SA7 Soil

Increasing development outside of urban growth areas increases the probability of greenbelt land being used for development as opposed to the redevelopment of brownfield sites. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of soil would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment

In the short term, this option would relieve development pressure on existing urban townscapes and archaeological or built heritage interests that have historically seen the most development. However, in the medium to long term, higher development within rural settlements may affect the setting of a greater number of cultural assets and townscapes across the county. The choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which features of heritage importance would be affected.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term | Long Term |

SA9 Landscape

This option has the potential to increase impacts on sites designated as special landscape areas which are predominantly rural. This option does however, provide some flexibility to avoid sensitive areas, which would depend on choice of development sites and the manner in which they are developed

Predicted Impacts: Short Term - Medium Term | Long Term |

SA10 Population

This option has the potential to support existing settlements with regards to services and facilities which in turn is likely to have a positive effect on the retention of young people in the county. It has enough flexibility to address local need and will go some way to addressing rural needs. It will also align residential development with significant, skilled employment opportunities as a result of the Swansea Bay City Deal, which is likely to encourage the retention of young people in the county.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA11 Welsh Language

This option has the potential to support existing settlements with regards to services and facilities which in turn is likely to have a positive effect on the retention of young welsh speakers in the county. It will also align residential development with significant, skilled employment opportunities as a result of the Swansea Bay City Deal, which is likely to encourage the retention of young welsh speakers in the county.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term + Long Term +

SA12 Health and Well-being

This option encourages growth in both rural and urban areas and so may lead to a broader access to services across the County and allows enough flexibility to ensure that growth can address specific local needs. This is likely to have strong positive effects in the medium to long term.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term + Medium Term ++ Long Term ++

SA13 Education and Skills

This option would encourage access to education services on a local basis, in particular in the medium to long term. Focusing some growth around the Swansea Bay City Region developments at both Llanelli and Carmarthen is also likely to increase access to the high quality educational and skills facilities and provided by the developments.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term  Medium Term  Long Term 

SA14 Economy

This option is likely to support high economic growth, including significant job creation, in Llanelli, Carmarthen and their surrounding areas, following inward investment via the Swansea Bay City deal. Settlements outside of these areas will also see benefits from the inward investment in these areas. Balanced development in both urban and rural areas would support existing economic development as well as supporting the rural economy by creating viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and markets.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term  Medium Term  Long Term 

SA15 Social Fabric

This option gives the opportunity for needs to be addressed on a local level which will improve accessibility to services, especially for disadvantaged sections of society, in both rural and urban areas.

Predicted Impacts: Short Term  Medium Term  Long Term 

6. Appraisal of Strategic Policies

The LDP Strategic Policies are high level policies intended to deliver the LDP Vision and Objectives. They are strategic in nature and will be supplemented by more detailed policies and proposals in the Deposit Plan stage of the LDP.

The SA process helps to inform the policy drafting process and provides the opportunity for greater scrutiny of the sustainability impacts of policies and what they seek to deliver. The Strategic Policies are set within four themes which directly align with the core themes of Carmarthenshire's Well-being plan

The draft Strategic Policies are set out below (excluding supporting text), and a summary of their performance against the SA framework is summarised in Figure 7. A detailed commentary is provided in pages 73 - 99.

Early Intervention – To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

- SP1 Strategic Growth
- SP2 Retail and Town Centres

Prosperous People and Places – To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county

- SP3 Providing New Homes
- SP4 Affordable Homes
- SP5 Strategic Sites
- SP6 Employment and the Economy
- SP7 Welsh Language and Culture
- SP8 Infrastructure
- SP9 Gypsy and Traveller Provision
- SP10 The Visitor Economy
- SP11 Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design

Healthy Habits – People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment

- SP12 Rural Development
- SP13 Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment
- SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment

Strong Connections – Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

- SP15 Climate Change
- SP16 Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework
- SP17 Transport and Accessibility
- SP18 Mineral Resources
- SP19 Waste Management

Figure 7 Testing of Revised LDP Strategic Policies against the Sustainability Objectives framework

| Strategic Policy | SA1 | SA2 | SA3 | SA4 | SA5 | SA6 | SA7 | SA8 | SA9 | SA10 | SA11 | SA12 | SA13 | SA14 | SA15 |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| SP1 | + | - | - | - | + | + | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | + |
| SP2 | + | | +/- | +/- | | | | | + | + | | | | ++ | |
| SP3 | + | - | - | - | + | + | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | + |
| SP4 | + | | | | | | | | | ++ | + | + | + | + | ++ |
| SP5 | + | - | +/- | +/- | ? | + | | | | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ |
| SP6 | + | - | +/- | + | ? | + | | | | ++ | +/- | | + | ++ | + |
| SP7 | + | | | | | | | + | | + | ++ | | + | + | ++ |
| SP8 | ++ | +/- | + | + | + | + | - | - | - | ++ | | + | + | + | ++ |
| SP9 | + | | | | ? | | | | | + | | | | | + |
| SP10 | + | | +/- | +/- | | + | | | | + | +/- | ++ | + | ++ | + |
| SP11 | ++ | + | + | ++ | + | + | + | + | + | + | | + | | + | + |
| SP12 | + | - | + | + | - | + | - | | - | + | +/- | + | + | ++ | ++ |
| SP13 | + | ++ | + | + | + | | + | | + | | | + | | + | |
| SP14 | + | | | | | | | ++ | + | | | + | | + | |
| SP15 | ++ | + | + | ++ | + | + | | | | | | + | ? | | |
| SP16 | ++ | - | + | + | ? | ++ | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | ++ |
| SP17 | ++ | + | ++ | + | | ++ | | | | + | | + | + | | + |
| SP18 | | - | - | - | | ? | - | | - | | | | | + | |
| SP19 | | - | | | | + | - | | - | | | | | + | |

| SP 1: Strategic Growth | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| <p>The LDP will provide for the future growth of the economy and housing requirement through the provision of following:</p> <p>a) 10,704 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 10,195.</p> <p>b) A minimum of 5,295 new jobs</p> <p>The focus on regeneration and growth reflects the Councils core strategic ambitions with development distributed in a sustainable manner consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy.</p> | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy looks to support a sustainable economy, and provides opportunity for needs to be met locally. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Growth in particular in rural areas is likely to impact on greenfield land and undisturbed areas of biodiversity. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | - | This policy supports population and economic growth, both of which are likely to lead to a significant increase in transport (domestic and economic) and associated traffic related air pollution. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | - | This policy supports population and economic growth, both of which are likely to lead to a significant increase in transport (domestic and economic) and associated carbon emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This policy provides for a housing growth percentage of 11.7%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support facilities and services leading to needs being met locally. |
| SA7 - Soil | | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | This supports a level of growth that will provide a significant number of affordable homes, in both urban and rural areas. Also, the creation of new jobs is likely to help retain young people in the county. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Growth and inward migration has the potential to dilute Welsh language and culture in certain areas. However, it does |

| | | |
|--|----|--|
| | | increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible leisure and health care facilities. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible educational and training facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Supports growth at a level that will create a minimum of 5,295 jobs over the plan period, in line with the Council's core ambitions. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This supports a level of growth that will provide a significant number of affordable homes in both urban and rural areas. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: The LDP will provide for the future growth of a sustainable economy and housing requirements through the provision of following: | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

SP 2: Retail and Town Centres

Proposals for retail development will be considered in accordance with the following retail hierarchy.

Proposals will be permitted where they maintain and enhance the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres. They should protect and promote the viability and vitality of the defined retail centres, supporting the appropriate delivery of retail provision (comparison and convenience), leisure, entertainment, office and cultural facilities.

Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas where they accord with the settlement framework will be supported.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | | Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, but at a strategic level, it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. The choice of sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which biodiversity would be affected. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | This policy does encourage attractiveness of town centres which may increase access via public car, in particular to towns such as |

| | | |
|---|-----|---|
| | | Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo which currently all have AQMA's. However, town centres are well serviced by public transport meaning that they are accessible by alternative transport networks. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | This policy does encourage attractiveness of town centres which may increase access via public car and associated carbon emissions. However, town centres are well serviced by public transport meaning that they are accessible by alternative transport networks. |
| SA5 – Water | I | Effects on water quality and supply is largely dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA6 – Material Assets | 0 | |
| SA7 - Soil | I | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | + | This policy supports the protection and enhancement of existing townscapes. |
| SA10 – Population | + | Protecting and enhancing the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres is likely to contribute to the retention of young people in the County. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | 0 | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Protecting and enhancing the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres will have strong positive effects on the County's economy. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 0 | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas where they accord with the settlement framework and sustainability principles will be supported. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

SP 3: Providing New Homes

In order to ensure the overall housing land requirement of 10,195 homes for the plan period 2018-2033 is met, provision is made for 10,704 new homes. Sufficient land will be allocated (on sites of 5 or more dwellings) to accommodate this requirement in accordance with the Settlement Framework.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|--|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy looks to support a sustainable economy, and provides opportunity for needs to be met locally. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Housing provision, in particular in rural areas, is likely to impact on greenfield land and undisturbed areas of biodiversity. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | - | This policy supports the provision of new homes, which is likely to lead to a significant increase in transport (domestic and economic) and associated traffic related air pollution. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | - | This policy supports the provision of new homes which is likely to lead to a significant increase in transport (domestic and economic) and associated carbon emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This policy provides for a housing growth percentage of 11.7%, which is within the 14.6% capacity provided for in Dwr Cymru Welsh Water's (DCWW) Resource Management Plan. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support facilities and services leading to needs being met locally. |
| SA7 - Soil | | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | This supports a level of growth that will provide a significant number of affordable homes, in both urban and rural areas. Also, the creation of new jobs is likely to help retain young people in the county. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Growth and inward migration has the potential to |

| | | |
|--|----|--|
| | | dilute Welsh language and culture in certain areas. However, it does increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible leisure and health care facilities. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Growth, especially in rural areas, has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible educational and training facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Supports growth at a level that will create a minimum of 5,295 jobs over the plan period, in line with the Council's core ambitions. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This supports a level of growth that will provide a significant number of affordable homes in both urban and rural areas. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: Sufficient land will be allocated (on sites of 5 or more dwellings) to accommodate this requirement in accordance with the Settlement Framework and <u>sustainability principles</u> . | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

| | | |
|--|------------------|---|
| SP 4: Affordable Homes | | |
| The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of XXXX affordable homes. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy contributes positively to ensuring development is socially sustainable, by addressing the Well-being of all members of society and removing barriers to social inclusion. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | 0 | |
| SA3 – Air Quality | 0 | |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | 0 | |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | 0 | |

| | | |
|--|----|--|
| SA7 - Soil | 0 | |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 0 | |
| SA9 – Landscape | 0 | |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | Residents who otherwise may not be able to afford to live and work in the County are able to access affordable housing and remain in the County. In particular, this policy supports disadvantaged groups in society as well as young persons. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | + | Carmarthenshire has a large proportion of Welsh speakers and this policy will support residents who otherwise may not be able to afford to live and work in the County are able to access affordable housing and remain in the County. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Residents who otherwise may not be able to afford to live and work in the County are able to access affordable housing and remain in the County. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | Policy facilitates the delivery of affordable housing, which in turn, removes barriers and creates opportunities for disadvantaged sections of society. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
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| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 5: Strategic Sites | | |
| <p>In reflecting their contribution to the future growth requirements for Carmarthenshire and as key components of the City deal, the following 2 key Strategic Sites have been identified as making an important contribution to the overall provision for growth during the Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Llanelli Life Science and Well-being village • Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy looks to support a sustainable economy, and provides opportunity for needs to be met locally. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, but at a strategic level, it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. These will be assessed at a site appraisal stage. It should be noted that Llanelli Life Science and Well-being village is |

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| | | immediately adjacent to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Both sites are outside of the established AQMA's in both Carmarthen and Llanelli, however, have the potential to increase traffic and related air pollution. Both sites are strategic and well serviced by public transport networks. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Both sites have the potential to increase traffic and related air pollution. Both sites are strategic and well serviced by public transport networks. |
| SA5 – Water | ? | Information required from DCWW Review of Consents as to site specific capacity for growth with respect to water abstraction and waste water treatment. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | Both sites are well serviced and have access to facilities, allowing need to be met locally. They are also well serviced by public transport. |
| SA7 - Soil | | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, it is difficult to predict impacts at a strategic level. The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | This policy would contribute towards aligning development with significant, skilled employment opportunities which is likely to encourage the retention of young people in the county. The Llanelli Life Science and Well-being village is also in an area of high deprivation and so is likely to create opportunities for disadvantaged communities. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | + | Yr Egin is the base for the Welsh language broadcaster S4C and is a new development space for creative and digital companies with promotion of the Welsh language at the heart of the development. The significant job creation as a result of both strategic sites are likely to create opportunities for young people in the county, a large proportion of which are welsh speaking. However, uncertainty remains as to the effects of in migration of non-welsh speakers to the county as a result of these developments. |

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| SA12 – Health and Well-being | ++ | Llanelli Life Science and Well-being village is to be a wellness hub where multiple services will be available in one location. Aligning development with this will have positive effects on health and wellbeing. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ++ | Both facilities create opportunities for shared learning, inward investment and inflow of skills to the county, all of which are predicted to have strong positive effects. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Both facilities are part of significant inward investment to the county and have the potential to create thousands of high quality jobs. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | This policy would contribute towards aligning development with significant, skilled employment opportunities and in the case of Llanelli, in areas of high deprivation and so is likely to create opportunities for disadvantaged |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Reference should be made in the policy the any development of strategic sites will be subject to planning permission and should be based on sustainability principles. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 6: Employment and the Economy | | |
| Sufficient and appropriate land will be allocated for the provision of employment for the plan period 2018 – 2033 (figure to be quantified) in accordance with the Plan's Spatial Strategy / Settlement Framework. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will contribute positively to a sustainable economy and social inclusion. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, but at a strategic level, it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. These will be assessed at a site appraisal stage. It is likely that employment land will be allocated in rural areas which is likely to impact on greenfield land. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Allocation of employment land in line with the plans' spatial strategy/settlement framework is likely to reduce the need to travel, and as a result car related emissions. However, employment land will inevitably increase numbers and frequencies of HGV's which |

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| | | are likely to contribute to existing air quality issues. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | Allocation of employment land in line with the plans' spatial strategy/settlement framework is likely to decrease the need to travel. |
| SA5 – Water | ? | Development will increase the level of demand for water supply and sewerage discharge, but at a strategic level it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. These will be assessed at a site appraisal stage and will consider DCWW review of consents to determine capacity. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | Allocation of employment land in line with the plans' spatial strategy/settlement framework is likely to reduce the need to travel. |
| SA7 - Soil | | Any development infers the loss of soil/permeable surfaces to hard standing. However, it is difficult to predict impacts at a strategic level. The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will contribute positively to promoting the retention of young people and social inclusion. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Economic growth and resulting inward migration has the potential to dilute Welsh language and culture in certain areas. However, it does increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | 0 | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Creating a diverse range of employment opportunities increases the potential and accessibility of education and skills facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well as in support of the Swansea Bay City deal is likely to create numerous high quality employment opportunities which will contribute positively to a sustainable economy. |

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| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | Increasing employment land in both urban and rural areas will contribute positively to promoting the retention of young people and social inclusion. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: Sufficient and appropriate land will be allocated for the provision of employment opportunities for the Plan period (figure to be quantified) in accordance with the Plan's Spatial Strategy / Settlement Framework, and sustainability principles. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 7: Welsh Language and Culture | | |
| The Plan supports development proposals which safeguard and promote the interests of the Welsh language and culture in the County. Development proposals which have a detrimental impact on the vitality and viability of the Welsh language and culture will not be permitted unless the impact can be mitigated. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy looks to protect and enhance the social fabric of the County's communities. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | 0 | |
| SA3 – Air Quality | 0 | |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | 0 | |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | 0 | |
| SA7 - Soil | 0 | |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | + | This policy looks to protect local cultural distinctiveness from potential negative effects as a result of development. |
| SA9 – Landscape | 0 | |
| SA10 – Population | + | Promoting welsh language and ensuring sufficient employment and housing opportunities are likely to help retain young welsh speakers within the County. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | ++ | This Policy aligns directly with SA11. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | 0 | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Protecting and enhancing Welsh Language and Culture is likely to have a positive effect on Welsh literacy. |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Promoting welsh language and ensuring sufficient employment and housing opportunities are likely to help retain young welsh speakers within the County. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | This policy looks to protect and enhance the social fabric of the County's communities. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
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| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA |
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| SP 8: Infrastructure |
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Development will need to be directed to locations where the infrastructure, services and facilities considered necessary to deliver and support the development proposal are available.

Development proposals will need to demonstrate that there is sufficient capacity in the existing infrastructure to deliver and support the proposed development. Where this cannot be achieved, proposals will need to demonstrate that suitable arrangements are in place to provide the infrastructure capacity considered necessary to deliver and support the development.

Planning obligations may be sought to ensure that the infrastructure, services and facilities needed to deliver and support the development are delivered.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
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| SA1 – Sustainable Development | ++ | This policy underpins the ability to deliver develop sustainably, ensuring access to services and facilities and creating sustainable economic centres. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | +/- | Siting development in areas with sufficient infrastructure capacity may be at the detriment of biodiversity. However, encouraging needs to be catered for locally will reduce private car use and associated air pollution which currently impact on some European designated sites in Carmarthenshire. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | + | This policy will direct development to areas with capacity for growth including access to services and facilities which will reduce reliance on private car use. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | This policy will direct development to areas with capacity for growth including access to services and facilities which will reduce reliance on private car use. |
| SA5 – Water | + | Directing development to areas with sufficient or potential capacity for growth will ensure water resources are protected. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | This policy will direct development to areas with capacity for growth including access to services and facilities which will encourage needs to be met locally. |
| SA7 - Soil | - | Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure may reduce flexibility to promote regeneration of land. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | - | Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure may reduce flexibility to avoid sensitive cultural heritage and historic environment features. |

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| SA9 – Landscape | - | Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure may reduce flexibility to avoid sensitive landscape areas. |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | This policy will direct development to areas with capacity for growth including access to services and facilities which will maximise access to services and facilities, especially for disadvantaged members of society. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | This policy will increase accessibility to services and facilities including health and leisure facilities. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | This policy will increase accessibility to services and facilities including education and skills facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Development directed to locations with sufficient infrastructure is likely to create viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and market. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | This policy will direct development to areas with capacity for growth including access to services and facilities which will maximise access to services and facilities, especially for disadvantaged members of society. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: Development will need to be directed to sustainable locations where the infrastructure, services and facilities considered necessary to deliver and support the development proposal are available. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

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| SP 9: Gypsy and Traveller Provision | | |
| Land will be allocated within the Llanelli area to meet the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and to allow for the potential future expansion of Gypsy and Traveller Households. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy promotes the inclusion of Gypsy and Traveller community by allocating land to specifically address their housing need. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | | The alignment of this policy with SA2 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA3 – Air Quality | 0 | |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | 0 | |
| SA5 – Water | ? | Information required from DCWW Review of Consents as to site specific capacity for growth with respect to water abstraction and waste water treatment. |

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| SA6 – Material Assets | 0 | |
| SA7 - Soil | 1 | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 1 | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | 1 | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA10 – Population | + | This policy promotes the inclusion of Gypsy and Traveller community by allocating land to specifically address their housing need. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | 0 | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | 0 | |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This policy promotes the inclusion of Gypsy and Traveller community by allocating land to specifically address their housing need. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggested policy alteration: Land will be allocated <u>at a sustainable location</u> within the Llanelli area to meet the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and to allow for the potential future expansion of Gypsy and Traveller Households. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 10: The Visitor Economy | | |
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| Proposals for tourism related developments will be supported where they: | | |
| (a) add value to our visitor economy; and, | | |
| (b) preserve our social, economic and environmental fabric for future generations; | | |
| and, | | |
| (c) are sustainably located. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy contributes positively towards maintaining a sustainable economy in the County and promotes health and wellbeing. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | 1 | Any development infers potential for negative impacts on biodiversity, but at a strategic level, it is difficult to determine more specific impacts. The choice of sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which biodiversity would be affected. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | +/- | Increasing numbers of tourism related visitors to the county will potentially increase access via private car. However, the policy stipulates |

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| | | that tourism related development to be sustainably located will ensure that developments are located in areas that are accessible by public transport. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | +/- | Increasing numbers of tourism related visitors to the county will potentially increase access via private car. However, the policy stipulates that tourism related development to be sustainably located will ensure that developments are located in areas that are accessible by public transport. |
| SA5 – Water | I | There is potential for tourism related activities may extend to riverine and coastal environments, which may have repercussions for water quality, however the policy expressly states that developments should not have any significant impact on the natural environment. The choice of sites and the manner in which they are developed would determine the way in which water would be affected. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | Ensuring tourism related development reflects the Plan's settlement framework supports the intention to meet needs locally and reduce the need to travel. |
| SA7 - Soil | I | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | Development has the potential to impact of features of landscape importance however the policy expressly states that developments should not have any significant impact on the landscape. Effects will depend on the implementation of the policy. |
| SA10 – Population | + | Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire's economy and a major source of employment. Increasing tourism jobs is likely to contribute to the retention of young people in the county. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Economic growth and resulting inward migration has the potential to dilute Welsh language and culture in certain areas. However, it does increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | ++ | Tourism facilities aligned with corporate policies such as the County's cycling aspirations has the potential to encourage walking/cycling, access to natural and cultural heritage and access to health and recreation facilities. |

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| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Provision for year round tourism related initiatives is likely to result in an increase in employment and associated education, skills and training opportunities. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | This policy looks to facilitate tourism related development, which is a key component of Carmarthenshire’s economy and a major source of employment. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | Tourism is a key component of Carmarthenshire’s economy and a major source of employment. Increasing tourism jobs is likely to contribute to the retention of young people in the county. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

SP 11: Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design

In order to facilitate sustainable development, new development should acknowledge local distinctiveness and sense of place, and be designed to high standards that are adaptable to climate change.

In order to achieve this, all development should:

- Contribute towards the creation of attractive, safe places and public spaces, which enhance the well-being of communities, including safeguarding amenity, landscaping, the public realm and the provision of open space and recreation;
- Retain and, where appropriate, incorporate new green infrastructure which encourages (creates?) opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity;
- Be adaptable to climate change and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;
- Exhibit and demonstrate a clear understanding of the existing natural and built heritage, local character and sense of place;
- Be accessible and integrated allowing permeability and ease of movement;
- Have regard to the generation, treatment and disposal of waste;
- Manage water sustainably, including incorporating sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) into development proposals where feasible.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
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| SA1 – Sustainable Development | ++ | This policy supports sustainable development and includes regard to Well-being and integration of communities. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | + | Retention and creation of green infrastructure creates opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity. |

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| SA3 – Air Quality | + | Retention and creation of green infrastructure will contribute to the filtering and removal of pollutants from the air. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | ++ | Retention and creation of green infrastructure can mitigate effects of climate change by recycling CO ₂ and also providing cooling effects and absorption of rain water which can reduce risk of flooding. This policy encourages development to be adaptable to climate change and encourages regard to be had to incorporating SuDS into development where feasible. |
| SA5 – Water | + | Encouraging the incorporation of SUDS into future development as well as retention and creation of green infrastructure aligns positively with SA5. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | This policy encourages new development to have regard for generation, treatment and disposal of waste. |
| SA7 - Soil | + | Retention and creation of green infrastructure aligns positively with the avoidance of loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | + | This policy actively seeks to promote high quality design that reflects local character and distinctiveness. |
| SA9 – Landscape | + | This policy actively seeks to promote high quality design in keeping with the surrounding landscape. |
| SA10 – Population | + | This policy encourages the creation of safe, attractive and accessible environments which in turn, create attractive spaces for all members of society, including young people and disadvantaged groups. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | This policy encourages new development to have regard for Well-being and, in particular, access to open space and recreation. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Creation of vibrant, safe and sustainable communities is likely to encourage the retention and inflow of people to Carmarthenshire, which will contribute positively to the economy. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This policy encourages the creation of safe, attractive and accessible environments which in turn, create attractive spaces for all members of society, including young people and disadvantaged groups. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest specific reference is made to energy efficient design. <p>Suggested policy alteration: Be adaptable to climate change, promote energy efficiency and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;</p> | | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest reference to use of sustainable materials? Suggested policy alteration: Be adaptable to climate change and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located, and that are, where feasible, sustainable. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest reference to recycling of waste Have regard to the generation, treatment, disposal and recycling of waste |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen wording for biodiversity Suggested policy alteration: Retain and, where appropriate, incorporate new green infrastructure which encourages (creates?) opportunities to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity |
| LDP Response |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA |

| SP 12: Rural Development | | |
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| <p>The Plan supports development proposals which will contribute towards the sustainability of the County’s rural communities. Development proposals in rural areas should demonstrate that they are proportionate in scale and that they support the rural settlements’ role in the settlement hierarchy to meet the housing, employment and social needs of Carmarthenshire’s rural communities.</p> | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | This policy contributes positively towards maintaining a sustainable economy in the County and promotes health, wellbeing and social inclusion. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | This policy supports increased development in rural areas which is likely to increase development of greenfield land and have a negative impact on currently undisturbed and biodiversity sensitive areas. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | + | Promoting development in rural areas will alleviate pressure on urban areas that are close to or in breach of UK air quality objectives. Retention of facilities and services in rural settlements will also contribute positively by reducing private car use. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | Retention of facilities and services in rural settlements will also contribute positively by reducing private car use thereby reducing transport related carbon emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | - | Rural development is likely to result in a loss of permeable greenfield land to hard standing, potentially increasing flood risk and surface run off. This policy specifically states that development must consider effects on local infrastructure, which would include water supply and sewerage discharge. |

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| SA6 – Material Assets | + | This policy supports the retention of facilities and services in rural settlements and therefore aids in addressing needs locally. |
| SA7 - Soil | - | Rural development is likely to result in a loss of permeable greenfield land to hard standing. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | - | Rural development is unlikely to result in derelict land being repurposed. The county has a number of Special Landscape Areas (SLA) which are largely rural which may be negatively impacted. |
| SA10 – Population | + | Retention and enhancement of rural facilities, services and employment opportunities is likely to have a positive effect on the retention of young people and inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society. |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Economic growth in rural areas has the potential to dilute Welsh language and culture due to in migration of people, potentially from outside of the County. However, it does increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Rural development would increase access to green spaces and the County's natural and cultural heritage. Retention and enhancement of rural facilities, services will also ensure access to local health and recreation services are likely to be protected. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | This policy facilitates the retention and enhancement of rural facilities and services which is likely to ensure access to rural education facilities are protected. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | This policy seeks to address economic disparity between the north and south of the county, by providing local employment supported by a local workforce in rural area. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | Retention and enhancement of rural facilities, services and employment opportunities is likely to have a positive effect on the retention of young people and inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Make reference in policy to accessibility to public transport? Reference to placemaking and design SPG to reduce impacts on landscape and cultural heritage and encourage high quality design. Regard to SLA's which are largely rural. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment | | |
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| Proposals for development will be expected to protect and enhance the County's natural environment. | | |
| Proposal must reflect the role an ecologically connected environment has in protecting and enhancing biodiversity, defining the landscape, creating a sense place and contributing to the sense of well-being. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | ++ | This policy directly aligns with SA2 to protect and enhance the natural environment. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | + | Protection and enhancement of the natural environment will contribute to the filtering and removal of pollutants from the air. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | Protection and enhancement of the natural environment can mitigate effects of climate change by recycling CO ₂ and also providing cooling effects and absorption of rain water which can reduce risk of flooding. |
| SA5 – Water | + | This policy includes the protection and enhancement of waterbodies. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | | |
| SA7 - Soil | + | This policy includes the protection and enhancement of soil resources. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | | |
| SA9 – Landscape | + | This policy directly refers to the protection and enhancement of Carmarthenshire's landscape. |
| SA10 – Population | | |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Protecting and enhancing the County's natural assets will directly support promoting access to Carmarthenshire's natural heritage. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Protection of Carmarthenshire's natural assets preserves the biodiversity and unique natural environment within the County, which enhances the tourism and visitor economy. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
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| LDP Response | | |
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| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
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| SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment. | | |
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| Development proposals should preserve or enhance the built and historic environment of the County, its cultural, townscape and landscape assets, and, where appropriate, their setting. | | |
| Proposals will be expected to promote high quality design that reinforces local character and respects and enhances the cultural and historic qualities of the plan area. | | |
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | + | Protection of the built and historic environment contributes positively towards sustainable development and well-being objectives. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | 0 | |
| SA3 – Air Quality | 0 | |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | 0 | |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | 0 | |
| SA7 - Soil | 0 | |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | ++ | This policy directly supports the protection and enhancement of Carmarthenshire’s cultural heritage and high quality design. |
| SA9 – Landscape | + | This policy directly supports the safeguarding of the County’s townscapes and landscapes. |
| SA10 – Population | 0 | |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Protection of the built and historic environment preserves access to cultural heritage for Well-being purposes. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Protection of Carmarthenshire’s cultural assets preserves the diversity and rich heritage of the County, which enhances the tourism and visitor economy. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 0 | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |

| SP 15: Climate Change |
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| Where development proposals respond to, are resilient to, adapt to and minimise the causes and impacts of climate change they will be supported. In particular proposals will be supported where they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. reflect sustainable transport principles and minimise the need to travel, particularly by private motor car; b. Avoid, or where appropriate, minimise the risk of flooding including the incorporation of measures such as SUDS and flood resilient design; c. Promote the energy hierarchy by reducing energy demand, promoting energy efficiency and increasing the supply of renewable energy; |

| <p>d. Incorporate appropriate climate responsive design solutions including orientation, layout, density and low carbon solutions (including design and construction methods) and utilise sustainable construction methods where feasible.</p> <p>Proposals for development which are located within areas at risk from flooding will be resisted unless they accord with the provisions of Planning Policy Wales TAN 15.</p> | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | ++ | Policy supports climate resilience in future development and will contribute to reducing Carmarthenshire's carbon footprint. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | + | Encouraging sustainable transport will in turn have positive effects on air quality, which currently impacts on certain designated sites in the County. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | + | Encouraging sustainable transport will in turn have positive effects on air quality by reducing car related emissions. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | ++ | This policy supports the reduction of carbon emissions as well as future proofing new development to the risks of flooding, including reference to TAN 15. It also encourages all new development to be energy efficient and to incorporate climate resilient design. |
| SA5 – Water | + | Encouraging the incorporation of SUDS into future development as well as flood resilient design align positively with SA5. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | This policy ensures the consideration of sustainable transport in new development. |
| SA7 - Soil | 0 | |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 0 | |
| SA9 – Landscape | 0 | |
| SA10 – Population | 0 | |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Minimising the need to travel supports active travel. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | ? | Has the potential to foster the development of skills associated with delivering innovative, climate responsive design. |
| SA14 – Economy | 0 | |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 0 | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggest specific reference is made to a reduction in carbon emissions in policy. | | |
| <p>Suggested policy alteration: To contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions by reflecting sustainable transport principles and minimising the need to travel, particularly by private motor car</p> | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
| | | |

SP 16: Sustainable Distribution - Settlement Hierarchy

The provision of growth and development will be directed to sustainable locations in accordance with the following spatial framework.

Cluster 1

Tier 1: Carmarthen

Tier 2: Pontyates/Meinciau/Ponthenri, Kidwelly, Ferryside

Cluster 2:

Tier 1: Llanelli

Tier 2: Burry Port, Pembrey, Fforest/Hendy, Llangennech, Trimsaran/Caraway, Kidwelly, Ferryside

Cluster 3

Tier 1: Ammanford/Crosshands

Tier 2: Brynamman, Glanamman/Garnant, Pontyberem/Bancffosfelyn

Cluster 4

Tier 1: N/A

Tier 2: Newcastle Emlyn, Llanybydder, Pencader

Cluster 5

Tier 1: N/A

Tier 2: Llandovery, Llandeilo, Llangadog

Cluster 6

Tier 1: N/A

Tier 2: St Clears/Pwll Trap, Whitland, Laugharne

Tiers 3/4 for each cluster are listed in full in Appendix 4.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | ++ | The division of the settlement hierarchy into clusters provides a framework for sustainable development, allowing needs to be addressed locally and supporting a sustainable economy, in both rural and urban areas of the County. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Provision of growth and development, to rural areas is likely to impact on greenfield land and undisturbed areas of biodiversity. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | + | Directing growth to sustainable locations with sufficient access to facilities, services and public transport links is likely to reduce private car use and associated air pollution. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | Directing growth to sustainable locations with sufficient access to facilities, services and transport is likely to reduce private car use and associated carbon emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | ? | Information required from DCWW Review of Consents as to site specific capacity for |

| | | |
|--|-----|---|
| | | growth with respect to water abstraction and waste water treatment. |
| SA6 – Material Assets | ++ | Directing growth to sustainable locations with sufficient access to facilities and services is likely to allow needs to be met locally. It is also likely to maximise access to public transport. |
| SA7 - Soil | I | The alignment of this policy with SA7 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA9 – Landscape | I | The alignment of this policy with SA9 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed |
| SA10 – Population | ++ | Distribution of development to sustainable locations in both urban and rural settlements is likely to result in vibrant and viable communities, which will in turn help to retain and attract young people |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | +/- | Alignment of this policy with SA11 is difficult to determine. Growth and inward migration has the potential to dilute Welsh language and culture in certain areas. However, it does increase the potential for retaining young Welsh speakers in the county and so may also have a positive effect. |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | Growth in line with the settlement hierarchy has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible leisure and health care facilities. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | Growth in line with the settlement hierarchy has the potential to create and/or retain communities with population densities high enough to support new, accessible educational and training facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | ++ | Growth in line with the settlement hierarchy provides opportunity to support sustainable rural and urban economies across the county. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | ++ | Growth in line with the settlement hierarchy provides opportunity to address needs locally and to promote the design of vibrant, inclusive settlements. |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
| | | |

SP 17: Transport and Accessibility

Sustainable and deliverable development requires an integrated, accessible, reliable, efficient, safe and sustainable transport network to underpin delivery. The Plan therefore contributes to the delivery of a sustainable transport system and associated infrastructure through:

- a). Reducing the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;
- b) Addressing social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities;
- c) Supporting and where applicable enhancing alternatives to the motor car, such as public transport (including park and ride facilities and encourage the adoption of travel plans) and active transport through cycling and walking;
- d) Re-enforcing the function and role of settlements in accordance with the settlement framework;
- e) Promoting the efficient use of the transport network;
- f) Enhancing accessibility to employment, homes, services and facilities at locations accessible to appropriate transport infrastructure – including significant trip generating proposals;
- g) The incorporation of design and access solutions within developments to promote accessibility. Provide walking and cycling routes, linking in with active travel networks and green infrastructure networks; and
- h) Adopt a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking.

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|--|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | ++ | This policy underpins the ability to deliver develop sustainably, by reducing private car use and ensuring access to services and facilities. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | + | Reduced private car use will decrease related air pollutants that have negative effects on European designated sites in some areas of Carmarthenshire. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | ++ | This policy will contribute to the delivery of a sustainable travel network which will have strong positive effects on improving air quality. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | + | This policy will contribute to the delivery of a sustainable travel network which will reduce private car use and associated greenhouse gas emissions. |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | ++ | This policy will contribute to the delivery of a sustainable travel network including active travel such as walking and cycling. |
| SA7 - Soil | 0 | |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | 0 | |
| SA9 – Landscape | 0 | |
| SA10 – Population | + | This policy looks to address social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | + | This policy looks to increase accessibility to services and facilities including health and leisure facilities. |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| SA13 – Education and Skills | + | This policy looks to increased accessibility to services and facilities including education and skills facilities. |
| SA14 – Economy | 0 | |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | + | This policy looks to address social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| None Suggested | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
| | | |

SP 18: Mineral Resources

The County's identified mineral resources will be sustainably managed by:

- a) Ensuring supply by maintaining an adequate landbank of permitted aggregate reserves (hard rock and sand and gravel) throughout the Plan period;
- b) Encouraging the efficient and appropriate use of high quality minerals and maximising the potential for the re-use and recycling of suitable minerals as an alternative to primary won aggregates;
- c) Safeguarding areas underlain by minerals of economic importance where they could be worked in the future to ensure that such resources are not unnecessarily sterilised by other forms of development;
- d) The use of buffer zones to reduce the conflict between mineral development and sensitive development;
- e) Securing appropriate restoration which can deliver specific environmental and community benefits

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | I | The alignment of this policy with SA1 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so has less flexibility to avoid impacts on sensitive ecological features. Mineral workings are also likely to be situated in undeveloped areas. |
| SA3 – Air Quality | - | The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so reducing distances required to travel in order to transport goods will be difficult. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | - | The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so reducing distances required to travel in order to transport goods will be difficult. |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | ? | This policy safeguards aggregate reserves to ensure their future availability. However, the extraction of mineral resources must be balanced with the use of recycled and secondary materials. |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| SA7 - Soil | - | The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so has less flexibility to avoid impacts on specific soil resources. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | - | The location of aggregates is driven by site specific geological conditions and so has less flexibility to avoid impacts on sensitive landscape areas. Mineral workings are also likely to be situated in undeveloped areas. |
| SA10 – Population | 0 | |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | 0 | |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | Extraction of aggregates supports development and economic growth. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 0 | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| Suggest more in the supporting text to support point (e) securing appropriate restoration which can deliver specific- environmental and community benefits. | | |
| Reference to access to transport links such as rail/or water transport as opposed to road haulage. | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
| | | |

SP 19: Waste Management

Provision will be made to facilitate the sustainable management of waste through:

- The allocation of adequate appropriate land to provide for an integrated network of waste management facilities;
- Supporting proposals for waste management which involve the management of waste in accordance with the ranking set out within in the waste hierarchy;
- Supporting proposals for new in-building waste management facilities at existing and allocated industrial sites which are suitable for waste management facilities;
- Acknowledging that certain types of waste facility may need to be located outside the development limits of settlements;
- Ensuring that provision is made for the sustainable management of waste in all new development, including securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste;

| SA Objective | Appraisal | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---|
| SA1 – Sustainable Development | I | The alignment of this policy with SA1 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA2 – Biodiversity | - | Development or disposal from waste may adversely impact natural habitats. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SA3 – Air Quality | I | Energy from Waste (EfW) sites are tightly regulated with respect to pollutants such as SO ₂ , NO _x , HCl and CO. Effects ultimately depend on the type and location of waste management facilities. |
| SA4 – Climatic Factors | I | Energy from Waste (EfW) sites are tightly regulated with respect to pollutants such as SO ₂ , NO _x , HCl and CO. Effects ultimately depend on the type and location of waste management facilities. |
| SA5 – Water | 0 | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | + | This policy directly refers to the waste hierarchy and the promotion of recycling and minimising waste. |
| SA7 - Soil | - | Waste disposal including landfill and disposal of ash from EfW sites may adversely affect soil resources. |
| SA8 – Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | I | The alignment of this policy with SA8 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA9 – Landscape | - | Proposals for waste management have the potential to have a negative impact on landscapes |
| SA10 – Population | 0 | |
| SA11 – Welsh Language | 0 | |
| SA12 – Health and Well-being | I | The alignment of this policy with SA12 is dependent on the choice of sites and manner in which they are developed. |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 0 | |
| SA14 – Economy | + | New waste management sites generate jobs and local, long term employment opportunities. |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 0 | |
| SA Comments and Suggestions | | |
| <p>Policy should include a criterion stating that no significant impacts in the environment should occur as a result of waste management proposals.</p> <p>Suggest more in the supporting text regarding sustainable location of waste management facilities especially when situated outside of development limits.</p> <p>Make reference to design of buildings being in keeping with surrounding landscape.</p> <p>Include reference to the proximity principle to minimise distance between where waste is generated and managed.</p> | | |
| LDP Response | | |
| | | |
| Changes made to policy as a result of SA | | |
| | | |

7. Overall Effects and Mitigation

Figure 8 brings together the previous appraisals of Chapters 5 and 6 to show what the overall cumulative impacts of the Preferred Strategy would be.

Overall, the Preferred Strategy would have significant benefits in terms of providing the housing and employment land required to support sustainable growth in Carmarthenshire. It performs well against the socio-economic objectives of the sustainability framework, with strategic options that look to improve access to good quality jobs, services and infrastructure across the County, with a view to addressing some of the disparity between rural and urban areas. The Preferred Strategy also aims to improve health and well-being across the County, with better housing, access to open space and active travel facilities.

As is the case with any development, some potential negative impacts remain, in particular with regards to biodiversity, air quality and climatic factors. However, with suitable mitigation in place, this negative impact can be reduced.

Some mitigation measures have already been implemented within the Strategy as a result of the SA appraisal, such as the selection of a Hybrid spatial option that looked to combine the best aspects of the existing alternatives. The Sustainability has also suggested some changes to the wording of the Strategic Policies which are detailed in Chapter 6 of this report. Table 8 proposed measures to avoid or reduce additional plan-wide impacts of the Preferred Strategy. It also makes suggestions for how to improve the benefits of the Preferred Strategy as well as addressing some uncertainty that may remain.

Table 7 Residual Impacts of Preferred Strategy and Suggested Mitigation.

| Significant impacts of the Preferred Strategy | Suggestions for avoiding or mitigating negative impacts or enhancing positive ones | LDP Response |
|---|---|--------------|
| Capacity for water infrastructure to facilitate growth is unclear | Confirm with Dŵr Cymru that water provision and wastewater treatment infrastructure will be adequate for the amount of development being proposed | |
| Potential for development in Llanelli to be directed to areas within C1/C2 flood zones | Llanelli flood work? | |
| Potential for increasing development in Llanelli which may increase pressure on sewerage infrastructure which may have implications for the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries Marine Site. | Review of current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Carmarthenshire County Council, Swansea Council, Dwr Cymru and Natural Resources Wales to ensure it is still for purpose. | |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | Ensure the incorporation of SuDS into new development proposals where feasible with a specific policy, including a requirement for demonstration of accordance with section 8 of TAN 15, as well as the existing SPG on Place Making and Design. | |
| Air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions likely to increase with projected growth over the plan period. | Ensure site allocations are sustainably located with sufficient access to public transport. | |
| | A specific policy relating to improvement of air quality detailing how air quality, with particular regard to NO ₂ and the three existing AQMA's, can be both conserved and enhanced under the new plan. | |
| | A specific policy should also require the retention, protection and enhancement of a network of landscape features that contribute to air purification, such as trees, natural vegetation or other green infrastructure. | |
| | Requirement for new development to show regard of the AQMA action plans as well as the UK Air Quality Strategy and objectives, and any proposals with potential adverse effects on National and/or International sites of biodiversity importance should require mitigation measures to be implemented. | |
| Potential impacts on biodiversity as a result of development | Ensure a specific policy that reflects the Environment Act with regards to protection and enhancement of biodiversity. | |
| Other possibilities for improving benefits or reducing impacts | Suggest a green infrastructure plan that coordinates the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure throughout the county with regards to development. | |

Figure 8 Summary of Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Strategy

| SA Objective | SA1 Sustainable Development | SA2 Biodiversity | SA3 Air Quality | SA4 Climatic Factors | SA5 Water | SA6 –Material Assets | SA7 Soil | SA8 Cultural heritage and Historic Environment | SA9 Landscape | SA10 Population | SA11 The Welsh Language | SA12 Health and Well-being | SA13 Education and Skills | SA14 Economy | SA15 Social Fabric |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|--|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Vision | + | + | ? | ? | ? | + | ? | ? | ? | + | | + | + | + | + |
| Objectives | ++ | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | ++ | + | + | + | + | ++ |
| Growth Option 4 | + | +/- | +/- | +/- | ? | | +/- | | | + | + | ? | ? | + | + |
| Spatial Option Hybrid | + | | + | +/- | + | + | | | | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ |
| Strategic Policies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SP1 | + | - | - | - | ? | + | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | + |
| SP2 | + | | +/- | +/- | | | | | + | + | | | | ++ | |
| SP3 | + | - | - | - | + | + | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | + |
| SP4 | + | | | | | | | | | ++ | + | + | + | + | ++ |
| SP5 | + | - | +/- | +/- | ? | + | | | | ++ | + | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ |
| SP6 | + | - | +/- | + | ? | + | | | | ++ | +/- | | + | ++ | + |
| SP7 | + | | | | | | | + | | + | ++ | | + | + | ++ |
| SP8 | ++ | +/- | + | + | + | + | - | - | - | ++ | | + | + | + | ++ |
| SP9 | + | | | | ? | | | | | + | | | | | + |
| SP10 | + | | +/- | +/- | | + | | | | + | +/- | ++ | + | ++ | + |
| SP11 | ++ | + | + | ++ | + | + | + | + | + | + | | + | | + | + |
| SP12 | + | - | + | + | - | + | - | | - | + | +/- | + | + | ++ | ++ |
| SP13 | + | ++ | + | + | + | | + | | + | | | + | | + | |
| SP14 | + | | | | | | | ++ | + | | | + | | + | |
| SP15 | ++ | + | + | ++ | + | + | | | | | | + | ? | | |
| SP16 | ++ | - | + | + | ? | ++ | | | | ++ | +/- | + | + | ++ | ++ |
| SP17 | ++ | + | ++ | + | | ++ | | | | + | | + | + | | + |
| SP18 | | - | - | - | | ? | - | | - | | | | | + | |
| SP19 | | - | | | | + | - | | - | | | | | + | |

8. Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring Framework

The LDP Deposit Plan will set out a monitoring framework which will assess not only how effectively the LDP is performing but also the SA implications. This will in turn help inform the LPA when it considers the need to review and amend the LDP. The results will be reported and published through the LDP Annual Monitoring Report.

At the Preferred Strategy stage of the LDP process, proposals and policies are only at a strategic stage and so it is difficult to set out a detailed monitoring framework. The SA monitoring framework will be finalised at Stage E of the SA process and is therefore at this stage evolving and subject to change as a result of emerging policies at local and national levels and consultation.

The SA Monitoring Framework is outlined in Table 8 below. The sources for each of the data sets referred to are listed in Appendix 2.

Table 8 Draft Sustainability Monitoring Framework

| SA Topic | SA Objective | Monitoring Indicator | Target/Trend |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| SA1 Sustainable Development | 1-1 To live within environmental limits | The Ecological Footprint of Wales | Reducing |
| | 1-2 To ensure a strong, healthy and just society | | |
| | 1-3 To achieve a sustainable economy | Monitored via SA14 | |
| | 1-4 To remove barriers and promoting opportunities for behavioural change | | |
| SA2 Biodiversity | 2-1 To avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement | Number of planning applications granted which have an adverse effect on the : a) integrity of Natura 2000 site b) integrity of designated site for nature conservation c) favourable conservation status of European protected species | No applications granted which have an adverse effect on a), b) or c) |
| | 2-2 To protect, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity in urban and rural areas | | |
| SA3 Air Quality | 3-1 To maintain/reduce the levels of the UK national air quality pollutants | Air Quality Indicators (by Local Authority). Modelled, population weighted average concentrations. | Reducing |
| | | Number of breaches of EU/UK NO2 Air Quality objectives in Carmarthenshire. | Reducing |
| | 3-2 To reduce levels of ground level ozone | | |
| | 3-3 To reduce the need to travel through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public transport infrastructure | Total traffic on major roads (by Local Authority) • Cars | Reducing |
| SA4 Climatic Factors | 4-1 To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases | Annual CO2 emissions estimates (by Local Authority) | Reducing |
| | 4-2 To minimise the vulnerability of Carmarthenshire to the effects of climate change through making space for water, coastal retreat and shifting habitat distribution patterns | Number of applications permitted within C1 and C2 floodplain areas contrary to advice of DCWW/NRW | No applications permitted contrary to DCWW/NRW advice |
| | 4-3 To encourage all new developments to be climate resilient | | |
| | 4-4 To encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency | | |
| | 4-5 To minimise energy consumption and promote renewable energy sources | a) Number of, and b) Installed capacity permitted renewable energy and low carbon technology developments. | Increasing |
| SA5 Water | 5-1 To ensure water quality of rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal areas is improved and ensure that the hydromorphological quality of the water bodies is maximised | Annual Bathing Water Quality classification for a) Pembrey b) Pendine bathing sites in Carmarthenshire | Maintain excellent water quality classification |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| | | % water bodies at 'good' classification status or above for a) Ecological status b) Chemical status | a) Increase b) Increase |
| | 5-2 To protect and maintain water resources in the public supply chain and ensure enough water is available for the environment at all times of the year | Carmarthen Bay Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Water resource availability | No reduction |
| | 5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas | Percentage of permitted sites that incorporate SUDS. | Increasing |
| | 5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments | Number of houses built meeting the water efficiency threshold set by the government in Building Regulation Part G2.36(1). | Increasing |
| | 5-5 To make space for water and minimise flood risk | Number of applications permitted within C1 and C2 floodplain areas contrary to advice of DCWW/NRW | No applications permitted contrary to DCWW/NRW advice |
| | | Number of properties (homes and businesses) at medium or high risk of flooding from rivers and the sea | |
| SA6 – Material Assets | 6-1 Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials | | |
| | 6-2 Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle | % Waste reuse/recycling/composting (by Local Authority) | Increasing |
| | 6-3 Encourage needs to be met locally | | |
| | 6-4 Promote the use of more sustainable resources | | |
| | 6-5 Improve the integration of different modes of transport | Percentage of total traffic a) Bicycles b) Buses and Coaches c) Cars | a) Increasing b) Increasing c) Decreasing |
| | 6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycling and walking) | Total Annual Bicycle Counts (Carmarthenshire Active Travel) | Increasing |
| SA7 - Soil | 7-1 To avoid and reduce contamination of soils and promote the regeneration of contaminated land | Area of contaminated land | Decreasing |
| | 7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimised soil erosion | Percentage of permitted developments that incorporate SUDS. | Increasing |
| | 7-3 To reduce SO ₂ and NO _x emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture | | |
| SA 8 | 8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from | Number of developments permitted adversely impacting | No development permitted adversely |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Cu | negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement | upon buildings and areas of built or historical interest and their setting | impacting upon buildings and areas of built or historical interest and their setting |
| | 8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness | Number of applications refused on design grounds | For reference |
| SA9 - Landscape | 9-1 To protect and enhance landscape/townscape from negative effects of land use change | | |
| | 9-2 To take sensitive locations into account when siting development and promote high quality design | Number of developments permitted which have an adverse impact on a Special Landscape Area | No developments permitted which have an adverse impact on a Special Landscape Area |
| | 9-3 To encourage appropriate future use of derelict land | | |
| SA10 - Population | 10-1 Ensure suitable, affordable housing stock with access to education and employment facilities | Number of affordable dwellings permitted | |
| | 10-2 Promote the retention of younger people | % persons aged a) 15-29 b) 30 – 44 residing in Carmarthenshire | Increasing |
| | 10-3 Promote inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society | Percentage of people agreeing a) that they belong to the area; b) that people from different backgrounds get on well together c) that people treat each other with respect. | Increasing |
| SA11 – The Welsh Language | 11-1 Encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture | % of people who can speak Welsh (by Local Authority) | Increasing |
| SA12 – Health and Well-Being | 12-1 Create opportunities for people to live active, healthy lifestyles through planning activities | Percentage of adults reported as being a) overweight b) obese (by Health Board) | Decreasing |
| | 12-2 Provide access to health and recreation facilities and services | Percentage of people satisfied/very satisfied with their ability to get to/access the facilities and services they need (by Local Authority) | Increasing |
| | 12-3 Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation | Total Annual Bicycle Counts (Carmarthenshire Active Travel) | Increasing |
| | | Percentage of people surveyed method of travel to work (by Local Authority) (a) On foot (b) By bicycle (c) By Car | (a) Increasing (b) Increasing (c) Decreasing |
| 12-4 Promote access to Wales' natural and cultural heritage | Amount of open space lost to development (ha) | No open space lost to development | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| | | Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year.(by Local Authority) | Increasing |
| SA13 – Education and Skills | 13-1 Provide accessible educational and training facilities which meet the future need of the area | | |
| | 13-2 Increase levels of literacy (in both Welsh and English) and numeracy | | |
| | 13-3 Promote lifelong learning | Level of highest qualification held by adults of working age in Wales (by Local Authority). | |
| SA14 - Economy | 14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth | Gross Value Added (GVA) per head (South West Wales value) | Increasing |
| | 14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population | Percentage of population in part and full time or self-employment | Increasing |
| | | Amount of employment land lost to non-employment uses | No loss of employment land |
| | 14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales | Number of new active businesses in Carmarthenshire | Increasing |
| | | Number of active business closures in Carmarthenshire | Decreasing |
| SA15 – Social Fabric | 15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property | Average annual crime level (Carmarthenshire) | Decreasing |
| | | Probability of feeling safe (by local authority) | Increasing |
| | 15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions | Probability of having a strong sense of community (by local authority area) | Increasing |
| | | Percentage of people agreeing a) that they belong to the area; b) that people from different backgrounds get on well together c) that people treat each other with respect. | Increasing |
| | 15-3 Promote the deliverability of affordable housing | Proportion of affordable housing as a percentage of new homes delivered | |
| | 15-4 Improve accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society | Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need | Increasing |

9. Conclusions and Next Steps

Conclusions

The SA has described and evaluated the likely significant effects of the revised LDP Preferred Strategy and has been produced in accordance with Regulation 12(5).

A core principle of the preferred strategy is to deliver sustainable development over the lifetime of the revised LDP, by supporting sufficient residential growth that meets the County's needs; permitting development that encourages economic growth; ensuring there is a sufficient social infrastructure to meet community needs and protecting and, where possible, enhancing, the County's natural environment.

It is recognised that the SA has been strategic, due to the nature of the Preferred Strategy. However, it is important that conflicts raised in the SA are adequately addressed and mitigated in the LDP Deposit Plan. Particular regard should be made to:

- Biodiversity and habitat loss
- Increasing traffic and the associated impacts on air quality
- Impacts on the water environment in line with WFD and HRA requirements

Next Stages of the SA Process

This SA report will be available for public consultation alongside the revised LDP Preferred Strategy for a **XX** week period between **XXX** and **XXX**. A non-technical summary is also available, as well as this full version of the document. Copies of these documents are available from the Forward Planning Section of Carmarthenshire County Council or can be viewed on the Authority's website: www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

The SA reports can also be inspected at the Council's Customer Service Centres and at Planning Offices in Carmarthen, Llanelli and Llandeilo.

Responses to this consultation may be made online at xxxxxx or forms may be downloaded from the website and are also available from the above locations or by contacting the Forward Planning Section directly.

Your views on the SA Initial Report should be sent in writing to:

Forward Planning Section,
Environment Department,
7/8 Spilman Street,
Carmarthen,
Carmarthenshire,
SA31 1JT

Or via email: forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Or online at: www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1 Sustainability Appraisal Framework

| SA Objectives | Decision Making Influences |
|---|--|
| 1 Sustainable Development | |
| 1-1 To live within environmental limits 1-2 To ensure a strong, healthy and just society 1-3 To achieve a sustainable economy 1-4 To remove barriers and promoting opportunities for behavioural change | Will the LDP contribute to reducing resource consumption? Will the LDP encourage needs to be met locally? Will the LDP encourage individuals, companies and businesses to make more sustainable choices? |
| 2 Biodiversity | |
| 2.1 To avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement 2-2 To protect, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity in urban and rural areas | Are there any designated or non-statutory nature conservation sites that may be affected by the LDP? Is there any evidence of protected species that may be affected? Will there be any opportunities for enhancing or recovering wildlife resources? Will there be any opportunities to create new habitats? |
| 3 Air Quality | |
| 3-1 To maintain/reduce the levels of the UK National Air Quality pollutants 3-2 To reduce levels of ground level ozone 3-3 To reduce the need to travel, through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public transport infrastructure | Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on the existing air quality baseline? Will the LDP increase or decrease the emissions of air pollutants from developments? Will the LDP increase or decrease the emissions of air pollutants from transport? |
| 4 Climactic Factors | |
| 4-1 To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases 4-2 To minimise the vulnerability of Carmarthenshire to the effects of climate change through making space for water, coastal retreat and shifting habitat distribution patterns 4-3 To encourage all new developments to be climate resilient 4-4 To encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency. 4-5 To minimise energy consumption and promote renewable energy sources. | Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on the emissions of carbon dioxide from new development in the County? Will the LDP contribute to a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from traditional forms of energy generation? Will the LDP put a larger number of residents at risk of flooding? |

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| | <p>Are new developments climate resilient?</p> <p>Does the LDP leave room for habitat adjustment and coastal and fluvial flood water?</p> |
| 5 Water | |
| <p>5-1 To ensure water quality of rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal areas is improved and ensure that the hydromorphological quality of water bodies is maximised.</p> <p>5-2 To protect and maintain water resources in the public supply chain and ensure enough water is available for the environment at all times of year.</p> <p>5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas.</p> <p>5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments</p> <p>5-5 To make space for water, and minimise flood risk</p> | <p>Will there be an increase or decrease in the discharge of pollutants to water?</p> <p>Will there be an increase or decrease in water consumption from development?</p> <p>Will the LDP have a positive or negative effect on water quality and hydromorphology?</p> <p>Will it contribute to an increase in flood risk?</p> <p>Will it contribute to a reduction in flood risk?</p> |
| 6 Material Assets | |
| <p>6-1 Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials.</p> <p>6-2 Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle.</p> <p>6-3 Encourage needs to be met locally.</p> <p>6-4 Promote the use of more sustainable resources.</p> <p>6-5 Improve the integration of different modes of transport.</p> <p>6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycling and walking).</p> | <p>Will the LDP contribute to increased rates of recycling and higher resource efficiency?</p> <p>Will the LDP ensure that needs can be met locally?</p> <p>Will the LDP allow people to make more sustainable transport choices?</p> |
| 7 Soil | |
| <p>7-1 To avoid and reduce contamination of soils and promote the regeneration of contaminated land.</p> <p>7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimise soil erosion.</p> <p>7-3 To reduce SO₂ and NO_x emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture.</p> | <p>Will the LDP increase or decrease land contamination?</p> <p>Will the LDP result in an increase or loss of good quality soil resources?</p> <p>Will the LDP improve or degrade soil quality?</p> <p>Will the LDP involve development on previously used land?</p> |
| 8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment | |
| <p>8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement</p> <p>8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness</p> | <p>Are there any sites of archaeological importance that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?</p> <p>Are there any historic landscapes that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?</p> |

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| | Are there any listed buildings that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP? |
| 9 Landscape | |
| <p>9.1 To protect and enhance landscape/townscape from negative effects of land use change</p> <p>9-2 To take sensitive locations into account when siting development and to promote high quality design</p> <p>9-3 To encourage appropriate future use of derelict land</p> | <p>Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on landscapes or townscapes?</p> <p>Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on designated landscapes?</p> <p>Will the LDP encourage the redevelopment of previously developed land?</p> |
| 10 Population | |
| <p>10-1 Ensure suitable, affordable housing stock with access to education and employment facilities</p> <p>10-2 Promote the retention of younger people</p> <p>10-3 Promote inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups into society</p> | <p>Will the LDP increase the provision of affordable housing in Carmarthenshire?</p> <p>Will the LDP contribute to promoting the retention of young people in the county?</p> <p>Will the LDP contribute to social inclusion?</p> |
| 11 The Welsh Language | |
| 11-1 Encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture | Will the LDP encourage the growth of the Welsh language and culture? |
| 12 Health and Well-being | |
| <p>12-1 Create opportunities for people to live active, healthy lifestyles through planning activities</p> <p>12-2 Provide access to health and recreation facilities and services</p> <p>12-3 Encourage walking or cycling as alternative means of transportation</p> <p>12-4 Promote access to Wales' natural and cultural heritage</p> | <p>Will there be a positive or negative impact on human health?</p> <p>Will access to health services and recreation facilities including natural heritage features be increased?</p> <p>Will the LDP increase opportunities for walking and cycling?</p> |
| 13 Education and Skills | |
| <p>13-1 Provide accessible educational and training facilities which meet the future needs of the area</p> <p>13-2 Increase levels of literacy (in English and Welsh) and numeracy</p> <p>13-3 Promote lifelong learning</p> | <p>Will the LDP contribute to increasing attainment levels amongst young people?</p> <p>Will the LDP promote access to education facilities for all members of the community?</p> <p>Will the LDP contribute to increasing literacy and numeracy levels?</p> |
| 14 Economy | |

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| <p>14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth 14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population 14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales</p> | <p>Will there be any adverse economic impacts on land and premises in employment use? Will there be a positive or negative impact on jobs opportunities as a result of the LDP?</p> |
| <p>15 Social Fabric</p> | |
| <p>15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property 15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions 15-3 Promote the delivery of affordable housing 15-4 Improve accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society.</p> | <p>Will the LDP contribute to making housing more affordable? Will the LDP contribute to creating settlements that are safe and of a high quality urban fabric? Will the LDP contribute to creating healthier homes? Will the LDP maximise access to services and facilities for all members of the community by different modes of transport?</p> |

Appendix 2 Sustainability Monitoring Framework – Data Sources

| SA Topic | SA Objectives | Monitoring Indicator | Source |
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| 1 – Sustainable Development | 1-1 To live within environmental limits | The Ecological Footprint of Wales | Future Generations National Indicator 14 https://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/climatechange/publications/ecological-footprint-of-wales-report/?lang=en |
| | 1-2 To ensure a strong, healthy and just society | | |
| | 1-3 To achieve a sustainable economy | Monitored via SA14 | |
| | 1-4 To remove barriers and promoting opportunities for behavioural change | | |
| 2 - Biodiversity | 2-1 To avoid damage or fragmentation of designated sites, habitats and protected species and encourage their enhancement | Number of planning applications granted which have an adverse effect on the : a) integrity of Natura 2000 site b) integrity of designated site for nature conservation c) favourable conservation status of European protected species | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 2-2 To protect, enhance and create appropriate wildlife habitats and wider biodiversity in urban and rural areas | | |
| 3 – Air Quality | 3-1 To maintain/reduce the levels of the UK national air quality pollutants | Air Quality Indicators (by Local Authority). Modelled, population weighted average concentrations. | Future Generations Indicator 4 https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Air-Quality/airqualityindicators-by-localauthority |
| | | Number of breaches of EU/UK Air Quality objectives in Carmarthenshire. | Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) monitored by Carmarthenshire County Council Public Health. |

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| | 3-2 To reduce levels of ground level ozone | | |
| | 3-3 To reduce the need to travel through appropriate siting of new developments and provision of public transport infrastructure | Total traffic on major roads, in thousand vehicle miles – cars (by local authority) | Department for Transport (DfT) traffic count data (by Local Authority) https://www.dft.gov.uk/traffic-counts/area.php?region=Wales&la=Carmarthenshire |
| 4 - Climatic Factors | 4-1 To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases | Annual CO2 levels (by Local Authority) | UK local authority and regional CO2 emissions national statistics: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics#2018 |
| | 4-2 To minimise the vulnerability of Carmarthenshire to the effects of climate change through making space for water, coastal retreat and shifting habitat distribution patterns | Number of applications permitted within C1 and C2 floodplain areas contrary to advice of DCWW/NRW | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 4-3 To encourage all new developments to be climate resilient | | |
| | 4-4 To encourage energy conservation and higher energy efficiency | | |
| | 4-5 To minimise energy consumption and promote renewable energy sources | a) Number of, and b) Installed capacity permitted renewable energy and low carbon technology developments. | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |

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| 5 - Water | 5-1 To ensure water quality of rivers, lakes, groundwater and coastal areas is improved and ensure that the hydromorphological quality of the water bodies is maximised | Annual Bathing Water Quality classification for bathing sites in Carmarthenshire | Environment Agency Water Quality data https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/environmental-health/bathing-water/#.WzNhqOmQyUk |
| | | % water bodies at 'good' classification status or above for a) Ecological status b) Chemical status | Water Framework Directive classification http://waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/ |
| | 5-2 To protect and maintain water resources in the public supply chain and ensure enough water is available for the environment at all times of the year | Carmarthen Bay Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Water resource availability | NRW Abstraction management plans https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/water-management-and-quality/water-available-in-our-catchments/?lang=en |
| | 5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas | Proportion of developments that incorporate SUDS. | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments | Number of houses built meeting the water efficiency threshold set by the government in Building Regulation Part G2.36(1). | Reference: https://gov.wales/topics/planning/buildingregs/approved-documents/part-g-sanitation/?lang=en CCC Building Control |
| | 5-5 To make space for water and minimise flood risk | Number of applications permitted within C1 and C2 floodplain areas contrary to the advice of NRW/Dwr Cymru | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | | Number of properties (homes and businesses) at medium or high risk of flooding from rivers and the sea | Future Generations National Indicator 32 https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/Flooding/environment-and-countryside-state-of-the-environment-our-local-environment-properties-at-risk-of-flooding |

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| 6 – Material Assets | 6-1 Minimise the use of finite resources and promote higher resource efficiency and the use of secondary and recycled materials | | |
| | 6-2 Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle | % Waste reuse/recycling/composting (by Local Authority) | Future Generations National Indicator 15 https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/local-authority-municipal-waste-management/?lang=en |
| | 6-3 Encourage needs to be met locally | | |
| | 6-4 Promote the use of more sustainable resources | | |
| | 6-5 Improve the integration of different modes of transport | Proportion of total traffic d) Bicycles e) Buses and Coaches f) Cars | Department for Transport (DfT) traffic count data (by Local Authority) https://www.dft.gov.uk/traffic-counts/area.php?region=Wales&la=Carmarthenshire |
| | 6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycling and walking) | Total Annual Bicycle Counts (Carmarthenshire Active Travel) | Active travel reports https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/travel-roads-parking/active-travel/#.W5EARumQzIU |
| 7 - Soil | 7-1 To avoid and reduce contamination of soils and promote the regeneration of contaminated land | Total area of contaminated land | |

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| | 7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimised soil erosion | Percentage of permitted developments that incorporate SUDS. | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 7-3 To reduce SO2 and NOx emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture | | |
| 8 – Cultural Heritage | 8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement | Number of developments permitted adversely impacting upon buildings and areas of built or historical interest and their setting | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness | Number of applications refused on design grounds | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| 9 - Landscape | 9-1 To protect and enhance landscape/townscape from negative effects of land use change | | |
| | 9-2 To take sensitive locations into account when siting development and promote high quality design | Number of applications refused on design grounds | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 9-3 To encourage appropriate future use of derelict land | Number of development on previously developed land | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |

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| 10 - Population | 10-1 Ensure suitable, affordable housing stock with access to education and employment facilities | Number of affordable dwellings permitted | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | 10-2 Promote the retention of younger people | % persons aged a) 15-29 b) 30 – 44 residing in Carmarthenshire | https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Distributions |
| | 10-3 Promote inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in society | Percentage of people agreeing a) that they belong to the area; b) that people from different backgrounds get on well together c) that people treat each other with respect. | Future Generations National Indicator 27 National Survey for Wales https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?tab=el_home&topic=nhs_social_care&lang=en |
| 11 – The Welsh Language | 11-1 Encourage growth of the Welsh language and culture | % of people who can speak Welsh (by Local Authority) | Future Generations National Indicator 37 National Survey for Wales https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?lang=en |
| 12 – Health and Well-Being | 12-1 Create opportunities for people to live active, healthy lifestyles through planning activities | Percentage of adults reported as being a) overweight b) obese (by Health Board) | http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=381&geoTypeId= https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?tab=el_home&topic=population_health&lang=en |
| | 12-2 Provide access to health and recreation facilities and services | Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/access the facilities and services they need | Future Generations National Indicator 24 Wales National Survey |
| | 12-3 Encourage walking or cycling as an alternative means of transportation | Percentage of people surveyed method of travel to work (a) On foot (b) By bicycle | Office of National Statistics - Travel to work methods and the time it takes to commute from home to work, Labour Force Survey |

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| | | | https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/adhocs/008005traveltoworkmethodsandthetimeittakestocommutefromhometoworklabourforcesurvey2007to2016 |
| | | Total Annual Bicycle Counts (Carmarthenshire Active Travel) | Active travel reports https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/travel-roads-parking/active-travel/#.W5EARumQzIU |
| | 12-4 Promote access to Wales' natural and cultural heritage | Amount of open space lost to development (ha) | Carmarthenshire County Council planning data |
| | | Percentage of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities at least three times a year. | Future Generations National Indicator 35 https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Sport-and-Recreation/percentageofpeoplewhoattendorparticipateinartcultureheritageactivities3ormoretimesayear-by-localauthority-year |
| 13 – Education and Skills | 13-1 Provide accessible educational and training facilities which meet the future need of the area | | |
| | 13-2 Increase levels of literacy (in both Welsh and English) and numeracy | % of adults without basic numeracy and literacy skills | |
| | 13-3 Promote lifelong learning | Level of highest qualification held by adults of working age in Wales (by Local Authority). | Future Generations National Indicator 8 https://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2018/180418-levels-highest-qualification-held-working-age-adults-2017-en.pdf |

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| | 14-1 To promote sustainable economic growth | Gross Value Added (GVA) per head | http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=470&geoTypeId= |
| 14 – Economy | 14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for all sections of the population | Amount of employment land lost to non-employment uses | (South West Wales value) CCC planning data |
| | | Percentage of population in part and full time or self-employment | https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles/#.W5J2dOmQyUk |
| | | Number of active businesses in Carmarthenshire | http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=456&geoTypeId= |
| | 14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales | Number of active business closures in Carmarthenshire | http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=456&geoTypeId= |
| | 15-1 Improve safety and security for people and property | Average annual crime level | https://www.police.uk/dyfed-powys/110/crime/stats/ |
| 15 – Social Fabric | 15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions | Probability of feeling safe (by local authority) | Future Generations Indicator 25 https://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170301-national-survey-who-most-likely-feel-safe-local-area-en.pdf |
| | | Probability of having a strong sense of community (by local authority area) | Future Generations indicator 27: https://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170301-national-survey-who-most-likely-strong-sense-community-en.pdf |
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| | | Percentage of people agreeing that they belong to the area; that people from different backgrounds get on well together; and that people treat each other with respect. | Future Generations Indicator |
| | 15-3 Promote the deliverability of affordable housing | Proportion of affordable housing as a percentage of new homes delivered | |
| | 15-4 Improve accessibility to services, particularly for disadvantaged sections of society | Percentage of people satisfied with their ability to get to/ access the facilities and services they need | Future Generations National Indicator 24 https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/national-survey/?lang=en |

Appendix 3. Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Policies

| International: Plan, Policy or Programme |
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| <p>Agenda 21: United nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/outcomedocuments/agenda21</p> |
| <p>Rio Declaration on Environment and Development UNEP 1992 http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=78&ArticleID=1163&l=en</p> |
| <p>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change United Nations 1994 http://unfccc.int/2860.php</p> |
| <p>The Kyoto Protocol United Nations 1997 http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php</p> |
| <p>Convention on Migratory Species UNEP 1979 http://www.cms.int/</p> |
| <p>Convention on Biological Diversity UNEP 1992 http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml</p> |
| <p>The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands UNESCO 1971 http://www.ramsar.org/</p> |
| <p>EU Directive 2009/147/EC (on the Conservation of Wild Birds - 'The Birds Directive') The Council of the European Communities 30 November 2009 (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm)</p> <p>The Bird's Directive is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the EU. It was adopted as a response to increasing concern about the declines in Europe's wild bird populations resulting from pollution, loss of habitats as well as unsustainable use.</p> <p>The Directive recognises that habitat loss and degradation are the most serious threats to the conservation of wild birds. It therefore places great emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered as well as migratory species, particularly through the establishment of a network of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) comprising all the most suitable territories for these species.</p> |
| <p>EU Directive 2000/60/EC (the Water Framework Directive - WFD) The Council of the European Communities 23 October 2000</p> <p>The overall aim of the Directive is to establish a framework for the protection and management of surface waters, including rivers, lakes, transitional and coastal waters and ground waters in the EU. The main objectives of the proposed Directive are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevent further deterioration and to protect and enhance the aquatic environment; • achieve good ecological and chemical water quality for all surface waters and ground waters unless it is impossible or prohibitively expensive; and • promote sustainable water management based on long-term protection of water |

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| resources. |
| <p>EU Directive 92/43/CEE (the Habitats Directive) The Council of the European Communities 21 May 1992 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm</p> <p>The Habitats Directive is one of the most significant pieces of legislation driving Europe's conservation policies adopted following the Berne Convention (1982). It aims to protect identified species and habitats of nature conservation importance at the European level, and led to the establishment of a network of Special Areas of Conservation. Together with the Special Protection Areas set up under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (1979), these sites make up the European network of protected sites known as Natura 2000 sites. The aim of the network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.</p> |
| <p>Proposal for a new EU Environment Action Programme to 2020 European Commission 2012 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/newprg/index.htm</p> |
| <p>EU Directive 1999/31/EC (the Landfill Directive) The Council of the European Union 1999 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm</p> <p>The Landfill Directive intends to help drive waste up the hierarchy through waste minimisation and increased levels of recycling and recovery. The Directive's overall aim is <i>"to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole life-cycle of the landfill"</i>.</p> <p>The Directive has provisions covering location of landfills, and technical and engineering requirements for aspects such as water control and leachate management, protection of soil and water and methane emissions control. The Directive sets stringent targets on reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste that is sent to landfill:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995; • By 2013 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 50% of that produced in 1995; and • By 2020 to reduce biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995. |
| <p>EU Directive 2008/98/EC (the Waste Framework Directive) The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union 19 November 2008 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/framework/index.htm</p> |
| <p>EU Directive 91/676/EEC (the Nitrates Directive) The Council of the European Union 1991 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-nitrates/directiv.html</p> <p>The Nitrates Directive concerns the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources with the intention of redirecting agriculture toward greater sustainability. The Directive aims to protect fresh, transitional/coastal and marine waters</p> |

against pollution caused by nitrates. It requires Member States to identify waters, either actually or potentially affected by diffuse nitrate pollution. These include:

- surface waters, particularly those for the abstraction of drinking water, where nitrate concentrations exceed 50 mg/l nitrate;
- groundwaters actually or potentially containing more than 50 mg/l nitrate; and
- freshwater lakes, other freshwater bodies, estuaries, coastal waters and marine waters which are, or may in the future be, eutrophic.

Member States had to designate all areas draining into such waters as nitrate vulnerable zones by 19 December 1993 and establish Action Programmes to control the timing and date of application of manure and chemical fertilisers in these zones.

EU Directive (2008/50/EC) (the New Air Quality Framework Directive) The Council of the European Union 11 June 2008

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/quality/legislation/existing_leg.htm

UK: Plan, Policy or Programme

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

The Regulations implement Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive). The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites (Special Areas of Conservation)', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.

A further objective is to preserve, maintain and re-establish sufficient diversity and area of habitat for wild birds in the United Kingdom and to avoid any pollution or deterioration of habitats of wild birds in exercising of all relevant functions.

There are a large number of sites of ecological / geological importance in the county and in this regard, Carmarthenshire has a number of sites considered to be of international importance for nature conservation. These Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are designated under European legislation.

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

- Burry Inlet (also a Ramsar site)
- Elenydd Mallaen
- Carmarthen Bay

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

- Afon Teifi
- Afon Tywi
- Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries
- Carmarthen Bay Dunes
- Cwm Doethie - Mynydd Mallaen
- Caeau Mynydd Mawr
- Cernydd Carmel

Candidate Special Areas of Conservation.

- Bristol Channel Approaches SAC

More information about them and why they were designated can be found on the Natural Resources Wales website.

<https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/designated-sites/?lang=en>

Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy – UK Government 2005

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/03/25/securing-the-future-pb10589/>

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy is based upon the following five guiding principles:-

1 - Living within environmental limits

Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

2 - Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society

Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunities for all.

3 - Achieving a sustainable economy

Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

4 - Promoting good governance

Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people's creativity, energy and diversity.

5 - Using sound science responsibly

Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.

The 2005 strategy builds on the 1999 strategy and looks more closely at the international aspects and social elements of achieving sustainable development. One of the underpinning themes of the document is the recognition of environmental limits. The four agreed key priorities for achieving sustainable development are:-

- Sustainable production and consumption;
- Climate change;
- Natural resource protection; and
- Sustainable communities.

The UK Government intends to look at ways to encourage behavioural change and improving resource efficiency and reducing waste. The strategy recognises that climate change and energy generation represent significant challenges to achieving sustainable development and that everyone should be entitled to environmental justice.

The UK Climate Change Programme DEFRA 2006

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4000>

Defra's Climate Change Programme sets out the UK's policies and priorities for action on climate change in the UK and internationally and sets out the approach to strengthening the role that individuals can play in tackling climate change.

The Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions towards the long-term by 60 per cent by 2050 in the 2003 Energy White Paper.

Alongside high-level international and domestic commitments, the strategy sets out spending to support microgeneration technologies, developing carbon abatement technologies, supporting energy from renewables and combined heat and power (CHP), raising energy standards of new builds and refurbished buildings and delivering energy efficiency measures in low income households.

The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (Volumes 1&2) DEFRA 2007

(<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/air/air-quality/approach/>)

The Strategy:

- Sets out common aims and a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues for the UK government and devolved administrations;
- sets out the air quality standards and objectives to be achieved;
- introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles; and
- identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.

The primary objective of the strategy is to ensure that all UK citizens should have access to outdoor air without significant risk to their health, where this is economically and technically feasible. According to the strategy, the UK is projected to miss objectives on three of the nine pollutants (particles, ozone and nitrogen dioxide). In particular, critical loads for acidity and/or the fertilising effects of nitrogen are projected to be exceeded in over half the UK's natural and semi-natural habitats.

Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000

The CRoW Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land, amends the law relating to public rights of way, increases protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

There are 81 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the county (excluding the area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) covering 17,088 Ha, and ranging in size from small fields to large areas of mountain sides and long rivers. They cover approximately 7.2 % of the county. SSSIs are the best wildlife and geological sites in the country. They include habitats such as ancient woodland, flower-rich meadows, wetlands as well as disused quarries and support plant and animal species which are not often seen in the wider countryside. SSSIs are statutorily protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000). Natural Resources Wales has responsibility for identifying, notifying and protecting SSSIs.

Carmarthenshire has six Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). LNRs are designated by local authorities and are places which support a rich variety of wildlife or geological features and which are important to local people, by enabling contact with the natural environment. The LNRs in the county are managed with the conservation of wildlife as the top priority. They are Pembrey Burrows and Saltings, Ashpits Pond and Pwll Lagoon, North Dock Dunes, Morfa Berwick (all in the Llanelli coastal area), Carreg Cennen and Glan-yr-Afon, Kidwelly.

The Act also places a duty on all highway authorities to produce a Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) for their area.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

The Act covers protection of wildlife (birds, and some animals and plants), the countryside, the prevention of the spread of certain invasive species and the designation of protected areas including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) that are identified for their flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features.

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Wales) Regulations 2017

This requires that certain types of project are subject to an assessment of their environmental impact before planning permission can be determined.

The Environment Act 1995

The Environment Act 1995 places a duty on the Council to periodically review and assess air quality within its area. The Air Quality Objectives are set out in the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010

This Act changes the way that coping with the increasing pressures posed by climate change, notably water management. Of particular reference is the potential proposal to commence Schedule 3 in Wales and bring forward the related Statutory Instruments in May 2018. The Council is a designated Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Act.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990

In relation to contaminated land, the County has a rich and diverse industrial legacy, including a wide range of industries such as mining, tin plate manufacturing, gas works, tanneries etc. All of these processes have the potential to have caused contamination of the ground, ground waters or other sensitive receptors. A Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy is in the process of being reviewed and updated by the Council.

UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6189>

Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009 UK Government 2009

<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/fisheries/marine/marine-planning/?lang=en>

The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides new powers to assist in achieving the vision set out in the UK High Level Marine Objectives. The new powers provided by this act include:

- Marine planning – A new system for marine planning that will cover all of the key marine activities; and
- Marine Licensing – In Wales Marine Licensing powers were delegated to Natural Resources Wales in 2011. These licensing powers replace the licensing regimes that were previously covered under: Food and Environment Act 1985, Coast Protection Act 1949 and Environmental Impact Assessment (extraction of minerals and dredging (Wales) Regulations 2007.
- Marine Conservation Mechanics – The Act provides the power to create Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) to assist in the conservation of marine plants and animals or geological/geomorphological features.

The Water Framework Directive and Planning - Initial Advice to Planning Authorities in England and Wales EA; RTPi; WLGA; LGA February 2006

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/40195.aspx>

This guidance provides advice on the implementation of the Water Directive Framework in relation to development plan policy (and other matters). The WFD requires all inland and coastal waters to reach "good status" by 2015. It establishes a river basin district structure with ecological targets for surface waters and other environmental indicators.

Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979, UK Parliament 1979

The means by which Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) are afforded legal protection. A key tool for protection of SAMs. The protection given by this falls short of protecting the settings and surroundings of monuments. In addition, the Act allows for certain damaging operations to continue under certain circumstances.

National: Plan, Policy or Programme

The Wales Act (2017)

This Act received Royal Assent on the 31st January 2017. It provides the National Assembly for Wales with the power to legislate on any subject other than those which are reserved to the UK Parliament. The Wales Act 2017 implements elements of the St David's Day agreement which required legislative changes. It is aimed at creating a clearer and stronger settlement in Wales which is durable and long-lasting. In particular, the Wales Act amends the Government of Wales Act 2006 by moving to a reserved powers model for Wales.

The 2017 Act also devolves further powers to the Assembly and the Welsh Ministers in areas where there was political consensus in support of further devolution. These include:

- Devolving greater responsibility to the Assembly to run its own affairs, including deciding its name;
- Devolving responsibility to the Assembly for ports policy, speed limits, bus registration, taxi regulation, local government elections, sewerage and energy consenting up to 350MW (see below for additional detail);
- Devolving responsibility to Welsh Ministers for marine licensing and conservation and energy consents in the Welsh offshore region; and extending responsibility for

- building regulations to include excepted energy buildings;
- Devolving power over Assembly elections;
- Devolving powers over the licensing of onshore oil and gas extraction;
- Aligning the devolution boundary for water and sewerage services along the border between England and Wales; and,
- Establishing in statute the President of Welsh Tribunals to oversee devolved tribunals and allowing cross-deployment of judicial office holders.

In relation to the 2017 Act and the devolution of powers, specific reference is made to matters relating to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Previously not a devolved matter, this will change as part of the 2017 Act, with CIL being devolved with powers anticipated to be transferred to the Welsh Government in April 2018. In this respect, a Transfer of Functions Order will however be necessary to allow Welsh Ministers to modify existing secondary legislation.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

<http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=10103>

The key purposes of the Act are to:

- Set a framework within which specified Welsh public authorities will seek to ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (the sustainable development principle);
- Put into place well-being goals which those authorities are to seek to achieve in order to improve wellbeing both now and in the future;
- Set out how those authorities are to show they are working towards the well-being goals;
- Put Public Services Boards and local well-being plans on a statutory basis and, in doing so, simplify current requirements as regards integrated community planning, and
- Establish a Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to be an advocate for future generations who will advise and support Welsh public authorities in carrying out their duties under the Bill.

The Act sets out 7 well-being goals for Wales:

- 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 LDP must have regard for the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Planning (Wales) Act 2015

<http://gov.wales/topics/planning/legislation/planning-wales-act-2015/?lang=en>

This Act aims to modernise and improve the planning system to facilitate the delivery of homes, jobs and infrastructure. It also seeks to:

- reinforce the role of the Welsh Government as the active stewards of the planning system in Wales;

- promote a cultural change in planning to help make it more positive and support appropriate development more effectively; and
- promote partnership working between Local Planning Authorities.

The below is also noted in terms of potential implications:

- Introduction of a National Development Framework (NDF) - this concentrates on land-use planning issues at a national level, identifying key locations for infrastructure development and setting the national framework for planning.
- Introduction of Sub-Regional Plans Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) – with specific reference made to the Cardiff, Swansea and the A55 corridor.
- Retention of Local Development Plans - however these will need to be reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with the National Development Framework (and SDPs where appropriate).
- Increased powers for the Welsh Ministers, whilst in some circumstances applicants will be able to apply directly to the Welsh Government.

The LDP will need to be reviewed and prepared in line with this Act as well other primary and secondary legislative documents.

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

This legislation amends the 2005 Regulations in order to simplify the LDP procedures. The amendments are in response to the outcomes of the LDP process refinement exercise.

Those key amendments, that are of particular relevance to the LDP, include the following:

- Site allocation representations (also known as alternative site) stage – this created confusion and did not add value to the LDP process. The amended regulations abolish the need to consult on the alternative sites following the deposit consultation stage.
- The Regulations introduced a short-form revision process for use where it appears to the LPA that the issues involved are not of sufficient significance to warrant the full procedure.
- Allowance for the review of part or parts of the plan, prior to a revision taking place.
- The Regulations introduce a requirement that the LDP sub-title indicates the end of the period in relation to which the LDP has been prepared.
- Removes the requirement to publicise matters by adverts in the local paper.

Further amendments seek to assist with clarity and transparency in parts of the procedure. These include setting out how the candidate site process, review report process and the initial consultation report work.

Local Development Plan Manual – Edition 2 - August 2015

The Manual proposes a more integrated approach to incorporating the sustainability appraisal, explains changes relating to candidate and alternative site procedures, as well as the tests of soundness, and expands the advice on plan review and revision.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

The measure gives the Welsh language official status in Wales. This means that Welsh should be treated no less favourably than the English language. It places a duty on some organisations to comply with one or more standards of conduct on their delivery of services through the Welsh language including areas such as policy making, operational activities and Welsh language promotion.

River Basin Districts Surface Water and Groundwater Classification (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Direction 2009:

<http://gov.wales/legislation/subordinate/nonsi/epwales/2009/3739275/?lang=en>

The Classification Directions set out the principles and standards for classifying water bodies for the Water Framework Directive (WFD). They apply to Wales and England and were developed by the UK Technical Advisory Group (UKTAG) to support the implementation of the WFD.

Welsh Government - People, Places, Futures – The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) (2008 Update):

The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) provides an overarching policy context for spatial planning and development in Wales by establishing cross-cutting national priorities. Carmarthenshire is situated within three of the six sub areas identified in the WSP.

Welsh Government - One Wales: One Planet, The Sustainable Development Scheme of the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) 2009

It is stated that sustainable development is a core principle within the founding statute of the Welsh Assembly Government. and that there is a duty, under the Government of Wales Act 2006 (Section 79), that requires Welsh Ministers to make a scheme setting out how they propose, in the exercise of their functions, to promote sustainable development.

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

This is Wales' first ever housing Act. It aims to improve the supply, quality and standards of housing in Wales. The Welsh Government's priorities are stated as: more homes, better quality homes and better housing-related services.

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9)

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) is the national land-use planning policy document for Wales. It is used by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to inform policies and land-use allocations in Local Development Plans (LDPs) and it is a material consideration for decision makers in determining individual planning applications. PPW sets out the land use policies of the Welsh Government and provides the context for land use planning in Wales.

Draft Planning Policy Wales: Edition 10

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) is the national land-use planning policy document for Wales. It is used by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to inform policies and land-use allocations in Local Development Plans (LDPs) and it is a material consideration for decision makers in determining individual planning applications. PPW sets out the land use policies of the Welsh Government and provides the context for land use planning in Wales.

The draft is published for consultation and takes into account the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The draft PPW has been restructured into policy themes

which reflect the well-being goals and policy updated where necessary to reflect Welsh Government strategies and policies.

Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The Act has three main aims which are to:

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

The Act amends the two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Towards Zero Waste – One Wales One Planet: The Overarching Waste Strategy for Wales (2010)

This Strategy sets out a long term framework for resource efficiency and waste management up to 2050. It identifies the outcomes to achieve, sets high level targets and lays out the general approach to delivering these targets and other key actions. The Strategy identifies high level outcomes, policies and targets, and forms part of a suite of documents that comprise the national waste management plan for Wales.

PPW Technical Advice Note 1: Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (2006):

TAN 1 provides guidance for the undertaking of Joint Housing Land Availability Studies. These studies seek to monitor the provision of market and affordable housing, provide an agreed statement of residential land availability and also set out the need for action in situations where an insufficient supply is identified.

PPW Technical Advice Note 2 Planning and Affordable Housing (2006) :

This TAN provides guidance on the use of the planning system in delivering affordable housing. The guidance defines affordable housing for planning purposes and provides advice to local planning authorities on how to determine affordability. The need to work collaboratively is stressed, including the requirement for housing and planning authorities to undertake local housing market assessments in participation with key stakeholders.

PPW Technical Advice Note 3 Simplified Planning Zones (1996) :

This TAN sets out the procedures that should be followed when designating Simplified Planning Zones. A Simplified Planning Zone is one way in which an authority can help secure development or redevelopment of part of its area, providing certainty and allowing the developer or landowner to avoid delays in the planning applications process. The TAN provides advice on the selection of areas, extent of permission, exclusions and conditions and limitations during the process of designation.

PPW Technical Advice Note 4 Retail and Commercial Development (2016)

The TAN provides guidance on the role of land use planning in retail and commercial development, including:

- retail strategies, masterplanning and Place Plans;
- the tests of retail need and Sequential approach to development;
- retail impact assessments;
- primary and secondary retail and commercial frontages in centres;
- retail planning conditions;
- Local Development Orders; and
- indicators of vitality and viability in retail and commercial areas.

PPW Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning Welsh Government (2009):

TAN 5 provides advice about how the land use planning system should contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation. It provides an overview of all relevant legislation within the field and *“demonstrates how local planning authorities, developers and key stakeholders in conservation can work together to deliver more sustainable development that does not result in losses from the natural heritage but instead takes every opportunity to enhance it”*.

PPW Technical Advice Note 6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010):

This TAN provides guidance on how the planning system can support sustainable rural communities. It provides advice on areas including sustainable rural communities and economies, rural affordable housing, rural enterprise dwellings, one planet developments, sustainable rural services and sustainable agriculture.

PPW Technical Advice Note 7 Outdoor Advertisements Control (1996) :

This TAN describes how outdoor advertisements may be controlled to protect amenity and public safety. It provides advice on the advertisement applications process including on the criteria for dealing with such applications, advertisement control, the use of advertisements in areas of heritage interest such as conservation areas, National Assembly of Wales direction making powers and appeals for advertisements.

PPW Technical Advice Note 8: Renewable Energy (2005):

TAN 8 outlines the land use planning considerations relating to renewable energy. It provides detail on how the planning system can achieve Government targets relating to renewable energy. The TAN also promotes energy efficiency and conservation. Since the publication of TAN 8 there have been some policy and legislative changes. [Annex A of the Chief Planning Officers \(CPOs\) letter 'Publication of Planning Policy Wales Edition 4, February 2011'](#) sets out these changes. It should be read alongside TAN 8.

PPW Technical Advice Note 10 Tree Preservation Orders (1997):

This TAN provides guidance on where local planning authorities are to make adequate provision for the preservation and planting of trees when granting planning permission through the process of making tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). It provides advice on the process of making TPOs and the consideration of protecting trees, particularly during the development process.

PPW Technical Advice Note 11 Noise (1997) :

This TAN provides guidance on how the planning system can be used to minimise the adverse impact of noise without placing unreasonable restrictions on development. It provides advice on the consideration of noise during the development plan and control (management) processes as well as noise exposure categories for different types of activity which should be taken into account during the consideration of proposals for residential development.

PPW Technical Advice Note 12 Design (2016) :

The purpose of this TAN is to equip all those involved in the design of development with advice on how 'Promoting sustainability through good design' and 'Planning for sustainable buildings' may be facilitated through the planning system. Good design requires a collaborative, creative, inclusive, process of problem solving and innovation - embracing sustainability, architecture, place making, public realm, landscape, and infrastructure. The TAN emphasises that a holistic approach to design requires everyone involved in the design process to focus from the outset on meeting a series of objectives of good design:

- Ensuring ease of access for all
- Promoting sustainable means of travel
- Ensuring attractive, safe public spaces
- Achieving environmental sustainability
- Sustaining or enhancing local character

PPW Technical Advice Note 13: Tourism, Welsh Government (1997) :

This TAN provides guidance on tourism related issues in planning including matters relating to hotel development, holiday and touring caravans and seasonal and holiday occupancy conditions.

PPW Technical Advice Note 14 Coastal Planning (1998) :

This TAN provides guidance on key issues relating to planning for the coastal zone. It identifies and describes the role of local planning authorities and the range of sectoral and regulatory controls over marine and coastal development. The TAN details a number of issues which must be taken into account because of their potential effects on physical processes and ground conditions, as well as the overall balance, sensitivity and conservation of the area. The TAN provides guidance around the planning considerations and issues to be included in development plans and in the determination of planning applications.

PPW Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk, Welsh Government (2004) :

This TAN provides guidance which supplements the policy set out in Planning Policy Wales in relation to development and flooding. It provides advice on matters including the use of development advice maps to determine flood risk issues, how to assess the flooding consequences of proposed development and action that can be taken through development plans and development control (management) procedures to mitigate flood risk when planning for new development. The Development Advice Map (DAM) which supplements TAN 15 is published by Natural Resources Wales.

PPW Technical Advice Note 16: Sport, Recreation and Open Space (2009) :

This TAN provides guidance regarding planning for sports, recreation and open space provision as part of new development proposals. It provides advice relating to this area including on the preparation of Open Space Assessments, the keeping of existing facilities, the provision of new facilities and the planning for allotments and spaces for children's and young people's play. The TAN discusses development management issues regarding the design of facilities and spaces, and noise and accessibility. It also considers how planning agreements can help to ensure the provision and maintenance of facilities.

PPW Technical Advice Note 18: Transport (2007) :

This TAN describes how to integrate land use and transport planning. It explains how transport impacts should be assessed and mitigated. It includes advice on transport related issues when planning for new development including integration between land use planning and transport, location of development, parking and design of development.

Also, on walking and cycling, public transport, planning for transport infrastructure, assessing impacts and managing implementation.

PPW Technical Advice Note 19 Telecommunications (2002) :

This TAN outlines the planning procedures that should be followed when assessing telecommunications proposals. In so doing it takes account of the growth of the telecommunications industry and technology.

The TAN provides guidance on different forms of public communications systems and their developmental requirements and the implications for development plans and the determination of planning applications.

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

This TAN provides guidance on the consideration of the Welsh language as part of the Development Plan making process. The TAN provides advice on incorporating the Welsh language in development plans through Sustainability Appraisals, procedures for windfall development in areas where the language is particularly significant, and signs and advertisements.

PPW Technical Advice Note 21: Waste (2014):

This TAN requires monitoring to identify whether:

- sufficient landfill capacity is being maintained;
- sufficient treatment capacity is being maintained, whether the spatial pattern of provision is appropriate to fill identified needs, and
- whether any further action is needed by local planning authorities to address unforeseen issues.

Reference should be made to the annual Waste Planning Monitoring Reports (WPMRs) for the SW Wales region.

PPW Technical Advice Note 22: Sustainable Buildings, Welsh Government (2011)

The TAN provides the national planning policy on sustainable buildings as well as guidance on the standards of sustainable building assessment, design solutions to meet these standards and additional guidance on low carbon buildings. The TAN also provides guidance development of policies and strategic sites.

PPW Technical Advice Note 23: Economic Development

The TAN emphasises that LDPs will need to be informed by robust evidence and advises that a range of stakeholders should be engaged for their insights into the local economy. It recognises that economic issues are generally larger than local authority level, and that evidence is most appropriately collected at both regional and local scale. This will require collaboration with other planning authorities within an agreed regional grouping.

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

The TAN provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and listed building applications. It provides guidance on how the following aspects of the historic environment should be considered:

- World Heritage Sites;
- Scheduled monuments;
- Archaeological remains;
- Listed buildings;
- Conservation areas;
- Historic parks and gardens;
- Historic landscapes; and
- Historic assets of special local interest.

PPW Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 2: Coal (2009):

This sets out detailed advice on the mechanisms for delivering the policy for coal extraction through surface and underground working and also provides advice on best practice. It sets out how impacts should be assessed and what mitigation measures should be adopted, and seeks to identify the environmental and social costs of operations so that they are properly met by the operator.

PPW Minerals Technical Advice Note (MTAN) 1: Aggregates (2004):

It is stated that the overarching objective in planning for aggregates provision is: to ensure supply is managed in a sustainable way so that the best balance between environmental, economic and social considerations is struck, while making sure that the environmental and amenity impacts of any necessary extraction are kept to a level that avoids causing demonstrable harm to interests of acknowledged importance. The MTAN is structured to reflect the following five key principles:

- To provide aggregate resources in a sustainable way to meet society's needs for construction materials;
- To protect areas of importance;
- To reduce the impact of aggregates production;
- To achieve a high standard of restoration and aftercare, and provide for a beneficial after-use; and

| |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage the efficient use of minerals and maximizing the potential use of alternative materials as aggregates. |
| <p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016:</p> <p>The Environment (Wales) Act received Royal Assent on 21 March 2016. It delivers against the Welsh Government’s commitment to introduce new legislation for the environment. A key component of the Act is the duty it places on public authorities to ‘seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity’. In doing so, the Act requires public authorities to forward plan and report on how they intend to comply with the biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty. The Act replaces the duty in section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) Act 2006 in relation to Wales, with a duty on public authorities to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity.</p> |
| <p>Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020, ‘Partnership for Growth:</p> <p>This identifies Destination Management as fundamental in helping to improve the visitor appeal of tourism destinations throughout Wales.</p> |
| <p>Visit Wales - Developing the Visitor Economy: A Charter for Wales 2009:</p> <p>This provides clear terms of reference for Destination Management arrangements in Wales and identifies a key role for local authorities in contributing to the preparation of local destination plans and the establishment of local destination partnerships.</p> |
| <p>Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013:</p> <p>The Act requires local authorities in Wales to produce active travel maps and deliver year on year improvements in active travel routes and facilities. It requires highways authorities in Wales to make enhancements to routes and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in all new road schemes and to have regard to the needs of walkers and cyclists in a range of other highway authority functions.</p> <p>As part of its commitment to make it easier to walk and cycle, the Council has prepared maps that identify current walking and cycling routes. These maps were created following public consultation as well as its own research in 2015. The routes identified on the maps meet current Welsh Government standards for walking and cycling routes in Wales.</p> |
| <p>Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard:</p> <p>This provides guidance on the planning and design of outdoor sport, play and informal space.</p> |
| <p>Regional: Plan, Policy or Programme</p> |
| <p>The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030:</p> <p>The Strategy sets out the strategic framework for the region aimed at supporting the area’s development over the coming decades. The Vision is that by 2030, South West Wales will be “<i>a confident, ambitious and connected city region, recognised internationally for its emerging knowledge and innovation economy</i>”. The Strategy contains 5 Strategic aims.</p> |
| <p>Swansea Bay City Deal 2017</p> |

The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. It is claimed that the Deal will transform the economic landscape of the area, boost the local economy by £1.8 billion, and generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. There is reference to 11 major projects overall, with the following specific projects proposed for Carmarthenshire:

- Wellness and Life Science Village in Llanelli; and
- Creative industry project at Yr Egin in Carmarthen.

4 key themes of Economic Acceleration, Life Science and Well-being, Energy, and Smart Manufacturing. An enhanced Digital Infrastructure & next generation wireless networks and the development of workforce skills and talent will underpin each.

Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015-20):

This sets out the vision, objectives and a long term strategy for a 20 year period and a five year programme of projects. The Plan encompasses the region which fall within the administrative areas of Carmarthenshire County Council, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Pembrokeshire County Council and the City and County of Swansea.

The South West Wales Tourism Partnership (SWWTP)

The SWWTP had responsibility for delivering the national tourism strategy at the regional level. Whilst wound up in 2014, Visit Wales continues to maintain its ongoing commitment to Destination Management through Regional Engagement Teams.

Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region:

These reports are produced in accordance with TAN21: Waste and set out to collate and assess available data on all waste arising's, landfill void and the management of residual waste in the region in order to monitor trends and ultimately monitor performance against the targets set out in Towards Zero Waste. It also assesses the progress of waste policy coverage in LDPs, as well as providing information on current local authority waste management / resource recovery schemes and future procurement.

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water Water Resources Management Plan (2014)

<http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/My-Water/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

The Plan covers a 25 year period, from 2015 to 2040 (also termed the 'planning period') and considers what needs to be done to ensure a sustainable and affordable balance between the amount of water we take from the environment and the amount of water we need for our daily lives.

It is vitally important for a water company to understand its capability to supply water and the demand for water from customers and business within its supply area. The comparison is termed the Supply Demand Balance (SDB).

In relation to Carmarthenshire, it should be noted that the Tywi Gower zone is shown to be in surplus. However Pembrokeshire and Brecon Portis zones are shown to be in deficit.

River Basin Management Plan Western Wales River Basin District (2015-2021), Natural Resources Wales 2015

The River Basin Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District is prepared under the Water Framework Directive. It describes the current condition of the river basin district and what has been achieved since 2009; details the Programme of Measures for improving the water environment by 2021, provides the water body objectives and look forward to the planned review in 2021.

Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2012)

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding at the coast. It also presents policies to help manage these risks to people and to the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner.

This document is the second generation Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) for the shoreline between Lavernock Point (Vale of Glamorgan) in the east and St Ann's Head (Pembrokeshire) in the west, including the counties of Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.

The study area includes the Neath Estuary, the Tawe Estuary, the Loughor Estuary (Burry Inlet), the Three Rivers Estuarine Complex (Gwendraeth, Towy and Taf) and Milford Haven, as well as a number of smaller estuaries.

Appendix 4. Strategic Policy 16: Settlement Hierarchy

The provision of growth and development will be directed to sustainable locations in accordance with the following spatial framework.

| | Cluster 1 | Cluster 2 | Cluster 3 | Cluster 4 | Cluster 5 | Cluster 6 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Tier 1 – Principal Centre | Carmarthen | Llanelli | Ammanford/Crosshands | | | |
| Tier 2 Service Centre | Pontyates/ Meinciau/ Ponthenri | Burry Port | Brynamman | Newcastle Emlyn | Llandovery | St Clears / Pwll Trap |
| | | Pembrey | Glanamman/Garnant | Llanybydder | Llandeilo | Whitland |
| | | Fforest/Hendy | Pontyberem/Bancffosfelen | Pencader | Llangadog | Laugharne |
| | | Llangennech | | | | |
| | | Trimsaran/Carway | | | | |
| | | Kidwelly | | | | |
| | | Ferryside | | | | |
| Tier 3 – Sustainable Villages | Cynwyl Elfed | Mynyddygarreg | Carmel | Drefach/ Felindre | Caio | Llanboidy |
| | Llanybri | Five Roads/Horeb | Cwmgwili | Waungilwen | Ffarmers | Glandy Cross |
| | Llansteffan | Llansaint / Broadway | Foelgastell | Llangeler | Llansawel | Efailwen |
| | Bronwydd | | Maesybont | Pentrecwrt | Rhydcymerau | Llangynin |
| | Cwmffrwd | | Ystradowen | Saron/Rhos | Talley | Meidrim |
| | Llangyndeyrn | | Llannon | Llanllwni | Cwrt Henri | Bancyfelin |
| | Brechfa | | Llanedi | Cwmann | Llanfynydd | Llangynog |
| | Llangain | | | Capel Iwan | Llanwrda | Pendine |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| | Idole and Pentrepoeth | | | Llanfihangel ar Arth | Cwmdu | Llanddowror |
| | Peniel | | | Trelech | Cwmifor | Llanmiloe |
| | Alltwalis | | | Pontyweli | Salem | |
| | Llanpumsaint | | | Cenarth | Abergorlech | |
| | Llandyfaelog | | | | | |
| | Rhydargaeau | | | | | |
| | Llanfihangel-ar-arth | | | | | |
| | New Inn | | | | | |
| | Llanarthne | | | | | |
| | Capel Dewi | | | | | |
| | Nantgaredig | | | | | |
| | Pontargothi | | | | | |
| | Llanddarog | | | | | |
| | Porthyrhyd | | | | | |
| | Crwbin | | | | | |
| | Cwmduad | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Tier 4 - Rural Villages (No Development Limits) | | | | Penboyr | Ffaldybrenin | Cwmfelin Mynach |
| | Hermon | Cynheidre | Capel Seion | Drefelin | Crugybar | Cwmbach |
| | Abernant | Four Roads | Derwydd | Cwmpengraig | Cwm-du | Blaenwaun |
| | Blaenycloed | | Heol Ddu | Cwmhiraeth | Ashfield Row | Llanglydwen |
| Tudalen 267 | Bancycapel | | Maesybont | Pentrecagal | Felindre (Llangadog) | Cwmfelin Boeth |
| | Nantycaws | | Milo | Pontarsais | Cynghordy | Cross Inn |
| | Croesyceiliog | | Pantllyn | Gwyddgrug | Golden Grove | Llansadurnen |

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| | Felingwm Uchaf | | Pentregwenlais | Dolgran | Broad Oak | Broadway |
| | Felingwm Isaf | | Temple Bar | Bancyfford | Trapp | Red Roses |
| | Llanegwad | | Cefnbrynbrain | Bryn Iwan | Manordeilo | Llanfallteg |
| | Pontantwn | | Rhosamman | Pencarreg | Penybanc | |
| | Nebo | | Drefach (Llandyfan) | | Felindre, (Dryslwyn) | |
| | Talog | | Stag and Pheasant | | Dryslwyn | |
| | Cross Inn | | Mynyddcerrig | | Rhydcymerau | |
| | Penybont | | | | Waunystad Meurig | |
| | Whitemill | | | | Bethlehem | |
| | Pont-Newydd | | | | Capel Isaac | |
| | | | | | Llangathen | |
| | | | | | Llansadwrn | |
| | | | | | Rhandirmwyn | |
| | | | | | Porthyrhyd | |
| | | | | | Pumsaint | |
| | | | | | Siloh | |

Population and Household Forecasts

Briefing Paper

1. Introduction

1.1 As part of the evidence base for the revised Local Development Plan 2018 - 2033, Edge Analytics have been commissioned to develop a range of demographic forecasts for the Authority. These demographic forecasts are considered from a range of evidence and demographic factors to provide an outlook on population, housing and economic growth within Carmarthenshire for the 2018-2033 period. The results of the population and household forecasts allows a set of varying options to be considered and inform the future strategic growth strategy within the LDP.

1.2 This report will outline at the following:

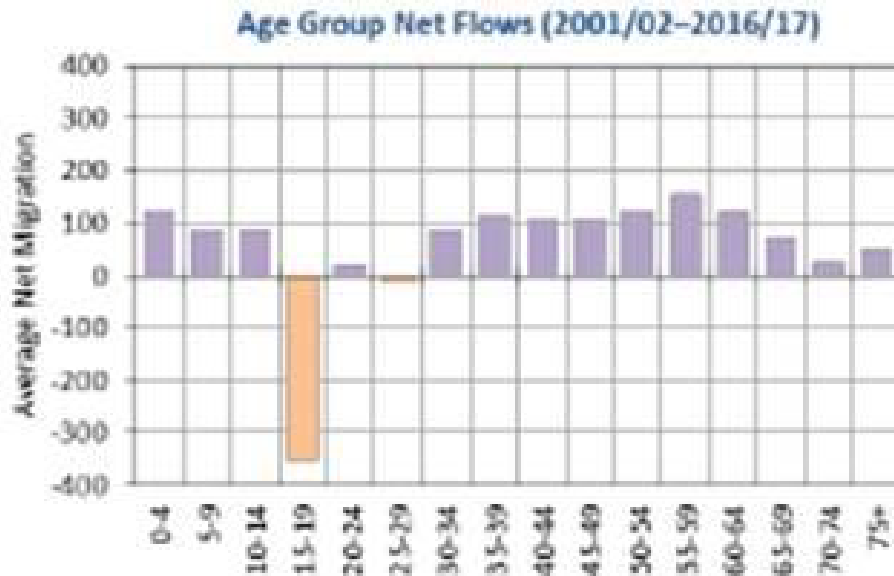
- Carmarthenshire's profile and historic demographic evidence;
- A summary of the various household scenarios and the options to be considered; and
- Consideration of the County's economic strategies to support growth options.

2. Carmarthenshire's Profile

2.1 Carmarthenshire is home to approximately 6% of Wales' total population with 186,452 people. Since 2001, the population has grown by 12,800 people within the county, a 7.4% increase in 16 years. Higher annual population growth was recorded pre-2008, with notably lower annual growth recorded thereafter. Carmarthenshire's growth is consistent with the national rate of growth, but remains lower than the neighbouring authorities of Swansea and Pembrokeshire.

2.2 A net inflow of internal migration has been the dominant driver of population change since 2001/2002, whilst international migration has had a smaller but positive impact on population. Conversely natural change has had a negative impact on population change, with the number of deaths exceeding births in all years.

2.3 The age profile of migration patterns within Carmarthenshire has seen a large net outflow at ages 15-19 and this is associated with the student migration out of Carmarthenshire for higher education opportunities, while there is a small return flow in the 20-24 age group. The net inflow of the 30-44 young family age group is mirrored by the growth in the 0-14 year age as people move into Carmarthenshire to either have children or move with their families. A net inflow is recorded in the older age cohort (65+) which contributes to Carmarthenshire's ageing population. This is set out within the figure below.



2.4 The WG 2006 and 2008-based projections were formulated during a time of high net migration (internal and international) which considered significant growth for Carmarthenshire. The 2011 and 2014-based projections was considered at a time post-recession and less in-migration which resulted in a much lower anticipated household growth requirement for Carmarthenshire.

2.5 For the 2018-2033 plan period, the WG 2014-based household projection estimates a decline in average household size for Carmarthenshire from 2.26 to 2.20, resulting in less household growth than considered in the early projections of 2006 and 2008.

3. Demographic Scenarios

3.1 There is no single definitive view on the likely growth expected in Carmarthenshire. Ultimately, a mix of demographic, economic and local policy issues will determine the speed and scale of change.

3.2 In addition to the WG-based principle scenario, Edge Analytics have provided four additional demographic scenarios to be considered:

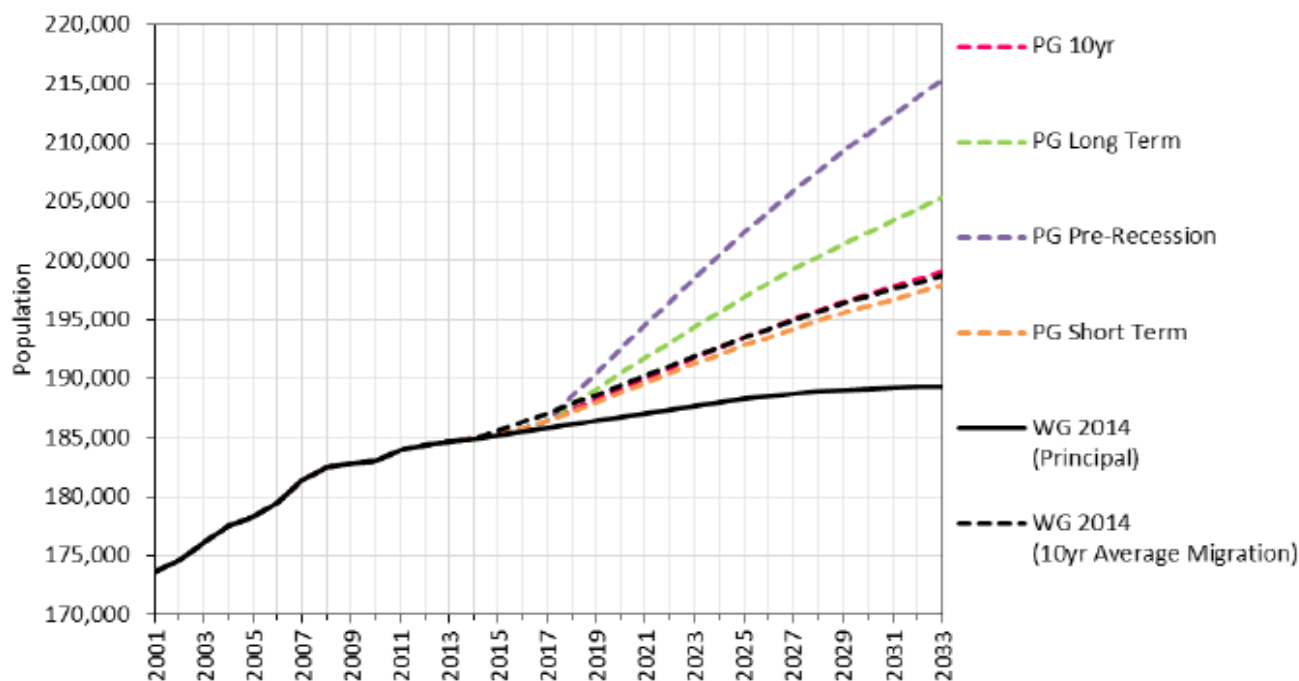
- **WG 2014-based:** this replicates the WG 2014-based population projection.

- **WG 2014-based (10yr Average Migration):** replicates the WG 2014-based 10yr average migration variant population projection. Migration assumptions are based on the ten year period prior to 2014 (i.e. 2004/05–2013/14)
- **PG Short Term:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on a six-year historical period (2011/12–2016/17). This is a similar time period to the WG projection (i.e. 5–6 years), but includes the latest three years of data.
- **PG 10 year:** utilises the migration trend of the previous 10 years, which takes into account the first couple of years of the pre-recession period, but with the majority of the migration data being from the post-recession era.
- **PG Long Term:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the full sixteen-year historical period (2001/02–2016/17).
- **PG Pre-Recession:** Internal migration rates and international migration flow assumptions are based on the period pre-2008 recession (2001/02–2007/08), in which higher in-migration flows to Carmarthenshire were recorded.

3.3 The demographic trend scenarios incorporate mid-year population, migration, births and deaths statistics for 2001–2017 (i.e. three additional years of historical data to the WG projection). Household and dwelling growth under the demographic scenarios has been estimated using assumptions from the WG 2014-based household projection model in conjunction with a 2011 Census vacancy rate of 6.3%.

3.4 In utilising the demographic scenarios above, Edge Analytics have considered the demographic data in conjunction with a variant vacancy rate of 3.4%, which is borne from Empty Property records from the Local Housing Authority. This lowers (albeit not fundamentally) the housing requirement within each scenario.

Carmarthenshire Population Change 2001-2033



Carmarthenshire IA Demographic Scenario Outcomes 2001-2033

| Scenario | Change 2018-2033 | | | | Average per year | | | Total Dwelling Growth (Census VR) | Total Dwelling Growth (ALT. VR) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Population Change | Population Change % | Household Change | Household Change % | Net Migration | Dwellings (Census VR) | Dwellings (ALT. VR) | | |
| PG Pre-Recession | 26,811 | 14.2% | 13,616 | 16.6% | 2,028 | 969 | 939 | 14,529 | 14,090 |
| PG Long Term | 17,567 | 9.4% | 9,555 | 11.7% | 1,423 | 680 | 659 | 10,195 | 9,887 |
| PG 10 year | 11,755 | 6.3% | 6,992 | 8.6% | 1,043 | 497 | 482 | 7,461 | 7,236 |
| PG Short Term | 10,691 | 5.7% | 6,807 | 8.4% | 997 | 484 | 470 | 7,263 | 7,044 |
| (WG 2014 (10yr Average Migration) | 10,842 | 5.8% | 6,322 | 7.7% | 921 | 450 | 436 | 6,746 | 6,542 |
| WG 2014 based | 3,207 | 1.7% | 3,254 | 4.0% | 546 | 231 | 224 | 3,472 | 3,367 |

3.5 The **WG 2014-based** scenario bases its migration assumptions on the five-year 2009/10–2013/14 period, which recorded notably lower net in-migration to Carmarthenshire. As deaths exceed births within the historic yearly data, the household change under the 2014-based projections is low at **231** dwellings per year. This equates to **3,372** dwellings over the

revised LDP period. Utilising the lower vacancy rate, this would result in 224 dwellings per year, or 3,367 dwellings over the revised LDP period.

3.6 Of all the alternative demographic trend based scenarios, the **PG Short Term** results in the lowest population change (5.7%) over the plan period, capturing the lower net migration flows evident in 2011/12–2013/14. The estimated population growth would support approximately **484** dwellings per annum, or a total of **7,263** dwellings over the plan period. Utilising the lower vacancy rate would result in 470 dwellings per year, or 7,044 dwellings over the revised LDP period.

3.7. The **WG 2014-based (10 year average migration)** projection utilises the WG 2014-based natural change assumptions but also considers the 10 year migration period between 2003/2004 and 2012/13. This trend uses a migration period prior to, and post-recession, which would see a population and household change of 5.8% and 7.7% respectively during the plan period of 2018-2033. The housing requirement within this scenario (2011 Census vacancy rate) would equate to 450 dwellings per year, which would be less than that currently being built within Carmarthenshire on an average yearly basis. This equates to 6,746 dwellings over the LDP period 2018-2033. In considering this projection against the variant vacancy rate of 3.4%, the dwelling requirement within this scenario reduces to 436 dwellings per year. This equates to 6,542 dwellings over the LDP period 2018-2033.

3.8 **The PG 10 year** projections utilises the migration trend of the previous 10 years, which takes into account the first couple of years of the pre-recession period, but with the majority of the migration data since 2008. This trend offers a slightly more positive outlook than that considered in the 10yr migration data from the WG 2014 based projection, and similar to the PG Short term Scenario.

3.9 By utilising the 2011 Census vacancy, this scenario would, require 497 dwellings per annum within the revised LDP period 2018-2033, with the variant vacancy rate highlighting a provision of 482 dwellings per year. This equates to 7,461 dwellings and 7,236 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively. Both variant scenario would show a requirement that is similar to the 10 year average build rates 2007-2017, but less than the average build rates from 2015 onwards.

3.10 Under the **PG Long Term** scenario, higher net migration flows are estimated (averaging +1,423 people per year), resulting in population change (9.4%) and subsequent dwelling growth

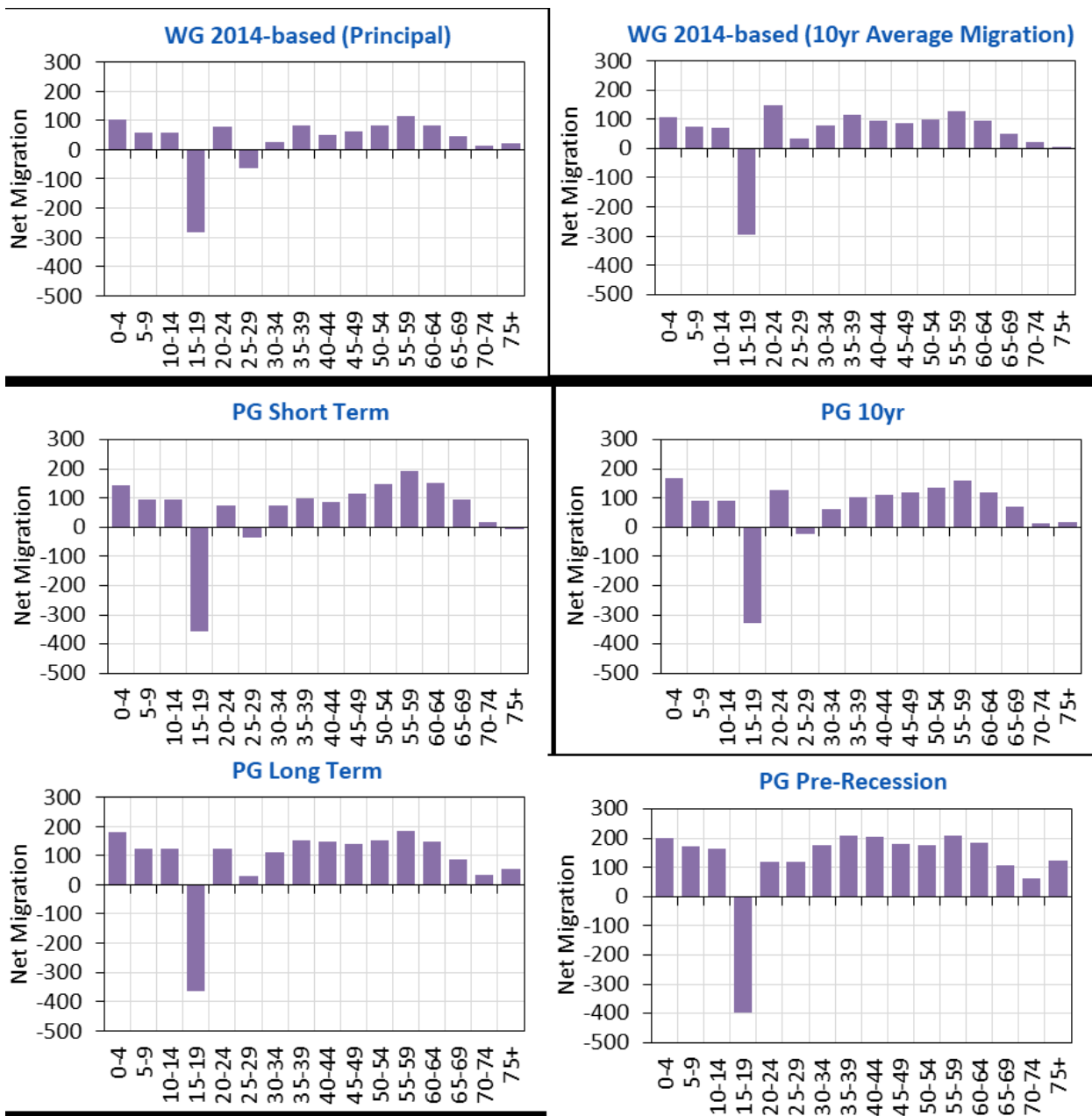
of 680 dwellings per year (2011 Census vacancy rate) or 659 dwellings per year (variant vacancy rate). This equates to 10,195 dwellings and 9,887 dwellings over the revised LDP period respectively. Both scenarios are higher than estimated under the PG Short Term and WG 2014-based scenarios.

3.11 The **PG Pre-Recession** scenario draws its migration assumptions from the 2001/02–2007/08 period, capturing the period of high net migration to Carmarthenshire. Consequently, future estimation of net migration is highest under the **PG Pre-Recession** scenario (averaging +2,028 per year), resulting in population change of 14.2% and an average annual dwelling growth of **969** per year over the 2018–2033 plan period.

Future Age structure under the Demographic Scenarios

3.12 In all demographic scenarios, the number of 15-19 years leaving the county continues to be high, whilst the number of migrants to Carmarthenshire over 65+ is higher than that in the 2014 based projection

3.13 In terms of the working age population, the five variant scenarios show that the migration levels into Carmarthenshire are higher than the principal WG 2014-based projection. This would provide a more optimistic outlook in seeking to achieve the targets outlined in Carmarthenshire's *Strategic Regeneration Plan*. Increased net migration inflows to Carmarthenshire in the young adult age groups would support higher economic growth and have a positive impact on the ageing population profile of the Unitary Authority.



3.14 Migration profiles will drive changes to Carmarthenshire’s population age structure. Over the 2018–2033 plan period, there is substantial population growth projected in the 65+ age groups under all scenarios driven by the gradual ageing of the birth cohorts from the 1940s, 50s and 60s, plus the additional impact of net in-migration. As recognised in the *Hywel Dda Health Transformation Agenda*, Carmarthenshire’s ageing population provides a real challenge for the future delivery of health and social care services.

4. Economic Growth

4.1 The demographic scenarios presented provide an indication of the potential impact of a continuation of past migration trends upon future population change and housing growth in Carmarthenshire. It is evident that historical migration trends in Carmarthenshire have been influenced by economic factors, resulting in lower net migration to the UA over the recessionary period.

4.2 The Edge Analytics report considers the future housing requirement in Carmarthenshire based on the Council's various economic strategies and publications. These strategies include

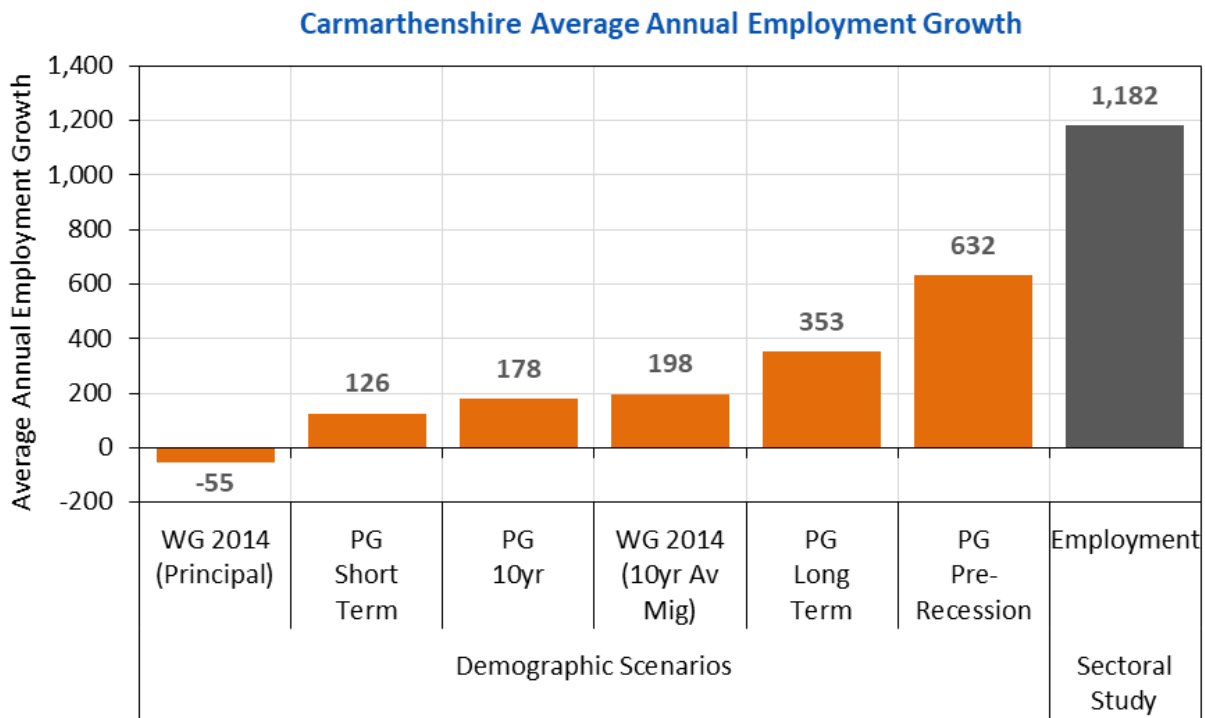
- **Swansea Bay City Deal** - and the projected creation of approximately 2,500 jobs within Carmarthenshire.
- **Carmarthenshire County Council Strategic Regeneration Plan** identifies a jobs growth target of 5,000 units over the 2015-2030 period, which includes those captured in the Swansea Bay City Deal.
- **The Employment Sectoral Study** – The study makes recommendations for target interventions and actions to develop a proactive land acquisition programme of employment sites and to support the growth of economic activity. For this to take place it assumes a fixed annual growth rate for key employment sectors. To fulfil its potential, the Employment Sectoral Study estimated an average annual jobs growth in nine priority sectors of +1,245 jobs per year over the 2017–2032 period, taking account of the Swansea Bay City Deal and six transformational projects.

4.3 The methodology of the Edge Analytics report considers the potential impact of employment growth upon population and housing growth in Carmarthenshire. POPGROUP quantifies the demographic impact of an economic growth trajectory by measuring the relationship between employment growth and the changing size of the resident population and its labour force.

4.4 The Edge Analytics report considers the Employment Sectoral Study as the basis for the employment led-scenario as it reflects the content of other economic and regeneration studies (as highlighted above).

Demographic scenarios and jobs growth

4.5 If the six demographic scenarios were considered, the table below indicates the number of new jobs the increase in population could support.



4.6 It is estimated that the population growth rate range of 1.7% to 14.2% (**WG 2014-based** to **PG Pre-Recession** respectively) could support an average annual employment change of -55 to +632 per annum over the 2018–2033 plan period.

4.7 The decline in employment change estimated under the **WG 2014-based** scenario, reflects the estimated decline in the labour force over the plan period, driven by population ageing and lower migration. The **PG Pre-Recession** records higher employment growth over the plan period, driven by higher migration and the maintenance of a more youthful population.

4.8 However, even the **PG Pre-Recession** scenario suggests a lower employment growth outcome than the 1,182 per year total from the *Employment Sectoral Study*. This suggests a higher population growth is required to support this level of employment growth, possibly in combination with future change in Carmarthenshire’s commuting balance and its underpinning economic activity rates. A balanced view is however required in assessing the level of growth suggested in the PG Pre-Recession scenario and the Employment Led scenarios below.

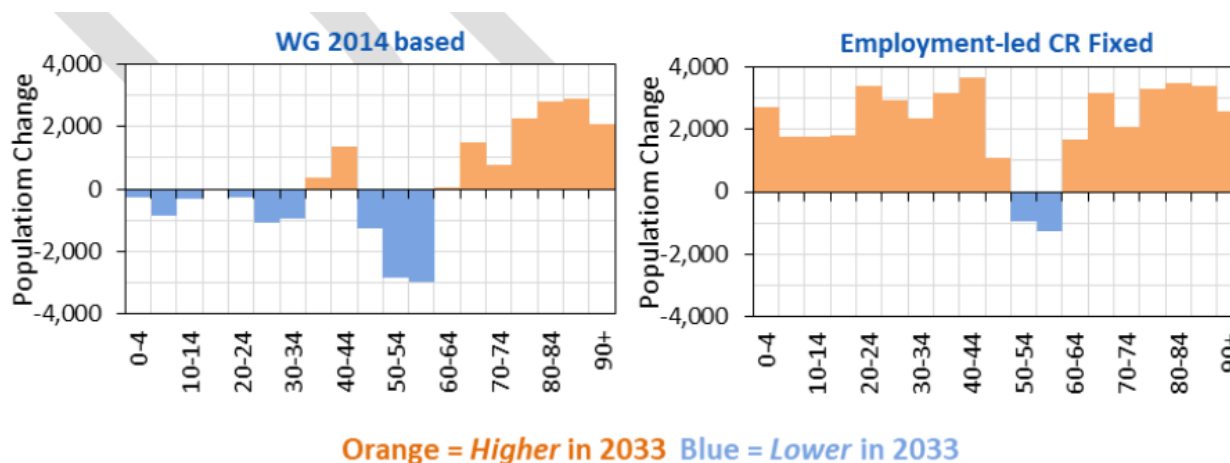
5. Employment Led Scenario and Population Growth

5.1 Using an employment-led formulation of the POPGROUP model, the required population and housing growth to meet the 1,182 per annum employment trajectory is estimated in the table below.

| Employment-led Scenarios | Change 2018–2033 | | | | Average per year | | | Total Dwelling Growth (Census VR) | Total Dwelling Growth (Alt. VR) |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Population Change | Population Change % | Households Change | Households Change % | Net Migration | Dwellings (Census VR) | Dwellings (Alt. VR) | | |
| CR Fixed | 42,050 | 22.2% | 19,027 | 23.2% | 2,814 | 1,354 | 1,313 | 20,303 | 19,690 |
| CR Reducing | 36,481 | 19.3% | 16,810 | 20.5% | 2,483 | 1,196 | 1,160 | 17,938 | 17,396 |

Note: Employment growth, economic activity rate and unemployment rate assumptions are consistent for each, only the commuting ratio differs.

5.2 To support an average employment growth of +1,182 per year, the required estimated population change ranges from 19.3% to 22.2% over the plan period. This is notably higher than estimated under each of the demographic scenarios, driven by higher net in-migration flows to Carmarthenshire to support the defined economic growth. A younger migration profile is estimated under the employment-led scenarios (driven by larger growth in the working age groups), which in turn results in a younger population age profile than estimated under the demographic scenarios. For comparison, the difference in the make-up of the population change between the WG-based projection and the employment led projection is below.



5.3 To consider this in context of the adopted Local Development Plan 2006-2021, the LDP currently has a housing requirement of 1,013 dwellings per annum. Secondly, build rates for the previous 10 years has been at an average of approximately 500 dwellings per year. The employment-led scenario highlighted in the table above indicates over twice as many houses are required than what has historically been delivered.

6. Summary of the Growth Options for the Revised LDP

6.1 The Edge Analytics Report provides various demographic and employment led scenarios to consider as part of the revised LDP process. Each of the scenarios will be considered against other factors which influence the LDP, culminating in a favoured growth option.

- The WG 2014-based projections offers very low household growth due to the low migration levels for the period it considers. For economic aspirations, the 2014-based projection support an average employment change of -55 jobs.
- The WG 2014-based (10 yr average migration) using both vacancy rates considers a net increase of 450 or 436 dwellings per year. This equates to a total of 6,746 and 6,542 over the revised LDP period. For economic aspirations, this scenario supports an employment change of 198 additional jobs per year, or 2,970 jobs over the life of the revised LDP.
- The PG short term (using both vacancy rates) considers a net increase of 484 or 470 dwellings per year, resulting in a total of 7,263 or 7,044 dwellings over the plan period. For economic aspirations, PG Short Term supports an average employment change of 126 jobs per year, or 1,890 jobs over the life of the revised LDP.
- The PG 10 Year (using both vacancy rates) scenario outlines a net increase of 497 or 482 dwellings per year, this has a resultant requirement of 7,461 or 7,236 dwellings over the plan period. It delivers only a relatively marginal increase in job creation to that of the PG short term, falling short of the 5000 jobs figure identified in the Council's Regeneration Strategy.
- The PG Long term scenario (using both vacancy rates) considers a net increase of 680 or 659 dwellings per year, resulting in 10,195 or 9,887 dwellings over the plan period. For economic aspirations, PG Long term supports an average employment change of 353 jobs per year, or 5,295 jobs over the life of the revised LDP.

- The PG pre-recession scenario (using both vacancy rates) consider a net increase of 969 or 939 dwellings, resulting in 14,529 or 14,090 dwellings over the plan period. For the economic aspirations, PG pre-recession supports and average employment change of 632 jobs per year, or 9,480 jobs over the life of the revised LDP.
- In considering the employment led scenarios considered from the data within the Employment Sectoral Study, the number of dwellings required to support the employment growth is as follows:
 - Based on a fixed commuting ratio for the Plan period, the requirement would be 1,354 or 1,313 dwellings per year. This equates to 20,303 or 19,960 dwellings over the revised LDP period.
 - Based on the CR reducing ratio for the Plan period the requirement would be 1,196 or 1,160 dwellings per year. This equates to 17,938 or 17,396 dwellings over the revised LDP period.
 - In terms of the Commuting Reducing Ratio, it means that as the Plan progresses through the 15 years, there will be less need for the labour force to out-commute as the jobs will be available within the county.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Carmarthenshire Revised Local Development Plan (LDP)

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report

1. Introduction

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (known as the 'Habitats Directive'), implemented in the UK by the Habitat Regulations 2010, provides legal protection for a range of habitats and species identified as being of European importance.

Article 2 of the Directive requires the maintenance or restoration of these habitats and species, in a favourable condition, and is achieved through the establishment and maintenance of protected areas referred to as Natura 2000 sites. These are comprised of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora ('the Habitats Directive 1992'), implemented in Britain by the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c) Regulations 2010 ('the Habitat Regulations'); and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds ('the Birds Directive') and Ramsar site under the Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of Importance.

Sites designated as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention are subject to the same provisions as Natura 2000 sites.

The application of Habitats Regulations to Development Plans

Part IVA of the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 ("the Habitats Regulations") transposes the requirements of article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) in relation to "land use plans". These plans are defined in regulation 85A and include the following:

- Local development plans adopted or approved under the 2004 Act; and
- Unitary development plans adopted or approved under the 1990 Act, in accordance with the transitional agreements.

WAG's Technical Advice Note 5, Annex 6(ref) states that The HRA process should consist of the following elements:

- Determining whether the development plan, alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have significant effect on any European sites or European offshore marine sites and if so, scoping the "appropriate assessment";
- Undertaking the "appropriate assessment" (in consultation with NRW and/or Natural England) to identify any significant effects that the development plan may have on any European sites or European offshore marine sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, in view of those sites' conservation objectives;
- Where the "appropriate assessment" identifies potentially significant impacts on a European site or European offshore marine site, identifying whether there are possible alternative solutions or mitigation measures which, if adopted, will avoid or counteract those adverse impacts;

- Determining, in light of the “appropriate assessment”, whether the development plan will or will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site or European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects;
- Where there is a possibility that the plan could have such an adverse effect, determining whether there are any alternative solutions to the development plan, or to the potentially damaging elements within that plan, which would avoid or reduce such effects upon the European site(s) or European offshore marine site(s); and
- Where there are no such alternative solutions, determining whether there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for giving effect to the development plan.

The methods and approach used for this screening are based on guidance currently available and emergent practice, which recommends that HRA is approached in four main stages - outlined in Table 1 below. This report outlines the method and findings for stage 1 of the HRA process.

Table 1 Habitats Regulations Assessment: Key Stages

| Habitats Regulation Assessment Stage | Purpose | Task |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Screening | Process for identifying impacts of a plan or project on a European site, either individually or in combination, and consideration of whether likely effects will be significant. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the plan • Identification of potential effects on European Sites • Assessing the effects on European Sites. |
| 2. Appropriate Assessment | Consideration of impacts on integrity of the site, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, having regard to the site’s structure, function and conservation objectives. Where adverse impacts are identified, assess mitigation options to identify impacts on the integrity of the site. This stage should involve consultation. If mitigation options do not result in avoidance of adverse effects permission can only be granted if the remaining 2 stages are followed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather information (plan and European Sites) • Impact prediction • Evaluation of impacts in view of conservation objectives |
| 3. Assessment of alternative solutions | Review and examine alternatives to achieve objectives; would these alternative solutions avoid or have less adverse effects on the European sites? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where impacts considered to affect qualifying features, identify alternative options • Assess alternative options • If no alternatives exist, define and evaluate |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | mitigation measures where necessary |
| 4. Assessment of any 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI) | Where no suitable alternative solution exists and adverse impacts still remain then assess whether the development is necessary for IROPI. If so then identify potential compensatory measures to maintain integrity and coherence of the protected site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI) • Identify potential compensatory measures |

Purpose of report

At this stage of Plan preparation, with the exception of a small number of strategic sites, the Preferred Strategy will not include reference to the identification of any site-specific allocations. This will be done as part of drawing up the Deposit LDP, once the Preferred Strategy has been agreed.

This HRA Report therefore comprises the high-level preliminary screening stage (of the HRA process) of the Preferred Strategy. It identifies those allocation sites and/or policies which would clearly have no effects upon European sites enabling these to be 'screened out' of any further assessment. Therefore, the focus of further, more detailed assessment would only be applied to allocation sites, or policies, where a likely significant effect could be possible. Further detailed screening will be carried out on the next iteration of the LDP (i.e. the Deposit LDP) when the policies have been prepared and a full list of allocation sites has been agreed. Allocation sites and policies included for further detailed screening would then be reviewed in more detail based on the available information.

Consultation

The Habitats Regulations require the plan making/competent authority to consult the appropriate nature conservation statutory body (Natural Resources Wales) if undertaking an Appropriate Assessment, however consultation with other bodies and the public is left to the discretion of the local planning authority (regulation 85B(3)).

WAG guidance notes that it is good practice to make information on HRA available to the public at each formal development plan consultation stage. Therefore, in addition to the statutory consultation undertaken with NRW, this report will be made available for wider consultation.

Responses to this consultation should be sent in writing to:

Forward Planning Section,
Environment Department,
7/8 Spilman Street,
Carmarthen,
Carmarthenshire,
SA31 1JY

or e mail: forward.planning@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

or online at www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk by the closing date of XXX

Following the receipt of the consultation comments, they will be reviewed and modifications will be made to the HRA screening report as necessary

Structure of report

This report documents the process and the findings from the screening stages of the HRA for Carmarthenshire County Council Preferred Strategy. Following this introductory section, the document is organised into the following sections:

Section 2 outlines the methodology and key tasks undertaken for the HRA screening of the Preferred Strategy stage of the LDP, and includes reference to the key information sources used.

Section 3 outlines the process and summary findings of the Screening Process and assessment including:

- **3.1 Task 1:** Identification and characterisation of European Sites
- **3.2 Task 2:** Screening of Preferred Strategy to identify potential likely effects on European Sites
- **3.3 Task 3:** Consideration of effects in combination with other plans, programmes and projects.
- **3.4 Task 4:** Screening Assessment Summary

2. Methodology

Stage 1 – Screening

The process of Screening can be broken down into four main task areas. Each task is outlined below.

- **Task 1:** Identification and characterisation of European sites
- **Task 2:** Review and screening of Development Plan to identify potential impacts and likely effects on European sites.
- **Task 3:** Consideration of other plans and projects that may act ‘in-combination’
- **Task 4:** Screening Assessment, recording the opinion and supporting information and analysis.

A screening assessment, both alone and in combination, with other identified plans and projects will identify if any significant environmental affects will result affecting the site and conclude whether significant affects are likely or not.

If no potential significant affects are identified, the process ends at this stage.

If there are found to be likely significant effects, having applied the precautionary principle, the plan must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment (AA) of its implications for the European site in view of the site’s conservation objectives. The work carried out at the evidence gathering stage and the screening stage should be drawn upon to assist in assessing the effects of the plan option on the conservation objectives

Determining ‘likely significant effect’

In order to decide whether a development plan at any stage requires an appropriate assessment, it is necessary to apply the two tests set out in regulation 85B(1) of the regulations, which are:

- (1) Is the plan likely to have a significant effect on a European site or European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects)?
- (2) Is it directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site?

When undertaking this assessment a precautionary approach is required. The development plan should be considered ‘likely’ to have such an effect if the planning authority is unable (on the basis of objective information) to exclude the possibility that the plan could have significant effects on any European site or European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

An effect will be considered ‘significant’ in this context if it could undermine the conservation objectives of a European designated site. The assessment of that risk (of ‘significance’) must be made in the light, amongst other things, of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned.

The screening step will therefore screen out aspects of the plan which could not have any negative effect at all on a European site, because there is no link, nor pathway, nor other relationship between the effects of the policy or proposal and any European site, including cases where the link

is severed or eliminated by distance, or because any potential effects would be positive, not negative.

If the likelihood of significant affects cannot be ruled out on the evidence available, then it must be assumed that a risk of significant affects may exist. These will then need to be addressed through either changes to the scheme, avoidance or through securing mitigation measures.

Guidance for Habitats Regulations Appraisal/Appropriate Assessment

The following methodology developed for the HRA screening is based upon the following regulations and guidance documents:

Regulations:

- Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (the 'Conservation Regulations').
- Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, (the 'Habitats Directive').

Guidance:

- Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. European Commission (2001).
- Department for Communities and Local Government (2006). Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Guidance for Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents.
- TAN 5
- Habitats Regulations Assessment: A toolkit to support HRA Screening and Appropriate Assessment of Plans. South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG) (2008)
- DTA Publications Limited The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook.

3. Screening

3.1 Task 1: Identification and characterisation of European Sites

Plans, programmes and projects can have spatial implications that extend beyond the intended plan boundaries. It is recognised that distance in itself is not a definitive guide to the likelihood or severity of an impact and factors such as prevailing wind direction, river flow direction and groundwater flow direction will all have bearing on the relevant distance at which an impact can occur. This means that a plan directing development some distance away from a European Site could still have effects on the site and therefore, needs to be considered as part of the screening process.

European sites on which Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan could potentially have a significant effect have been identified via data obtained through the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Protected Sites Designations Directory and by applying a 15km buffer from the County boundary, in order to take into consideration the potential for transboundary impacts.

12 designated sites lie within Carmarthenshire's County boundary and are listed in the table below.

| European Site within Plan Boundary | Designation |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| River Tywi | SAC |
| Caeau Mynydd Mawr | SAC |
| Cernydd Carmel | SAC |
| Carmarthen Bay Dunes | SAC |
| River Teifi | SAC |
| Cleddau Rivers | SAC |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuary | SAC |
| Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen | SAC |
| Carmarthen Bay | SPA |
| Elenydd - Mallaen | SPA |
| Burry Inlet | SPA |
| Burry Inlet | Ramsar |

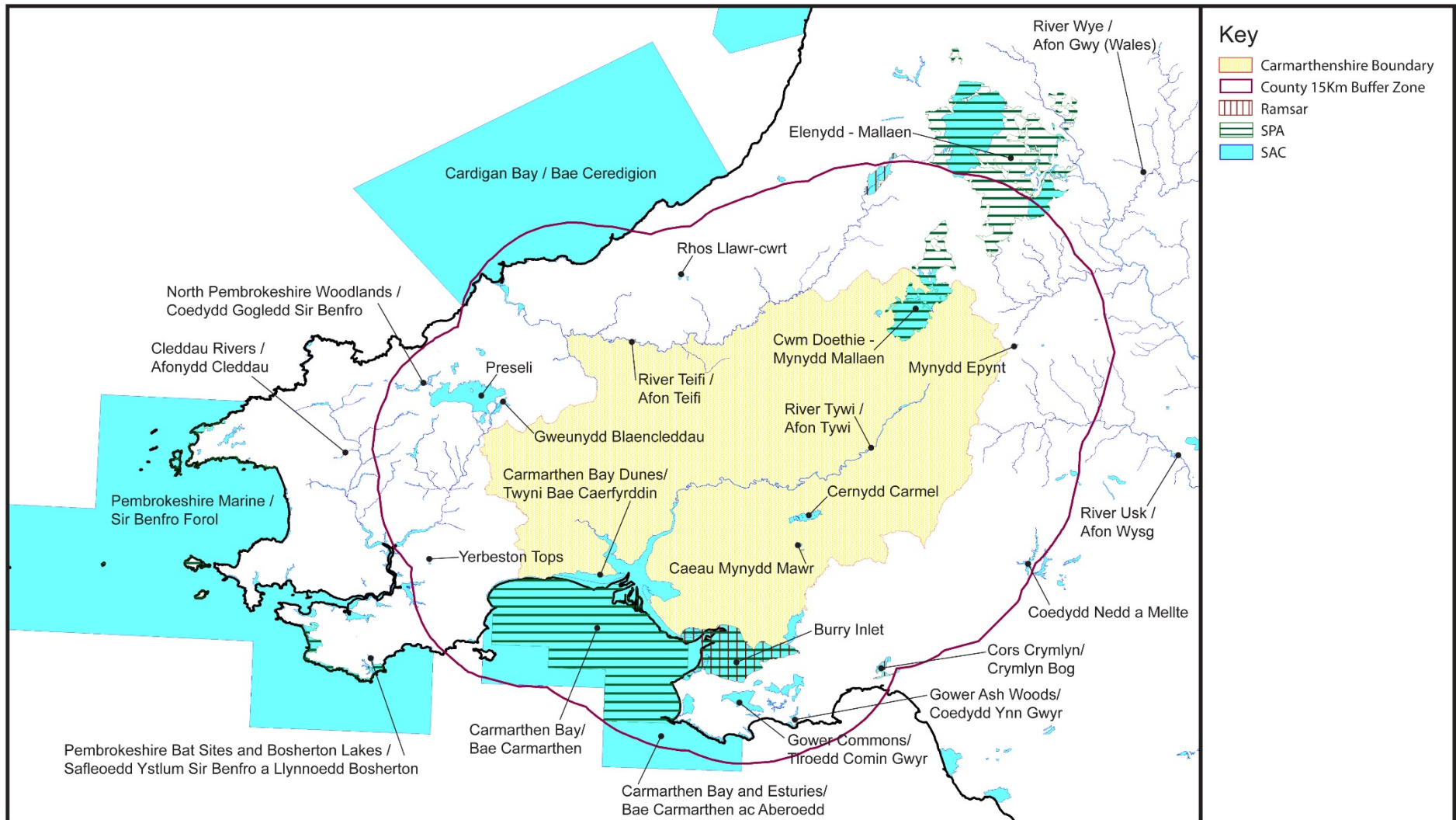
Screening has identified a further 13 designated sites that lie within the 15km buffer zone and may be influenced by transboundary effects of the Carmarthenshire preferred strategy.

| European Site within 15km buffer around Plan Boundary | Designation | Distance from Plan boundary (km) |
|---|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Cardigan Bay | SAC | 9.2km |
| North Pembrokeshire Woodlands | SAC | 9.0km |
| Yerbeston Tops | SAC | 8.8km |
| Rhos Llawr-cwrt | SAC | 7.5km |
| Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes | SAC | 6.9km |
| Gower Ash Woods | SAC | 8.8km |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | SAC | 4.7km |
| Gower Commons | SAC | 4.0km |
| River Wye | SAC | 1.7km |
| Gweunydd Blaencleddau | SAC | 1.9km |
| Preseli | SAC | 0.5km |

| | | |
|--------------|-----|-------|
| Mynydd Epynt | SAC | 1.8km |
| River Usk | SAC | 0.2km |

Appendix 1 provides a summary of each of the European sites considered to potentially be affected by the Carmarthenshire Preferred Strategy, and sets out the conservation objectives and condition assessment for each of the features of interest for each site. Detailed site characterisation information for each of the identified sites can be found in the accompanying Core Management Plan and Natura 2000 standard data form for each site, which can be accessed via the Joint Nature Conservation Committee website.

Figure 1 Location of European sites in relation to Carmarthenshire.



3.2 Task 2: Screening of Preferred Strategy to identify potential likely effects on European Sites

This chapter sets out a preliminary screening of the potential significant likely effects of the revised Carmarthenshire Draft Pre-Deposit Preferred Strategy on the conservation objectives of the European sites identified in Task 1.

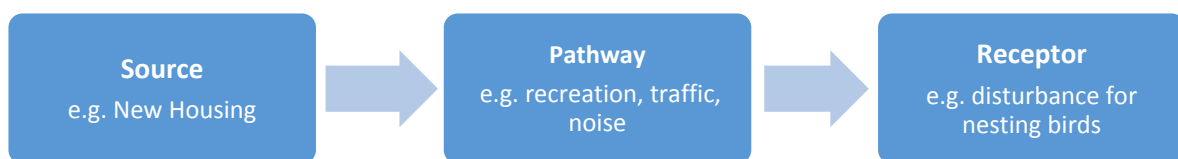
Those sites identified as having the potential for Likely Significant Effects (LSE), as a result of the implementation of the Preferred Strategy, or those European sites for which impacts were uncertain, will be carried forward into more detailed screening assessment.

Scanning and selection European sites potentially affected.

The scanning stage identifies sites that may be affected by the plan as far beyond as necessary for sites and identifying causal connections and links between the plan proposals and the qualifying features of the sites.

The checklist provided in Table 2 identifies potential pathways by which the Preferred Strategy may impact on European sites. This checklist reflects and expands upon Natural Resources Wales (NRW) guidance, and provides a systematic and transparent way of identifying sites potentially affected by the Preferred Strategy.

Figure 2 Impact Source, Pathway, Receptor model



This process enables an appropriate ‘short list’ of sites potentially affected to be identified, from which the final list of sites to be included in assessment can be selected after considering the relevant information. Selection of sites is an iterative process, considering and reconsidering information until there is a satisfactory degree of confidence that all sites potentially adversely affected have been selected.

If there is no causal connection or link between the Plan’s proposals and the sites qualifying features there cannot be an effect. If there is a ‘theoretical’ pathway or ‘hypothetical’ cause, but in practice there is no credible evidence of a real link to the site, it cannot be regarded as being potentially significant, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. There is no point including that supposition in further assessment.

This scan is broad ranging, but following a systematic approach is likely to ensure compliance and to provide credible and demonstrable evidence of how sites were scanned and selected.

The scanning list includes plans by:

- Type – e.g. plans that increase the amount of development
- Potential effect on resources - e.g. the aquatic environment or mobile species

- The nature of potential effects – e.g. plans that introduce new activities which could affect air quality.

Table 2 Scanning and site selection list for sites that could potentially be affected by the plan.

| Types of plan | Site selection criteria | Sites selected for further consideration |
|--|---|--|
| 1. All plans (terrestrial, coastal and marine) | Sites within the plan area | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Tywi ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ River Teifi ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| 2. Plans that could affect the aquatic environment | Sites upstream or downstream of the plan area in the case of river or estuary sites | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ River Usk ▪ River Wye |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | Open water, peatland, fen, marsh and other wetland sites with relevant hydrological links to land within the plan area, irrespective of distance | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Burry Inlet |
| 3. Plans that could affect the marine environment | Sites that could be affected by changes in water quality, currents or flows; or effects on the intertidal or subtidal areas or the seabed or marine species | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Dunes ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay |
| | | SACs |
| 4. Plans that could affect the coast | Sites in the same coastal 'cell' or part of the same coastal ecosystem, or where there are interrelationships with or between | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Dunes ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cardigan Bay |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Dunes ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cardigan Bay |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | different physical coastal processes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay |
| 5. Plans that could affect mobile species | Sites whose qualifying features include mobile species which may be affected by the plan irrespective of the location of the plans or whether the species would be in or out of the site when they might be affected. | SACs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Tywi ▪ River Teifi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine ▪ River Wye ▪ River Usk ▪ North Pembrokeshire Woodlands ▪ Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes ▪ Yerboston Tops ▪ Rhos Lawr Cwrt ▪ Preseli ▪ Gower Commons |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Burry Inlet |
| 6. Plans that could increase recreational pressure on European sites potentially vulnerable to such pressure | Such sites in the plan area | SAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay ▪ Elenydd - Mallaen |
| | Such sites within a reasonable travel distance of the plan area boundaries that may be affected by local recreational or other visitor pressure from within the plan area | None |
| | Such sites within a longer travel distance of the plan area which are major (regional or national) visitor attractions such as sites which are National Nature Reserves where public visiting is promoted, sites in National Parks, coastal sites and sites in other major tourist or visitor destinations. | None |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 7. Plans that would increase the amount of development | Sites in the plan area or beyond that are used for, or could be affected by, water abstraction irrespective of distance from the plan area | <p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ River Tywi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Caeau Mynydd Mawr ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Carmarthen Bay Dunes ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen ▪ Mynydd Epynt ▪ Preseli ▪ River Wye ▪ River Usk ▪ Yerboston Tops ▪ Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine ▪ Gower Commons <p>SPA/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burry Inlet ▪ Carmarthen Bay |
| | Sites used for, or which could be affected by, discharge of effluent from waste water treatment works or other waste management streams serving the plan area, irrespective of distance | <p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ River Teifi ▪ River Tywi ▪ Cleddau Rivers ▪ Cardigan Bay ▪ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries ▪ Cernydd Carmel ▪ River Wye ▪ River Usk ▪ Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes ▪ Pembrokeshire Marine <p>SPAs/Ramsar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet • Carmarthen Bay |
| | Sites that could be affected by the provision of new or extended transport or other infrastructure | None |
| | Sites that could be affected by increased deposition of air pollutants arising from the plan, including emissions from significant increases in traffic | <p>SACs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caeau Mynydd Mawr • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries • Carmarthen Bay and Dunes • Cernydd Carmel • Cleddau Rivers • Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen • Gower Ash Woods • Gower Commons |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gweunydd Blaencleddau • Mynydd Epynt • Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes • Pembrokeshire Marine • Preseli • Rhos Llawr-cwrt • North Pembrokeshire Woodlands • Yrbeston Tops |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthen Bay • Burry Inlet |
| 8. Plans for linear developments or infrastructure | Sites within a specified distance from the centre line of a proposed route (or alternative routes), the distance may be varied depending on type of site/qualifying features and in the absence of established good practice standards, distances are to be agreed by the statutory nature body | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |
| 9. Plans that introduce new activities or new uses to the marine, coastal or terrestrial environment | Sites considered have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the new activities proposed by the plan | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |
| 10. Plans that could change the nature, area, extent, intensity, density, timing or scale of existing use activities. | Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the changes to existing activities proposed by the plan | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |
| 11. Plans that could change the quantity, quality, timing, treatment or mitigation of emissions or discharges to air, water or soil | Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the changes in emissions or discharges that could arise as a result of the plan (over and above those already identified) | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |
| 12. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate or other characteristics of biological resources harvested, extracted or consumed | Sites whose qualifying features include the biological resources which the plan may affect, or whose qualifying features depend on the biological resources which the plan may affect e.g. as prey species or supporting habitat or which may be disturbed by the | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | harvesting, extraction or consumption | |
| 13. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate or other characteristics of physical resources extracted or consumed | Sites whose qualifying features rely on the non-biological resources which the plan may affect e.g. as habitat or physical environment on which habitat may develop or which may be disturbed by the extraction or consumption | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |
| 14. Plans that could introduce, increase or alter the timing, nature or location of disturbance to species | Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable or sensitive to disturbance e.g. as a result of noise, activity or movement, or the presence of disturbing features that could be brought about by the plan | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afon Teifi • Afon Tywi • Cleddau Rivers • Cardigan Bay • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries • Cwm Doethie • Gower Commons • Gower Ash Woods • North Pembrokeshire Woodlands • Pembrokeshire Marine • Pembrokeshire Bat sites and Bosherton Lakes • River Wye • River Usk |
| | | SPA/Ramsar |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet • Carmarthen Bay |
| 15. Plans which could introduce, increase or change the timing, nature or location of light or noise pollution | Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable to the effects of changes in light or noise that could be brought about by the plan | SACs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afon Teifi • Afon Tywi • Cleddau Rivers • Cardigan Bay • Carmarthen Bay • Pembrokeshire Marine • Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes • River Wye • River Usk |
| | | SPAs |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet • Carmarthen Bay |
| 16. Plans which could introduce or increase a potential cause of mortality of species | Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially vulnerable to the source of new or increased mortality that could be brought about by the plan | None (Plan does not produce such risks) |

Based on the checklist and taking into account the nature, scope content and function of the Preferred Strategy, it is considered that the preliminary screening will need to consider the following range of effects:

- Effects on aquatic environment
- Effects on the marine environment
- Effects on the coast
- Effects on mobile species
- Recreational effects
- Effects associated development
 - Water abstraction
 - Discharge of effluent from wastewater
 - Effects of air pollution
- Species disturbance effects
- Noise and light pollution effects

Each effect mechanism is introduced and considered at a generic level in relation to the overall preferred strategy in the subsequent paragraphs and summarised in Table 12, where implications for further screening work have been identified. Where evidence shows that certain effect mechanisms will not result in Likely Significant Effects on certain sites, they are screened out from further assessment at this stage.

Effects on the aquatic environment

The 'aquatic environment' of a site is typically the body of water in a site, taking into consideration its movement into, through and out of the site. Effects considered under this heading relate to the localised effects of development on the existing surface water and ground water movement. Direct effects (such as sediment run off or the reduction of rainwater infiltration) are distinct from indirect effects such as water abstraction and wastewater, which are assessed separately under 'effects associated with development'.

Development and changes in land use can have affect the aquatic environment. It can cause acceleration of run off by increasing hard surface and reducing areas where infiltration can occur, which can increase the amount of chemicals or other pollutants entering watercourses. Water run off can also be slowed, through water retention and the introduction of Sustainable drainage systems. Sedimentation of surface water can also occur through run off from building sites or the diversion of water courses to other catchments.

Sites identified as potentially vulnerable to this effect are detailed in Table 3. In the case of all of these sites, effects are only considered likely where development is in close proximity to a water course that is in hydraulic continuity to the site and so will need to be subject to detailed screening. For this reason identified sites are screened in at this stage and this is summarised in Table 3.

Table 3 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on aquatic environment.

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further Assessment Required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| River Usk | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| River Wye | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Elenydd - Mallaen | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

Effects on the marine environment

Development and growth can lead to effects on the marine environment. These effects are considered unlikely, but screened in for all identified sites for detailed assessment, on precautionary basis. Sites sensitive to effects on the marine environment and preliminary screening assessment is summarised in Table 4.

Table 4 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on marine environment.

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further Assessment Required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| Carmarthen Bay and Dunes | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cardigan Bay | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

Effects on the coast

New development and growth can result in impacts on coastal processes. Installation of coastal defence structures to protect land and property can interfere with natural sand movement and erosion, which can result in coastal squeeze and effects on coastal dynamics.

Increased recreational pressures also have the potential to modify physical, chemical and environmental factors and processes in the coastal environment, which are assessed in more detail under 'recreational effects'. These effects are considered unlikely, but screened in for all identified sites for detailed assessment, on precautionary basis. Sites sensitive to effects on the coast and screening assessment is summarised in Table 5.

Table 5 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on the coast

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further Assessment Required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| Carmarthen Bay and Dunes | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cardigan Bay | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

Effects on mobile species

Mobile species are those listed as features of a site, that are dependent on areas of land outside of the designated site boundary, such as birds, bats, fish etc. The mobile species identified as relevant to this preliminary assessment and the sites they are designated within are detailed in Table 6.

Table 6 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on the coast

| Sites with mobile species as designated features | Distance outside CCC boundary | Potentially impacted Species | Further assessment required? |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Within CCC boundary | | | |
| River Tywi SAC | N/A | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| River Teifi SAC | N/A | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| | | Atlantic salmon | No |
| Cleddau Rivers SAC | N/A | River lamprey | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC | N/A | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC | N/A | Marsh Fritillary Butterfly | Yes |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA | N/A | Bird Assemblage | Yes |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | N/A | Bird Assemblage | Yes |
| Outside CCC boundary | | | |
| Cardigan Bay SAC | 9.2km | Bottlenose dolphin | No |
| | | Grey seal | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----|
| | | River lamprey | No |
| Pembrokeshire Marine SAC | 4.7km | Grey seal | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| River Wye | 1.7km | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| | | Atlantic salmon | No |
| River Usk | 0.2km | Twaite shad | No |
| | | Allis shad | No |
| | | Sea lamprey | No |
| | | River lamprey | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| | | Atlantic salmon | No |
| North Pembrokeshire Woodlands | 9km | Barbastelle Bat | Yes |
| Pembrokeshire bat sites | 6.9km | Greater Horseshoe Bat | Yes |
| | | Lesser Horseshoe Bat | No |
| | | Otter | Yes |
| Yerbeston Tops | 8.8km | Marsh fritillary butterfly | No |
| Rhos Lawr-cwrt | 7.5km | Marsh fritillary butterfly | No |
| Preseli | 0.5km | Marsh fritillary butterfly | Yes |
| Gower Commons | 4km | Marsh fritillary butterfly | No |

Twaite Shad, Allis Shad, River lamprey, Sea lamprey and Atlantic salmon

The Twaite Shad, Allis Shad, River lamprey, Sea Lamprey and Atlantic salmon all utilise migratory routes through both estuarine and riverine SACs within Carmarthenshire at different stages of their life cycles. In Carmarthenshire, the Rivers Tywi, Teifi and Cleddau all have these as designated features of their SACs. The River Tywi is of particular importance to shad species as it is thought to be one of only four rivers in Wales in which they are known to spawn.

The rivers Tywi, Teifi and Cleddau all drain into estuaries which also have shad and lamprey as protected features, namely Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC, Cardigan Bay SAC and Pembrokeshire Marine SAC respectively. The rivers Usk and Wye also have shad and lamprey as designated species and their catchment area lies partially within Carmarthenshire.

Offsite impact on features within these sites is likely to be as a result of water quality or abstraction impact. For this reason, any likely significant impacts on shad, lamprey or Atlantic salmon in the listed sites will be assessed further and in more detail under the heading 'affects associated with development' and will not be considered further under this impact pathway.

Marsh Fritillary Butterfly

Marsh fritillary butterfly are designated features of a number of sites within the 15km buffer zone for consideration under HRA (Table XX). Conservation objectives for Marsh fritillary butterflies state

that *'There will be at least 10ha of Good Condition (optimal breeding) habitat on or within 2km radii of the SAC, set in a matrix of at least 50ha of Suitable Condition habitat'*.

All but Gower Commons SAC are considered to support insufficient habitat to achieve good conservation status under the above objective and are therefore highly sensitive to habitat fragmentation and loss as a result of development within a 2km radii of SAC boundaries.

Yerbeston tops SAC, Rhos Lawr cwrt SAC and Gower Commons SAC are sited more than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire's LDP and are therefore all screened out of further consideration under this impact pathway, as the LDP is not likely to have a significant effect on habitat fragmentation at these sites.

Sites identified as potentially vulnerable to impacts on Marsh Fritillary butterfly are: Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC and Preseli SAC on the basis that the LDP may potentially impact on the 2km habitat buffer around these SACs and must therefore be considered at the detailed screening stage.

Barbastelle Bat

With regards to potential offsite impacts on Barbastelle bats, the management plan for North Pembrokeshire Woodlands SAC states that *'One threat to the barbastelle feature is that around half of the roosting sites and the majority of the foraging areas lie outside the SAC boundaries, as the boundaries were drawn up before the bats were discovered.'*

To address this, the site management plan has the following conservation objectives for the Barbastelle bat feature:

'there will be continual foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli Forest, including wooded stream valleys, low and overgrown hedgerows, scrub, overgrown pastures, broken stands and woodland (which can include conifer plantations).'

'Roosts outside the [SAC] boundary will be left undisturbed, with no woodland management within 50m of a barbastelle roost and no clearance of shrub layer.'

As a result, detailed screening will need to be carried out to identify impacts any potential impacts on foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli, used by Barbastelle bats.

Greater and Lesser Horseshoe Bats

Both Greater and Lesser horseshoe bats are features of Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, which is an important site for a number of bat species, and contains a range of important roosting sites and nursery roosts for a range of bat species.

The Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes Management Plan states that between 1-16km from the component SSSI *'extensive hedgerow systems and tree-lined watercourses, linking roost sites and grasslands foraging areas to be retained within up to 16km of these roosts'*.

It also states that an area between 7-16km from component SSSIs may be used for foraging, but flight routes may lead further connecting to other roost sites. And that 'All existing roosts known to CCW should be maintained and there should be no physical deterioration in or disturbance of these sites, or loss of roosting opportunity within 1-16 km radius of the key breeding roosts within the SAC.'

Pembrokeshire Bat Site and Bosherton Lakes SAC sits more than 16km outside of Carmarthenshire's border and therefore will not have any offsite impacts that will have a significant effect on this objective. However, it is relevant to this assessment that the management plan does make reference to cumulative records, which show that Greater horseshoe bats utilise roosts throughout the West Wales region, including Carmarthenshire.

Offsite impacts as a result of the LDP are therefore not considered to have a likely significant effect on Lesser Bat species, which are screened out of further assessment. Records would need to be checked to inform the screening of any such areas that are considered for development with regards to potential threats to greater horseshoe bats, and as such this will be taken forward for detailed screening.

European Otters

European otters are designated features of a number of European sites considered for screening within this document, including River Tywi, River Teifi, Cleddau Rivers, Carmarthenshire Bay and Estuaries, Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, Pembrokeshire Marine, River Wye and River Usk SACs. Management plans for all of the aforementioned sites highlight that otters 'may be affected by developments that affect resting and breeding sites outside of SAC boundaries'.

With regards to riverine SACs, the management plans state that 'otters require sufficient undisturbed riparian habitat for breeding and resting to be maintained in areas adjacent to the SACs' and that in urban areas focus is often placed on maintaining the river as a 'communication corridor' without considering the requirement of the surrounding supporting habitats, which enable the river corridor to function efficiently. Therefore,

One threat of particular relevance is an increase in road use, as otter road deaths have been highlighted as having a potentially significant impact on populations within river catchments.

It is also highly likely that otters travel between water courses and along the coastline, utilising inland watercourses for breeding and coastal areas for foraging. Otters are known to utilise most areas of the coastline within and adjacent to both Pembrokeshire Marine and Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SACs and it is likely that otters present at a particular site are part of the wider population, with no site completely isolated. Of relevance to this assessment is the emphasised links between the coastal SAC's and both Tywi and Cleddau river SACs, both of which fall within Carmarthenshire's boundary

This indicates otters a highly mobile between the aforementioned SACs and as such are at risk of impacts as a result of the LDP, outside of SAC boundaries.

In light of this, detailed screening will need to be undertaken to identify any site allocations which may impact on the use of suitable areas of land outside the SAC boundary by otters.

Bottlenose Dolphin and Grey Seal

Neither Bottlenose dolphin nor Grey seal species utilise any of the waterways that lie within the plan area as part of their natural range. However, upstream water quality issues within the rivers Cleddau or Teifi have the potential to negatively impact on both species within Cardigan Bay SAC and Pembrokeshire Marine SAC, as well as their natural prey. **This will be addressed in more detail under the heading 'affects associated with development' and will be therefore not be considered further under this effect pathway.**

SPA Bird Assemblages

The listed bird species of the Burry Inlet and Carmarthen Bay SPAs are also considered as 'mobile', as at high tide many of the wading species are likely to seek refuge in supporting habitat outside of the SPA boundary. This is due to habitats above mean high water becoming too crowded or disturbed by roosting birds, when birds that utilise intertidal habitats are forced out by the incoming tide. Therefore, the birds will, at certain time, be required to utilise supporting habitats outside of the SPA, which often include arable land or recreational playing fields. In absence of any evidence to the contrary, any suitable land within 1km inshore of the SPAs may be used as supporting habitat by bird species at high tide or during inclement weather.

Records will need to be checked to inform the screening of any such areas that are considered for development and will be considered in further detailed screening.

Recreational Effects

The effects of recreational pressure on SACs and SPAs are primarily related to damage to habitats and disturbance to species for which the site is designated. Damage to habitats usually arise as a result of trampling, which over a period of time can cause paths and tracks to become established and subsequently widened. The wearing of paths from use can also cause or accelerate erosion leading to further habitat damage. Increased access can also increase the likelihood of invasive, non-native species being introduced into the SAC.

Disturbance and/or impacts on species in SACs and SPAs are largely as a result of increased use of the sites, which can lead to an increase in activities such as dog walking, recreational fishing, as well as eco-tourism activities, recreational boating and pollution associated with anthropogenic use of a site. Recreational effects on species will be addressed in more detail under the heading 'Species disturbance effects'.

Section 9 of the preferred strategy states that the strategic growth option on which the strategy is based would result in a population change of + 16,567, which represents a population growth of +9.4% over the plan period. Unless development occurs in very close proximity to a European site it can be assumed, on a precautionary basis, that LDP allocations will result in a proportional 9.4% increase in visitor numbers over the plan period.

7 sites are identified as being potentially sensitive to recreational pressures. It is considered that in relation to the potential effects from recreation associated with overall population growth, current management of site activities will be able to ensure that sites are able to absorb the anticipated overall increase of approx. 0.63% in visitor numbers per year without any likely significant effects to conservation objectives.

Any effects associated with development in close proximity to a European site, which may generate effects with regards to increasing recreational pressure, will be considered in further detailed screening.

A summary of the preliminary screening of European sites identified as potentially vulnerable to effects of recreation are shown in Table 7

Table 7 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to recreational effects

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further screening required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| River Teifi | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay Dunes | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cwm – Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Burry Inlet SPA | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Elenydd – Mallaen SPA | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

Effects as a result of development: Water abstraction

Development places an increased demand on water supplies and the potential impacts of increased abstraction rates on surface water and groundwater levels can represent likely significant effects on European sites.

Water supply for new development can be abstracted from a source at some distance from the actual development location. As a result the potential effects of development through increased abstraction must be informed by the Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP)

Abstraction is licenced by Natural Resources Wales (NRW), who are the competent authority under the Habitats Regulations, and therefore it is primarily the responsibility of NRW to avoid adverse effects on European sites as a result of abstraction. However, the HRA of the Deposit Plan must recognise that the consenting and management options available to NRW are limited by water availability. Welsh Water has a duty to supply new development and there is a tension within the HRA if it assumes the NRW can simply consent any associated increases in abstraction in such a way to avoid adverse effects on European Sites.

It is the responsibility of the HRA of the deposit plan to ensure that the allocation of housing as a result of the Preferred Strategy is done in such a way that there are viable options available to both NRW and DCWW to meet water supply demands and avoid adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.

The water resources requirements for Carmarthenshire are supplied entirely by DCWW, and the county lies within the Tywi conjunctive use system (Tywi WRZ). The draft DCWW Resource Management Plan¹ (WRMP) predicts that the Tywi WRZ will be in surplus throughout the period of the LDP², based on the projected increase in household numbers within Carmarthenshire of 14.6%

¹ DCWW Draft Water Resources Management Plan Technical Report, March 2018.

² Refer to Section 5.18.4

between 2014 and 2039³, with an increase from 82,751 to 89,532 between 2018 and 2033⁴. This overall growth forecast exceeds the growth provided for in the Preferred Strategy of 11.7%.

NRW and the EA undertook a detailed review of a DCWW abstraction licences and concluded that there were twenty one sites where potential adverse effects upon protected species could not be discounted. However the WRMP states that the required amendments to abstraction licences have been agreed in order to ensure that there are at sustainable levels now, and in the future, and have been built in to the baseline deployable output calculations.

DCWW were also responsible for undertaking a Habitats Regulations Assessment of the most recent Water Resources Management Plan. This included consideration of the abstraction licence review undertaken by EA and NRW and concluded that *'the WRMP will have no adverse effects, alone or in combination on any European sites'* at the plan level. On the basis of the detailed HRA assessment undertaken by DCWW, which was informed by the NRW and EA review of consents work and subject to a wide consultation with the statutory agencies, it is reasonable for Carmarthenshire to adopt the conclusions for the purpose of the HRA of the preferred strategy and the Deposit plan. Further work would be a duplication of work undertaken by NRW and DCWW and as the most appropriate authorities in relation to the potential effects connected with water supply, any further work by Carmarthenshire is not considered to be appropriate or necessary.

Therefore, it is concluded that the preferred strategy will have no likely significant effect on any European site in respect of effects associated with water supply. Such effects can be excluded on the basis of the objective information available through the EA and NRW review of consents work and the most recent HRA of the DCWW Water Resources Management Plan.

A summary of the preliminary screening of European sites identified as potentially vulnerable to effects of abstraction have been screened in Table 8.

³ See Table 3.16, DCWW Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report of Draft Water Resources Management Plan, 2019.

⁴ Welsh Government, Stats Wales. Household Projections by local authority and year 2011 based.

Table 8 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to increased water abstraction

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further screening required? | Reasoning |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| River Teifi | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| River Tywi | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Cleddau Rivers | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Caeau Mynydd Mawr | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Cardigan Bay | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Carmarthen Bay Dunes | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Cernydd Carmel | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Mynydd Epynt | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Preseli | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| River Wye | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| River Usk | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Yerbeston Tops | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Gower Commons | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| Carmarthen Bay SPA | No | Based on most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |

Effects as a result of development: Discharge of wastewater

Development will generate wastewater which needs to be treated prior to disposal. The preferred option for the disposal of wastewater is via connection to the mains sewerage network and treatment at the relevant wastewater treatment works (WWTW).

Discharge of wastewater by DCWW is licenced by the Environment Agency (EA), who is also a competent authority under the Habitats Regulations. Whilst the avoidance of any adverse effects on European Sites as a result of discharge consents is principally the responsibility of NRW, the HRA of the Deposit Plan must recognise that the consenting and management options available to NRW are limited by both capacity within infrastructure and the existing pollutant levels in the receiving environment. DCWW has a duty to accept wastewater from new development, when connection to the mains sewer system is viable; there is a tension within the HRA if it assumes either that DCWW can accept any associated increases in wastewater irrespective of limitations in capacity, or that such capacity issues can be resolved by NRW consenting options which avoid adverse effects on European sites.

DCWW are under a general duty under section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to effectually drain the area. If additional capacity is required in the existing systems then they are legally obliged to provide it through their normal funding mechanisms. This general duty extends to sewerage systems as well as sewage treatment works⁵.

It is the purpose of the HRA to ensure that the allocation of housing as part of the Preferred Strategy is done in such a way as to ensure that there are viable options available to both NRW and DCWW to meet wastewater drainage demands, without adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites.

Under Regulation 63 of the Habitats Regulations, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are responsible for ensuring potential effects from treated wastewater on European Designated sites are considered as part of a Review of all existing Consents (RoC). Under the RoC, discharge consents and water abstraction licences will have been considered to ensure that there were no detrimental impacts on the conservation interests in designated sites a result of these consents.

The final HRA of the LDP deposit plan will need to seek clarification from both NRW and DCWW over the potential capacity within the current post RoC discharge consent limits for further growth. Where allocations can be accommodated within the post-RoC discharge consent limits, it can be considered that there will be no likely significant effects on European Designated sites.

If the allocated development might exceed available permitted capacity, then a new or modified permit is likely to be required at the waste water treatment works in question to provide for the increased demand, and the HRA would need to consider whether it would be feasible for such additional capacity to be provided without any adverse effects on the integrity of any European Sites.

⁵ See *Barratts Homes Limited v Dwr Cymru Welsh Water* [2009] UKSC13

Table 9 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects on water quality

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further screening required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| River Teifi | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| River Tywi | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Cleddau Rivers | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Cardigan Bay | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Cernydd Carmel | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Cardigan Bay | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |
| Carmarthen Bay | Yes | Further information required from NRW regarding RoC. Further consideration required in detailed assessment. |

Increased development: effects of air pollution

Air quality is influenced by levels of pollutants such as sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), ammonia (NH₃) and ozone (O₃), as well as persistent organic compounds (POPs), heavy metals and particulate matter (PM₁₀).

Carmarthenshire currently has three Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs), in Llandeilo (NO₂), Llanelli (NO₂) and Carmarthen (NO₂). AQMA's also exist in some neighbouring counties; Swansea (NO₂), Neath Port Talbot (PM₁₀) and two in Pembrokeshire (NO₂).

Housing development tends to be linked with increased traffic and therefore increased traffic related emissions. Emissions from traffic have been shown to have impacts on vegetation within

200m of the road edge⁶⁷. Beyond 200m, no significant adverse effects associated with traffic emissions (including deposition) have been observed in scientific studies. This is likely due to the fact that at this distance, pollutants contribute to background levels of atmospheric pollution, and disperse to an extent that they have no observable impacts on ground level vegetation at a local scale.

On this basis, it is considered that there will be no likely significant effects on any sites more than 200m outside of Carmarthenshire’s boundary.

However, additional contributions that may arise from increased traffic could be significant where the site is known to be sensitive to such effects and where appropriate critical loads and levels are either exceeded or approaching exceedance. The Air Pollution Information Service (APIS) data shows that current air quality levels already exceed the critical loads set for many of the habitat types at European sites in Carmarthenshire (Appendix 2.Nitrogen Deposition Data for SAC’s/SPA’s within Carmarthenshire and 15km Buffer Zone).

All other sites considered sensitive to air pollution will be taken forward for more detailed screening, however further consideration of potential effects is required only where site allocations may lead to increased traffic emissions within 200m of identified sites . This is summarised in Table 10.

Table 10 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects of air pollution

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Further screening required? | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| Caeau Mynydd Mawr | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Carmarthen Bay Dunes | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cernydd Carmel | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cleddau Rivers | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Gower Ash Woods | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Gower Common | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Gweunydd Blaencleddau | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Mynydd Epynt | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Pembrokeshire Bat Sites | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Preseli | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Rhos Llawr-cwrt | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| North Pembrokeshire Woodlands | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Yerbeston Tops | No | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Carmarthen Bay | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

⁶ Natural England Commissioned Report NECR200: Potential risk of impacts of nitrogen oxides from road traffic on designated nature conservation sites. 2016

⁷ English Nature Research report 580: The ecological effects of diffuse air pollution from road transport. 2004.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|---|
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
|------------------------|-----|---|

Effects of species disturbance, noise and light pollution effects

Effects of this nature are largely associated with the physical proximity of development to a sensitive European site. **Such effects include visual and noise disturbance associated with issues such as construction, lighting and the presence of development, and will be considered further in detailed assessment of site allocations. It is considered that the LDP is not likely to have significant effects on sites outside of Carmarthenshire's boundary and so these sites are screened out of further consideration.**

Sites sensitive to effects of species disturbance, noise and light pollution and the result of the preliminary screening assessment is summarised in Table 11

Table 11 Preliminary screening of European Sites identified as vulnerable to effects of disturbance, noise and light pollution effects.

| Sites identified as vulnerable | Screening in/out | Reasoning |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---|
| SAC | | |
| Afon Teifi | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Afon Tywi | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cleddau Rivers | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cardigan Bay | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Gower Commons | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Gower Ash Woods | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| North Pembrokeshire Woodlands | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Pembrokeshire Bat sites | No | Outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| River Wye | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| River Usk | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| SPA/Ramsar | | |
| Carmarthen Bay | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |
| Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar | Yes | Further consideration required in detailed assessment |

Summary

Having considered each of the potential effect mechanisms and considered them at a generic level in relation to the overall growth provided for within the preferred strategy, the conclusions for further detailed screening work in relation to individual allocations are detailed in Table 12

Table 12 Summary of the preliminary screening based on overall growth projection of Preferred Strategy.

| Potential Effect Mechanism | Summary of generic level screening | Further screening requirements in detailed screening of specific allocations |
|--|--|--|
| Aquatic Environment | Effects only likely where development is in close proximity to a water course that flows into/out of a site | To identify such allocations |
| Marine Environment | Effects considered unlikely, but screened in on precautionary basis | To ensure no such effects occur |
| Coast | Effects considered unlikely, but screened in on precautionary basis | To ensure no such effects occur |
| Mobile Species | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marsh Fritillary Butterfly - Any potential development within 2km of Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC or Preseli SAC should be subject to further assessment. Barbastelle Bat – Any potential development within 16km radius of Pengelli Forest should be subject to further assessment. Greater Horseshoe Bats – Presence records should be considered to inform screening of site allocations. European Otters – Any land suitable for use by otters that may support SAC populations will need to be considered SPA Bird Assemblages – Any suitable land 1km inshore of an SPA should be subject to further assessment | To identify such allocations |
| Recreation | Recreational effects associated with development in close proximity to a European site, will require further assessment. | To identify such allocations |
| Development: Abstraction | Effects associated with water supply have been screened out based on HRA of DCWW water resources management plan | No further screening required |
| Development: Waste water | Effects associated with waste water discharges require further information from NRW on the post-RoC capacity. Only allocated development might exceed available permitted capacity will be considered to have LSE. | To identify such allocations |
| Development: Air pollution | Only development which leads to increased traffic on roads within 200m of identified sensitive sites. | To identify any such allocations |
| Disturbance, noise and light pollution | Only development in close proximity to a European Site requires further consideration | To identify such allocations |

Five sites identified in Task 1 have been screened out of further detailed assessment as all potential impact pathways have been screened out at this preliminary screening stage. This is summarised in Table 13.

Table 13 Summary of preliminary screening of sites where no likely significant effects have been identified.

| European site | Designation | Scanned In | Screened Out |
|------------------------|-------------|---|--|
| Yerbeston Tops | SAC | Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary Butterfly | More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP |
| | | Abstraction | Based on no LSE being identified in most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| | | Air pollution | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Rhos Llwr-cwrt | SAC | Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary | More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP |
| | | Air pollution | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Gower Ash Woods | SAC | Air pollution | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| | | Species disturbance | Effects only considered likely in close proximity. Site outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Gower Commons | SAC | Mobile Species – Marsh Fritillary Butterfly | More than 2km outside of the direct influence of Carmarthenshire’s LDP |
| | | Abstraction | Based on no LSE being identified in most recent HRA of DCWW Water Resources Management Plan. |
| | | Air pollution | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |
| | | Species disturbance | Effects only considered likely in close proximity. Site outside of Carmarthenshire boundary |
| Mynydd Epynt | SAC | Air pollution | More than 200m outside Carmarthenshire boundary |

Screening of Preferred Strategy

The Carmarthenshire Revised Preferred Strategy sets the long term vision for growth and development in Carmarthenshire (excluding that area within the Brecon Beacons National Park) and the strategic objectives and the strategic land use policies to deliver that vision. However, the Preferred Strategy is not the full LDP, rather it sets out broad strategic principles for development in our area. The full Plan is called the Deposit LDP and will contain detailed and specific policies as well as site-specific allocations.

The Preferred Strategy was subject to an initial screening process, the aim of which is to identify at a strategic level, any parts of the plan or its associated policies that will not have an effect on European sites and those that have the potential to have a likely significant effect. If LSE are identified, they must be considered alone, and in combination.

The approach taken is in accordance with guidance for the appraisal of plans under the Habitats Directive, DTA Publications Limited, The Habitat Regulations Assessment Handbook⁸ The effects associated with the Preferred Strategy can be identified as one of the following broad screening categories.

| Category | Description | Screening Outcome |
|----------|---|---|
| A | General statements of policy/general aspirations. | Screen Out |
| B | Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability/sustainability of proposals. | Screen Out |
| C | Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan | Screen Out |
| D | Environmental protection/site safeguarding policy | Screen Out |
| E | Policies or proposals which steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects | Screen Out |
| F | Policy that cannot lead to development or other change | Screen Out |
| G | Policy or proposal that could not have any conceivable effect on a site | Screen Out |
| H | Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects) | Screen Out |
| I | Policy or proposal with a likely significant effect on a site alone | Screen In |
| J | Policy or proposal with an effect on a site but not likely to be significant alone, so need to check for likely significant effects in combination. | Check for in combination effects and re-categorised as K or L |
| K | Policy or proposal not likely to have significant effect either alone or in combination. | Screen out after in combination test |
| L | Policy or proposal likely to have a significant effect in combination | Screen in after in combination test |

⁸ Tyldesly, D., 2009. The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. Accessed Oct 2018.
<https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/>

Chapters 1-6 of Preferred Strategy

For completeness, the Chapters 1-6 comprise introductory and contextual text and cannot possibly have any effects on any European Sites. They are therefore **screened out of further assessment** and are not considered further.

Chapters 7 and 8 of Preferred Strategy

Chapter 7 outlines the draft vision for Carmarthenshire and is reported below.

One Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire 2033 will be a place to start, live and age well within a healthy, safe and prosperous environment, where its rich cultural and environmental qualities are valued and respected.

It will have prosperous, cohesive and sustainable communities providing increased opportunities, interventions and connections for people, places and organisations in both rural and urban parts of our County.

It will have a strong economy that reflects its position as a confident and ambitious driver for the Swansea Bay City Region.

The vision sets out a general aspiration and is not considered to result in any significant effects upon European sites. **The vision is therefore screened out under category A.**

Chapter 8 discusses the development of the strategic objectives, which are categorised under the following themes in alignment with Carmarthenshire's well-being objectives:

- Healthy Habits – People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environments
- Early Intervention – To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it
- Strong Connections – Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change
- Prosperous People and Places – To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of the county

The objectives listed against each of the themes are detailed in Appendix 4 . **All of the objectives are considered to be screened out of the need for further assessment.** The category against which each objective is considered to be screened out is given in brackets after each objective, as listed in Appendix 4 .

Chapter 9 of Preferred Strategy

Chapter 9 contains text which summarises the findings of the growth and spatial options appraisal process. **The appraisal process summarised within this chapters cannot possibly have any effect on any European sites and is therefore screened out of further assessment under Category B.** The

implications of the growth and spatial options will be further assessed within the detailed screening, where site allocations have been identified.

Chapter 11 of Preferred Strategy - Strategic Policies

There are 19 individual policies, and the screening conclusions for each policy are set out in Appendix 5 Preliminary screening of draft Strategic Policies .

Screening of the strategic policies concluded that the majority of policies are unlikely to have significant effects on European sites alone, as they either seek the protection/enhancement of cultural heritage and the natural environment or set out design criteria for development proposals. For some policies, it was considered that potential impacts would be more appropriately assessed at the site allocation level, once the precise nature, scale and location of development is known.

A number of policies do not necessarily propose development, but support certain types of development which have the potential to impact on European designated sites. Policy SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment – seeks to ensure development does not impact negatively on the natural environment, provides some mitigation to help minimise the impacts on European sites. Wording has been suggested to strengthen this policy, so that when it is considered alongside all other strategic policies, will mitigate for any potential significant likely impacts.

Table 14 summarises the screening outcome of the Strategic Policies. Policies SP1, SP3, SP4, SP6, SP16 and SP19 have been identified as having the potential for a likely significant effect alone on European sites. The significance of any impacts as a result of these policies is dependent on the precise location and scale of development, environmental pathways and sensitivities of receptors.

Table 14 Summary of preliminary screening of draft Strategic policies.

| Policy | Screening Category | Initial Screening Outcome |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
| SP1 – Strategic Growth | I | Screened In |
| SP2 – Retail and Town Centres | B | Screened Out |
| SP3 – Providing New Homes | I | Screened In |
| SP4 – Affordable Homes | I | Screened In |
| SP5 – Strategic Sites | C | Screened Out |
| SP6 – Employment and the Economy | I | Screened In |
| SP7 – Welsh Language and Culture | F | Screened Out |
| SP8 - Infrastructure | B | Screened Out |
| SP9 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision | H | Screened Out |
| SP10 – The Visitor Economy | A | Screened Out |
| SP11 – Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design | B | Screened Out |
| SP12 – Rural Development | A | Screened Out |
| SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment | D | Screened Out |
| SP14 – Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment | D | Screened Out |
| SP15 – Climate Change | B | Screened Out |
| SP16 – Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework | I | Screened In |
| SP17 – Transport and Accessibility | B | Screened Out |
| SP18 – Mineral resources | G | Screened Out |
| SP19 – Waste Management | I | Screened In |

3.3 Task 3: Consideration of effects in combination with other plans, programmes and projects.

It is a requirement of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that HRA examines the potential for plans and projects to have a significant effect either individually or 'in combination' with other plans, programmes & projects (PPPs). Undertaking an assessment of other PPPs has required a pragmatic approach given the extensive range of PPPs underway in the surrounding region. The approach taken was cognisant of the emphasis in the forthcoming WAG guidance that considering the potential for in-combination effects is core to delivering robust/ precautionary HRA.

When considering other PPPs attention was focused on those aimed at delivering planned spatial growth with the most significant being those that seek to provide, housing, employment and infrastructure. The review considered the most relevant plans including those listed below and detailed in **Appendix XX**:

Local Development Plans

- Pembrokeshire County Council Local Development Plan (2013 – 2021) – Adopted
- Swansea Local Development Plan (2010 – 2025) – Deposit
- Ceredigion Local Development Plan (2021 – 2033) – Adopted
- Powys Local Development Plan (2011 – 2026) – Adopted
- Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan (2007 – 2022) – Adopted

National

- The Wales Spatial Plan (2008 update)
- The Wales Transport Strategy (2008)
- Wales Coastal Tourism Strategy (2008)
- Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020
- Active Travel Action Plan (2016)
- A Walking and Cycling Action Plan for Wales (2009 – 2013)
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Water Resources Management Plan (2015 – 2040)
- Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2019
- Towards Zero Waste – Overarching Waste Strategy for Wales

Regional

- The Swansea Bay City Regional Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030
- Swansea Bay City Deal 2017
- Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 – 2020)
- Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2012)
- Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region
- Regional Technical Statement Regional Aggregate Working Parties (2014)

Local

- Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years (2018)
- Transformations: A strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire 2015 – 2030
- Affordable Homes Delivery Plan 2016 -2020: Delivery more homes for the people of Carmarthenshire 2015 -2030
- Carmarthenshire Destination Management Plan 2015 -2020
- Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013)
- Flood Risk Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District

The findings of this review were used when screening the Strategic Policies to consider if the policies had the potential to act in combination with other plans, programmes and projects to have significant effects on European Sites. The assessment identified that Strategic Policies SP1, SP3, SP4, SP6, SP16 and SP19 have the potential for significant in combination effect on European sites.

3.4 Task 4: Screening Assessment Summary

In line with the screening requirement of the Habitats Regulations, an assessment was undertaken to determine the potential significant effects of the Draft Pre Deposit preferred strategy on the integrity of the 25 European sites that lie outside and within the plan/proposal boundaries. The screening decision was informed by:

- The information gathered on the European sites – Appendix 1.;
- The review of the Preferred Strategy and its likely impacts ; which included an analysis of the potential environmental impacts generated by the development activities directed by the LDP and;
- The review of other relevant plans and programmes – Appendix 3;
- WAG guidance which indicates that HRA for plans is typically broader and more strategic than project level HRA and that it is proportionate to the available detail of the plan

The detail of the main screening of draft Strategic Policies is set out in Appendix 5 Preliminary screening of draft Strategic Policies. In summary, the screening assessment found that the majority of Preferred Strategy Policies are unlikely to have significant effects on European sites either alone or in combination. A number of recommendations have been made to strengthen the mitigation provided by specific policies and should be incorporated into the Preferred Strategy to ensure that these policies (Strategic Policies SP1, SP3, SP4, SP6, SP16 and SP19) have no likely significant effects on European sites either alone or in combination.

At this stage, these policies have the potential for significant effects both alone and in combination with other plans, programmes and projects. At this stage the significance of the effects is uncertain as further detail on the nature, scale and location of development is required. The next stage of the revised LDP (Deposit) will provide further detailed policies and site allocations that will allow a more comprehensive assessment of the impacts and how they may affect European sites. It is recommended that further screening work is carried out for the revised LDP once Deposit Policies and Site Allocations are available.

The Preferred Strategy already contains policies that seek to protect and enhance European sites as well as minimise the impacts of proposed development. When developing detailed Deposit policies the Councils should seek to minimise the potential impacts identified through this screening assessment.

This HRA Report is a high-level preliminary screening of the Preferred Strategy. It identifies those policies which would clearly have no effects upon European sites enabling these to be ‘screened out’ of any further assessment. The focus of further, more detailed assessment would only be applied to allocation sites, or policies, where a likely significant effect could be possible. A further detailed screening will be carried out on the next iteration of the LDP (i.e. the Deposit LDP) when the specific policies have been prepared and a full list of allocation sites has been agreed. Allocation sites and policies included for further detailed screening would then be reviewed in more detail based on the available information.

Appendix 1. Conservation objectives of sites identified as within 15km buffer zone of Carmarthenshire.

Site name : Afon Tywi/ River Tywi SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN687263
 SAC Site Code: UK0013010
 Size: 363.45 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Maintained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc. at road bridges and other artificial barriers. |
| | Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2012) | |
| Annex II species qualifying feature | Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined here XX must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis. |
| | River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatili</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011) | |
| | Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2011) | |
| | Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2012) | |
| | Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |

Site name : Caeau Mynydd Mawr SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN575121
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030105
 Size: 25.06 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|---|--|--|---|
| Annex I habitats qualifying features | <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils <i>Molinia caerulea</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2015) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Molinia</i> meadow feature (M24) will occupy between 25% and 80% of the total site area. The remainder of the site will be other semi-natural habitat. The following plants will be common in the <i>Molinia</i> meadows: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; meadow thistle <i>Cirsium dissectum</i>; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>; carnation sedge <i>Carex panicea</i> and tormentil <i>Potentilla erecta</i>. Cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and common heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> will also be common in some areas. Rushes should not be allowed to spread and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i>, will be largely absent from the <i>Molinia</i> meadow. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the <i>Molinia</i> meadow. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2015) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species. Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation. The SAC populations will be the core of the metapopulation. The metapopulation will consist of the SAC populations plus populations breeding on land within c. 2 kilometres of the SAC boundary. At least 13 ha across the three component SSSIs will be marshy grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary, with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> present and only a low cover of scrub. At least 6 ha of this will be good condition marsh fritillary breeding habitat, where, for at least 80% of sample points, the tussocky vegetation is within the range of 12-25 cms tall and <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present within a 50 cm radius sample point. Scrub (>0.5 m tall) covers no more than 10% of area. At least another 7 ha of this will be suitable condition marsh fritillary breeding habitat where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is occasional/frequent/abundant and vegetation height is usually 12-25 cms. Scrub (> 0.5 m tall) will cover no more than 10% of the total area. The marshy grassland will be well sheltered by hedgerows and mature trees. All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions are under control. |

Site name : Cernydd Carmel SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN592161
 NCC Site Code: UK0030070
 Size: 361.14 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|--|--|--|--|
| Annex I habitat primary reason for selection | Turloughs | Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2011) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The turlough will fill and empty according to the natural seasonal fluctuations in the underlying aquifer. It will typically fill with water in the autumn-spring period and empty during the summer months. A natural pattern of vegetation zones will be apparent during the dry phase of the turlough, as determined by micro-topographical variation in the turlough basin in relation to the main swallow hole. The following vegetation zones, together with typical associated species, will be present: hydrophytic bryophyte zone; <i>Equisetum fluviatile</i> zone; <i>Carex vesicaria</i> zone; <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> zone; <i>Salix cinerea-Galium palustre</i> woodland zone. Alien plant species such as <i>Crassula helmsii</i>, <i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>, <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> and <i>Azolla filiculoides</i> will be absent All factors affecting the achievement of the above conditions, including water quality, water levels and scrub development, will be under control. |
| Annex I habitat qualifying feature | North Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Atlantic wet heath will occupy at least 6ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. The wet heath will have a high cover (>25%) of dwarf shrubs, including heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>. Typical associates will include western gorse <i>Ulex galli</i> and <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, but not high cover. Bog mosses <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. will be prominent in the sward. Scrub and bracken will be largely absent. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including grazing and scrub/bracken encroachment, are under control. |
| | European dry heaths | Destroyed: Partially (Sept 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> European dry heath will occupy at least 19ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. The dry heath will be dominated by varying mixtures of heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i>, although <i>U.gallii</i> itself should not exceed 50% cover. Scrub, bracken, bramble, thistles, tall rushes, large docks and nettles will be largely absent. Bare ground will not exceed 10% cover. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including grazing and scrub/bracken encroachment, are under control. |
| | Active raised bogs | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active raised bog will cover at least 13ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. At least five raised bog peatland units will be present, occupying a series of peaty depressions within the Millstone Grit ridge. |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mires will support a specialist bog flora including heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>, cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>, deergrass <i>Scirpus cespitosus</i>, hare's-tail cotton grass <i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i> common cotton-grass <i>E.angustifolium</i>, bog asphodel <i>Bartheicum ossifragum</i> and round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>. • Bog mosses Sphagnum spp. Will be abundant, while purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and other grasses will be scarce. • The mire surfaces will display a characteristic hummock and hollow topography, with lawns of Sphagnum moss dominating the wet hollows. • Scrub and bracken will be largely absent. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions, including water levels, nutrient levels and grazing, will be under control. |
| | Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines | Favourable: Unclassified (Jul 2013) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilio-Acerion woodland will occupy approx. 44ha of Cernydd Carmel SAC. • The Tilio-Acerion woodland will occur as a patchwork of small woods with areas of grassland between, forming a characteristic element of the historic landscape pattern of Cernydd Carmel. The distribution of woods will mirror the pattern of woodland mapped in 1994. • Within the high forest areas, between 10 and 25% of the woodland will comprise open glades or canopy gaps, although the location of glades/canopy gaps may vary over time. • Trees and shrubs of a wide range of ages and sizes should be present, including functionally mature canopy trees, young trees and an active shrub layer. • Regeneration of locally native trees/shrubs will be plentiful • The canopy will comprise varying mixtures of locally native species including ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, oak <i>Quercus spp.</i>, goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>, yew <i>Taxus baccata</i> and wych elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i>. Typical shrub layer species will include hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>, hawthorn <i>Crateagus monogyna</i>, blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>, spindle <i>Euonymus europaeus</i> and dogwood <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>. Non-native species including sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> and beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> will be largely absent. • The field layer will comprise a rich mixture of woodland herbs including <i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>, <i>Circaea lutetiana</i>, <i>Galium odoratum</i>, <i>Allium ursinum</i>, <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>, <i>Mercurialis perennis</i>, <i>Conopodium majus</i>, <i>Paris quadrifolia</i>, <i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>, <i>Conopodium majus</i>, <i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>, <i>Arum maculatum</i> and <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>. • Dense bramble will be largely absent. • Within the high forest areas, dead wood will be present in the form of standing and fallen trunks/limbs. • All factors affecting the achievement of the above conditions, including grazing and browsing, will be under control. |

Site name : Carmarthen Bay Dunes SAC

Location Grid Reference: SN285074

NCC Site Code: UK0020019

Size: 1206.32 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|--|--|--|---|
| Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection | Embryonic shifting dunes | Favourable: Maintained (Jul 2007) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural processes will be allowed to determine the time and place when the strandline and embryonic dunes exist. These processes will not be impeded by direct or indirect human intervention. A strandline will be present at least one year in every five within the areas identified Embryonic dunes will be present on the seaward side of the mobile frontal dune ridge at least one year in every three All of the factors affecting the feature are under control |
| | "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria ("white dunes")" | Favourable: Maintained (Jul 2007) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shifting dunes will exist as part of the dynamic natural processes which create the dune systems. There will be an interaction between the three dune systems such that the natural process of erosion in some parts and accretion in others will continue without direct or indirect human disturbance. Shifting dunes will comprise a significant part of the dune system but will increase and decrease in extent and location as natural processes determine the landscape of the dune systems At least two of the three sites in the SAC satisfy the limits outlined in the performance indicator below. All of the factors affecting the feature are under control. |
| | "Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")" | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2015) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) will occur where older, shifting dunes become more stabilised and in early successional stages become colonised by lichens and other species indicative of the transition from less mobile habitat. The habitat will encompass a range of successional stages throughout the area, determined by patterns of natural factors and grazing. Grey dunes will comprise a significant part of the dune system but will increase and decrease in extent and location as natural processes determine the landscape of the dune systems All factors are under management control. |
| | Dunes with Salix repens ssp. Argentea (Salicion arenariae) | Unfavourable Unclassified (Aug 2007) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunes with Salix repens and humid dune slacks will occur as part of the dune system, their location will be determined by natural processes and appropriate grazing management A range of successional stages will be found in both features Factors affecting the features will be under control |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|---|
| | Humid dune slacks | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2015) | |
| Annex II Species primary reason for selection : | Narrow-mouthed whorl snail | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient suitable habitat is present to support the populations • The factors affecting the feature are under control |
| | Petalwort | Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The species will be found where conditions are suitable in sufficient numbers to form a viable and sustainable population • The population will vary from year to year depending on conditions, especially in drier years, but the long term population will remain steady and sustainable • Suitable dune slacks will have patches of bare ground that is being colonised by jelly lichens (<i>Collema</i> spp.) and <i>Barbula</i> mosses. • The factors affecting the feature are under control |
| | Fen orchid | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2014) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient suitable habitat is present to support the populations • The factors affecting the feature are under control |

Site name : Afon Teifi SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN515508
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012670
 Size: 715.58 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|--|---|--|--|
| Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection | Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation. | Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in XX above must be met. The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate. |
| Annex I habitats qualifying feature | Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoetes-Nanojuncetea | Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2003) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The Littorelletea uniflorae aquatic upland lake community will be present in all five of the Teifi Pools (Llyn Hir, Llyn Teifi, Llyn Egnant, Llyn y Gorlan and Llyn Bach), and will be self-maintaining on a long-term basis. A fully developed Littorelletea community will be present in Llyn Hir, including all of the component species typical of the SAC feature, as represented in the Afon Teifi SAC. For each of Llyn Teifi, Llyn Egnant, Llyn y Gorlan and Llyn Bach, the extent and species composition of the Littorelletea community will be stable or increasing in range. There will be no deterioration in the conservation status of the feature as represented in these lakes. |
| Annex II species | Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in XX above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis. |
| Annex II Species primary reason | Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Oct 2013) | |
| | River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Oct 2013) | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Jan 2016) | |
| Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Mar 2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. • The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. • The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc. at road bridges and other artificial barriers. |
| Floating water-plantain <i>Luronium natans</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Sept 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the water course as defined in XX above must be met. • The floating water-plantain populations will be viable throughout their current distribution in the SAC (maintaining themselves on a long-term basis). Each floating water-plantain population must be able to complete sexual and/or vegetative reproduction successfully. Potential for genetic exchange between floating water-plantain populations, in and/or outside the SAC, must be evident in the long-term. Dispersal of floating water-plantain must be unhindered. • The SAC will have sufficient suitable habitat to support floating water-plantain populations within their current distribution. There will be no contraction of the current floating water-plantain distribution in the SAC. |

Site name : Afonydd Cleddau/ Cleddau Rivers SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SM938249
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030074
 Size: 751.71 ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Annex I habitats qualifying feature | Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculus fluitans and Callitriche-Batrachium vegetation. | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above must be met • The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. • The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. • The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable condition. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate. |
| | Active raised bogs | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the mire expanse there are at least 3 of Calluna vulgaris, Erica tetralix, Eriophorum angustifolium, E.vaginatum & Trichophorum cespitosum constant, with a combined cover not exceeding 80% • · No single species > 50% cover • · At least one of Andromeda polifolia, Drosera rotundifolia, Empetrum nigrum, Narthecium ossifragum and Vaccinium oxycoccus occurs at least frequently • · On the mire expanse only there are at least 2 of the following spp. constant, with a combined cover > 20%: Sphagnum capillifolium, S. magellanicum, S. papillosum, S. tenellum • · No reduction in extent of microtopographic features (e.g. bog pools). |

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| | Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The canopy is dominated by single stands of alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> or willow <i>Salix</i> spp. In alluvial woods with free draining soils there may be ash or oak in the canopy, but in the wetter alluvial woodlands ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> is more likely to be limited to areas of relatively drier ground The structure of alluvial woodland is recognised as being dynamic therefore the presence of over mature trees is desirable but not essential The river itself should be dynamic to allow for areas of outwash and deposition that trees can regenerate on. Lying or standing deadwood (> 20cm diameter and > 1m length) is present at all sites The feature should support alluvial ground flora including two of the following: meadowsweet <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>, yellow flag <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>, nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i>, common reed <i>Phragmites australis</i>, greater tussock sedge <i>Carex paniculata</i>, opposite-leaved golden saxifrage <i>Chrysosplenium oppositifolium</i>, rushes <i>Juncus</i> spp, tufted hair-grass <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>, hemlock water-dropwort <i>Onanthe crocata</i>, and wild angelica <i>Angelica sylvestris</i>. |
| Annex II Species primary reason for selection | Brook Lamprey <i>lampetra planeri</i> | Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above is met The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. |
| | River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Unfavourable: Recovering (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs. The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age. |
| | Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs . The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age. |

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| | Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Mar 2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC • The SAC will have sufficient habitat, including riparian trees and vegetation and wetlands, to support the otter population in the long term • The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. • The otter must be able to breed and recruit successfully in the SAC. The size of breeding territories may vary depending on prey abundance. • Otter food sources must be sufficient for maintenance of the population. • The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers. • No otter breeding site should be subject to a level of disturbance that could have an adverse effect on breeding success. Where necessary, potentially harmful levels of disturbance must be managed. |
| Annex II Species qualifying feature | Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the watercourse as defined in 4.1 above is met. • The population of the feature in the SAC must be stable or increasing over the long term. • The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. • Passage of the feature through the SAC is not to be hindered by artificial barriers such as weirs. • The characteristic channel morphology provides the diversity of water depths, current velocities and substrate types necessary to fulfil the habitat requirements of the features. The close proximity of different habitats facilitates movement of fish to new preferred habitats with age. |
| <p>Site name : Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC Location Grid Reference: SS357991 JNCC Site Code: UK0020020 Size: 66092.05</p> | | | |
| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
| Annex I habitats | Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time | Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006) | <p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing.</p> <p>Structure and function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions.</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> |

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| | Estuaries | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the feature species populations, their abundance or range. <p>For Atlantic saltmeadows this includes the morphology of the saltmarsh creeks and pans.</p> <p>Typical Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species is such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include: species richness population structure and dynamics, physiological health, reproductive capacity recruitment, mobility range</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. |
| Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | | |
| Large shallow inlets and bays | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | | |
| Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2006) | | |
| Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | | |
| | Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> | Unfavourable: No change (Nov 2006) | <p>Population: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat. Important elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> population size structure, production condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression <p>Range: The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not</p> |

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| Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Apr 2005) | <p>being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered. • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond. • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing. <p>Supporting habitats and species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing.</p> <p>Important considerations include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distribution • extent • structure • function and quality of habitat • prey availability and quality. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour. • For otter there are sufficient sources within the SAC and beyond of high quality freshwater for drinking and bathing. |
| River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Apr 2005) | |
| Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i> | Unfavourable: No change (Nov 2006) | |
| Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010) | |

Site name : Cwm Doethie - Mynydd Mallaen SAC

Location Grid Reference: SN747458

JNCC Site Code: UK0030128

Size: 4121.73ha

| Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I habitats primary reasons for selection | Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles | <p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (Aug 2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old sessile oak woodlands remain a significant and conspicuous feature of the upland valley sides within the plan area. Those in the Elan and Claerwen valleys and Rhayader area, the Dinas and Gwenffrwd area of the upper Tywi valley and the Cothi valley to the north of Mynydd Mallaen are particularly well developed and extensive. • The boundary between the woodland and adjacent upland habitat is often a flexible one where trees regenerate on to open ground. At many locations oak woodland forms patches in 'fridd' areas where there is less grazing pressure on the upland fringe. • The oak woodland has a variety of different structures and its character varies from place to place, ranging from long standing closed canopy areas to largely open wood pasture. • The dominant trees are sessile oaks, but in places birch is more conspicuous. Rowans and other trees occur as a minor component while at the foot of slopes where the oak woodland grades into wet woodland, there are some alders and willows. Non-native trees such as beech and sycamore will be present only in small numbers are generally scarce. • Under-storey shrubs are generally quite sparse, but scattered groups of hazel or holly will be found in some woods. • Ground cover varies widely. Parts will be bracken covered, others grassy, others again have a wider range of flowering plants and ferns and are often carpeted with bluebells in spring. On thin soils in shaded moist situations there are luxuriant carpets of mosses and liverworts, with or without under-shrubs like heather and bilberry. • The larger trees support a variety of lichens on their trunks and branches. • In each woodland block, trees in most age classes are present and veteran trees are prominent in some areas, particularly where there is wood pasture. • In all areas except wood pasture, there is evidence of actual regeneration in the form of seedlings and saplings or potential for regeneration, while in some wood pasture areas the planting and protecting of young trees, especially oak, may be appropriate. • Dead wood is well distributed and sometimes abundant, both lying on the woodland floor and occurring as standing dead trees or branches of trees. • The majority of the oak woodland has a closed canopy, but there are some clearings and much larger areas that are effectively wood pasture. These conditions should be sympathetic to the important populations of mosses and liverworts on the one hand and lichens on the other. • The oak woods support a characteristic assemblage of birds, such as wood warbler, pied flycatcher and redstart. • The pattern and distribution of grazed and un-grazed woods may change over time as different conservation needs arise. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
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| | European dry heaths | <p>Unfavourable: Recovering (Sept 2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent, quality and diversity of heath vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded heath is restored to good condition. • · The main heathland areas have a varied age structure with a mosaic of young heath, mature heath and degenerate heath. • · Sunny slopes in certain areas support vegetation that includes bell heather and western gorse and steep north and east facing slopes have a rich variety of mosses and liverworts beneath the dwarf shrub canopy, including bog mosses in some areas. • · Populations of uncommon plants, such as lesser twayblade, are stable or increasing. • · The larger heathland areas provide suitable habitat for breeding birds, including red grouse and merlin. • · All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control |
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Site name : Cardigan Bay SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN214641
 JNCC Site Code: UK0012712
 Size: 4121.73ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Tudalen 337 | Annex I habitats qualifying feature | | |
| | Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time | Not Assessed | <p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing. For the reef feature these include; Intertidal bedrock reefs Intertidal cobble, pebble with Sabellaria alveolata (biogenic) reefs Subtidal bedrock reefs Subtidal pebble, cobble and boulder reefs Sea caves</p> <p>Structure and Function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota • below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the feature species populations, their abundance or range taking into account bioaccumulation and biomagnification. <p>Typical species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species is such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • species richness: • population structure and dynamics, • physiological health, • reproductive capacity • recruitment, • mobility • range <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> |
| | Reefs | Not Assessed | |

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| Submerged or partially submerged sea caves | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. |
| Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Jan 2007) | <p>Populations: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat.</p> <p>Important elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> population size structure, production condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for bottlenose dolphin and grey seal;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression <p>For grey seal populations should not be reduced as a consequence of human activity</p> <p>Range: The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for bottlenose dolphin and grey seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing |
| Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (April 2005) | <p>Supporting habitats and species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing.</p> <p>Important considerations include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> distribution extent structure |
| River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (April 2005) | |

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| | <p>Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i></p> | <p>Favourable: Maintained (Jan 2007)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • function and quality of habitat • prey availability and quality. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour <p>Restoration and recovery: As part of this objective it should be noted that for the bottlenose dolphin populations should be increasing.</p> |
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| Site name : North Pembrokeshire Woodlands/Coedydd Gogledd Sir Benfro SAC | | | |
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| Location Grid Reference: SN046345 | | | |
| NCC Site Code: UK0030227 | | | |
| Size: 4121.73ha | | | |
| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
| | Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles | Unfavourable: Recovering (May 2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the SAC will be covered by oak woodland. • There will be no measurable, permanent loss of semi-natural woodland. • The trees will be locally native, with a dominance of oak in the canopy, and include ash and rowan. • No more than 5% of the canopy forming trees will consist of non-native species. • Each woodland will include trees of a wide range of age classes, including veteran trees. • Between 10-25% of the woodland area will comprise a dynamic, shifting pattern of gaps: in the long-term, most of these will be created by natural processes. • There will be sufficient natural regeneration to replace the canopy in these gaps over time. • There will be abundant dead and dying trees with holes and hollows, rot columns, torn off limbs and rotten branches. Dead wood, both standing and fallen, will be retained to provide habitats for other species, and will represent at least 10% (by volume) of the total timber. • Veteran trees will be favoured during any silvicultural management because they support a wide variety of species, including lichens. • Old forest lichen species will be found throughout the site, especially on well-lit trees around woodland edges and glades. • Invasive alien species, such as rhododendron, laurel and Japanese knotweed, will eventually be eradicated from the site, or restricted to very low cover. • There will be a well-developed shrub layer throughout the SAC, including hazel and holly. • The field layer will be diverse and include broad-buckler fern, greater wood-rush, bluebell, honeysuckle, wood-sorrel, dog's-mercury, opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage, bilberry, bracken, bramble and violets. • The woodlands will support populations of butterflies, birds and mammals. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control. |

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| <p>Annex I Habitat qualifying feature</p> <p>Tudalen 341</p> | <p>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>)</p> | <p>Unfavourable: Unclassified (June 2016)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2% of the SAC will be covered by alluvial woodland. • The canopy will consist of locally native trees, with an overall dominance of alder. At least 90% of the canopy trees will be wet woodland species. There will be no non-native trees present in the canopy. • In the long-term, each woodland will include trees of a broad range of age classes, including saplings and veteran trees. • At any given time, around 30% of the woodland area will consist of a dynamic, shifting pattern of canopy gaps, maintained by natural processes. • There will be sufficient natural regeneration in the gaps (from seed or vegetative) to replace the canopy, 90% of which will be alder or willow. • There will be abundant dead and dying trees with holes and hollows, rot columns, torn off limbs and rotten branches. Dead wood, both standing and fallen, will be retained to provide habitats for other species, and will represent at least 10% (by volume) of the total timber. • There will be no evidence of alder disease. • Veteran trees will be favoured during any silvicultural management because they support a wide variety of species, including lichens. Old forest lichen species will be found throughout the sites, especially on well-lit trees around woodland edges and glades. • Invasive alien species, such as rhododendron, laurel and Japanese knotweed, will be eradicated from the site, or subject to a control programme of eradication. • The field layer will be diverse and dominated by alluvial species. Indicators of drying out (bramble) and over-grazing (creeping buttercup) will be scarce. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control. |
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Barbastelle Bat *Barbastella barbastellus*

Favourable: Maintained (Aug 2012)

- There will be no loss of ancient semi-natural woodland at the site.
- Canopy gaps will be present throughout the site, with two or more young trees growing in each.
- Canopy cover will be 50-90% throughout the site (except in Hawthorn fields).
- A well-developed shrub layer with holly will be present throughout the woodland, to provide a favourable micro-climate for roosting barbastelles.
- A minimum of 4 trees per hectare will be allowed to die standing, will not be removed or cut down. These will be distributed across the site and will include trees with splits, fallen, leaning trees and hollow trees.
- Ivy will be allowed to grow on trees throughout the site, to provide roosting opportunities.
- There will be no overall loss of open water.
- There will be no increase in disturbance (eg paths or rides) near any of the roosting sites.
- No roosting sites will be lost as a result of human intervention.
- Barbastelle bat passes will be detected on at least 4 out of 6 transects between 25 July and 7 September.
- There will be contiguous suitable foraging habitat within a 16km radius around Pengelli Forest, including wooded stream valleys, low and overgrown hedgerows, scrub, overgrown pastures, bracken stands and woodland (which can include conifer plantations).
- Roosts outside the SSSI boundary will be left undisturbed, with no woodland management within 50m of a barbastelle roost, and no clearance of the shrub layer. Over-mature trees in any of the woodlands within 2km of Pengelli should be left undisturbed except where they pose a risk to public safety, in which case minimal trees surgery can be permitted.
- All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control.

Site name : Yerbeston Tops SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SN057099
 JNCC Site Code: UK0030305
 Size: 18.6ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I Habitat qualifying feature | Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2017) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molinia meadows will cover at least 4ha • The following plants will be common in the Molinia meadows: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; small sedges including <i>Carex pulicaris</i> and <i>hostiana</i>, and devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. • Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> will be largely absent from the Molinia meadows. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the Molinia meadows • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control |
| Annex II species primary reasons for selection | Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2017) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of larval webs during sampling is at least 200 per hectare of optimal breeding habitat • There are at least 10ha of Good Condition (optimal breeding) habitat on or within 2 km radii of the SSSI • There are at least 50ha of Suitable Condition habitat on or within 2km radii of the SSSI • Optimal breeding habitat comprises grassland, with <i>Molinia</i> abundant, where the vegetation height is within the range of 10 to 20 cm, and where, for at least 80% of sampling points, <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present within a 1 m radius. Scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 10% of area. • The factors influencing the breeding habitat are under control. • Trees, bracken, scrub and saplings are of no more than scattered occurrence within the marshy grassland. • A range of characteristic wetland plants and insects are present. • Species indicating agricultural improvement are rare or absent. |

| Site name : Rhos Llawr-cwrt SAC Location Grid Reference: SN411497 NCC Site Code: UK0012680 Size: 45.95ha | | | |
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| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
| | Marsh fritillary butterfly Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Unfavourable: Recovering (Aug 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAC will continue to support a nationally important population of the marsh fritillary butterfly. Although, numbers of adult butterflies and larvae will fluctuate annually in response to a parasitic wasp and weather conditions, the population will be robust, resilient and viable in the long term. • During peak years, a visitor taking a walk through the site on a sunny day in June will see several hundreds of adult butterflies. In these years the caterpillars, feeding communally in silken webs on their food plant devil's bit scabious, will be found in their thousands throughout the SAC. • The SAC population will be the core of the Rhos Llawr Cwrt marsh fritillary metapopulation. The metapopulation will consist of the SAC population, plus populations breeding on land outside the SAC, within the Rhos Llawr Cwrt National Nature Reserve and elsewhere in the immediate vicinity (research indicates that a marsh fritillary metapopulation requires at least 50 hectares of available habitat to be viable in the long term). • The population will breed throughout all 4 SAC units, where it will be a key species driving the management of each unit. • Rosettes of devil's bit scabious will be both very numerous and widespread throughout the SAC, growing amongst a short turf of grasses, sedges and flowering herbs with scattered tussocks of purple moor grass and rushes providing shelter for the caterpillars in wet weather. This colourful wet grassland mosaic will extend throughout all the management units and some of the NNR fields outside the SAC and other non-designated areas nearby. • Dense mixed hedges of hawthorn, hazel, mountain ash and other locally native species will grow around the external and internal boundaries and offer vital shelter to the breeding adult butterflies during poor weather in what is otherwise a very exposed landscape with little shelter. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control. |

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| Annex II species qualifying species | Slender green feather-moss Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus | Unfavourable: unclassified (Oct 2005) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slender green feather moss will be common across the Bwdram and Clettwr valley bottoms, with more than five populations of plants, appearing as groups of uniform dark green 'patches' scattered amongst the marshy grassland and fen vegetation communities. • The populations of moss will grow in a series of flushes, old peat cuttings and shallow excavations, where ground conditions are wet throughout the year, the water table being at, or near the surface. This habitat will have an open, relatively short sward and scrub will be confined to hedge banks on old field boundaries. • Groundwater across the valley bottom will range from slightly acid to slightly basic. • Associated site-specific herbs, grasses and sedges will grow in close proximity to the moss populations. These plants share the habitat requirements of the moss; they include Lesser Spearwort, Sharp-flowered Rush, Purple Moor Grass, Star Sedge, Carnation Sedge, Devil's-bit Scabious, Lesser Skullcap, Large Birdsfoot Trefoil, Bogbean, Common marsh-bedstraw, Common Cotton Sedge, Bottle Sedge, Common Sedge, Common Yellow Sedge, Velvet Bent and Flea Sedge. • • The site will continue to be summer-grazed by cattle; this will maintain the short open sward conditions favoured by the moss. • • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions will be under control. |
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Site name : Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes /
Safleodd Ystlum Sir Befro a Llynnoedd Bosherton SAC
Location Grid Reference: SR966954
NCC Site Code: UK0014793
Size: 121.26ha

Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.

Unfavourable: No Change (Dec 2011)

- Submerged Chara beds (mainly Chara hispida in places up to a metre long) will form the predominant submerged macrophyte vegetation throughout most of Central and Western Arms and Central Lake of Bosherton Lakes (unit 1a) and may be present in the Eastern Arm (unit 1b).
- Chara will occur at more than 50% frequency along regular surveillance transects within the Western and Central arms.
- Chara species (not necessarily hispida) will be present in other embayments and pools, including the Eastern Arm of Bosherton Lakes (unit 1b) and pools in the Mere Pool Valley (unit 1d).
- The Western and Central Arms are spring-fed, so nutrient levels here remain low. One of the main nutrients (phosphorous) will reach no more than 25 micrograms per litre in regular sampling areas. Nitrogen levels in the water will be low (less than 1 milligram per litre) and declining or stable.
- The Western Arm, Central Arm and Central Lake water will be fairly clear, but well vegetated with submerged and marginal plants. In natural openings (e.g. over springs) within otherwise dense Chara beds, a sechii disk will be viewable on the lakebed.
- Water depth will vary from about 3.5 metres OD (winter maximum) to about 0.5 metres or less in places in summer.
- Fringing the Chara beds, are beds of white water lilies Nymphaea alba. They will remain fairly abundant in the Western and Central Arms, with smaller populations in Central Lake.
- Reed and swamp and fringing burr-reed will be restricted to shallow zones – covering not more than 10 % of the site.
- All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.

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| <p>Greater horseshoe bat Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</p> | <p>Favourable: Maintained (Aug 2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The greater horseshoe bat population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of greater horseshoe bats will neither be reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • At least three SSSI maternity roosts will be occupied annually by adult greater horseshoe bats and their babies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stackpole Courtyard Flats and Walled Garden SSSI • Slebech Stable Yard Loft, Cellars and Tunnels SSSI • Felin Llwyngwair SSSI • Carew Castle SSSI will continue to be used as an intermediate greater horseshoe bat roost, during the spring and autumn, as a male summer roost and an autumn/spring mating roost. • The greater horseshoe bat population at the component SSSI's will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat surrounding these roosts to support the bat population, including continuous networks of sheltered, broadleaved woodland, tree lines and hedgerows connecting the various types of roosts with areas of insect-rich grassland and open water. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
| <p>Lesser horseshoe bat Rhinolophus hipposideros</p> | <p>Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lesser horseshoe bat population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of lesser horseshoe bats will be neither being reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • At least four SSSI maternity roosts will be occupied annually by adult lesser horseshoe bats and their babies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beech Cottage, Waterwynch SSSI, • Orielton Stable Block and Cellars SSSI, • Park House Outbuildings SSSI, • Stackpole Courtyard Flats and Walled Garden SSSI • The lesser horseshoe bat population at the component SSSI's will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat surrounding these roosts to support the bat population, including continuous networks of sheltered, broadleaved woodland, tree lines and hedgerows connecting the various types of roosts with areas of insect-rich grassland and open water. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |

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| | Otter Lutra lutra | <p>Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Otter population will be capable of maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats. • The natural range of otters will neither be reduced nor will be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and • There will be sufficient habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis. • The otter population will be stable or increasing. • There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat to support an otter breeding population, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open water with sufficient food resources (notably eels and other fish species) and • a continuous network of undisturbed sheltered resting places along the lake shoreline – including swamp, broadleaved woodland and calcareous scrub. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
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Site name : Gower Ash Woods SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SS574882
 NCC Site Code: UK0030157
 Size: 233.15ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I habitat primary reasons for selection | Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines | Unfavourable: Unclassified (May 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The steep sided valleys found across most of the site will be covered with woodland dominated by ash. • The rocky slopes will be covered with a rich ground flora including species such as dog's mercury, hart's tongue fern and ramsons. • Fallen trees left on the ground will provide homes for invertebrates and fungi. • The steep slopes will prevent the canopy trees reaching full size. • Amongst the canopy ash will dominate, with other species like field maple, oak and sycamore also present. • A shrub layer of hazel, hawthorn, spindle and saplings of ash will fill the spaces between the ground flora and the canopy. • Mosses and hart's tongue fern will cover limestone boulders that pepper the ground. • The ground flora on the slopes and on the flatter ground will be full of colour in the spring, with bluebells and ransoms providing a haze of blue and white. • Mature rotting trees will be found standing and fallen. • Young trees will grow in the ground flora and shrub layer ready to take the place of a fallen tree. • Some uncommon vascular plants will be found in the woods these include herb Paris, purple gromwell, butcher's broom and spurge laurel. • On the flatter areas fallen planted conifers will support mosses and ferns and ash trees will grow up from between the fallen conifers. Old conifer and beech plantations will support developing ash woodland. • All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control. |
| Annex I habitat qualifying features | Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alongside the Pennard Pill and the Ilston stream alluvial woodland will grow in the silts from the river, • Alder will dominate these areas but hazel and elder will also grow here, • Creeping buttercup, nettles and meadowsweet will dominate the ground flora. • There will be no signs of disturbance such as over-grazing or fly-tipping and no non-native species will grow in these areas. • Young saplings of alder and hazel will be numerous and waiting to fill the spaces left by fallen trees. • All other factors will be under control. |

Site name : Pembrokeshire Marine SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SM503093
 NCC Site Code: UK0013116
 Size: 138038.50ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I habitat primary reason for selection | Estuaries | Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006) | <p>Range: The overall distribution and extent of the habitat features within the site, and each of their main component parts is stable or increasing. For the inlets and bays feature these include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The embayment of St.Brides Bay • The ria of Milford Haven • Peripheral embayments and inlets <p>For the coastal lagoons feature this is subject to the requirements for maintenance of the artificial impoundment structure and maintenance of the lagoons for the original purpose or subsequent purpose that pre-dates classification of the site.</p> <p>Structure and Function: The physical biological and chemical structure and functions necessary for the long-term maintenance and quality of the habitat are not degraded. Important elements include; geology, sedimentology, geomorphology, hydrography and meteorology, water and sediment chemistry, biological interactions.</p> <p>This includes a need for nutrient levels in the water column and sediments to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • within ranges that are not potentially detrimental to the long term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance and range. <p>Contaminant levels in the water column and sediments derived from human activity to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at or below existing statutory guideline concentrations • below levels that would potentially result in increase in contaminant concentrations within sediments or biota • below levels potentially detrimental to the long-term maintenance of the features species populations, their abundance or range. <p>Restoration and recovery: As part of this objective it should be noted that; the Milford Haven waterway complex would benefit from restorative action, for example through the removal of non-natural beach material, and the removal, replacement or improved maintenance of rock filled gabions.</p> |
| | Large shallow inlets and bays | Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006) | |
| | Reefs | Unfavourable: Declining (Jul 2008) | |
| Annex I habitats qualifying features | Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time | Unfavourable: No change (Dec 2006) | |
| | Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide | Unfavourable: Declining (Nov 2006) | |
| | Coastal lagoons | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | |

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| | Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Oct 2006) | <p>There is also need for some restoration of the populations of several typical species of the Milford Haven waterway complex that are severely depleted with respect to historical levels as a consequence primarily of human exploitation.</p> <p>In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> <p>For the lagoons feature this is subject to the requirements for maintenance of the artificial impoundment structures of coastal lagoons and maintenance of the lagoons for their original purpose or subsequent purpose that pre-dates classification of the site.</p> <p>For the inlets and bays features this includes the need for some restoration of the populations of several typical species which are severely depleted with respect to historical levels as a consequence, primarily of human exploitation.</p> <p>In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> |
| | Submerged or partially submerged sea caves | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | <p>Typical Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of typical species are such that habitat quality is not degraded. Important elements include species richness, population structure and dynamics, physiological health, reproductive capacity, recruitment, mobility, range.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • populations of typical species subject to existing commercial fisheries need to be at an abundance equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and be secure in the long term • the management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the habitat feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. |
| <p>species primary reason for selection</p> | Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Nov 2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populations: The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat. Important elements are population size, structure, production, and condition of the species within the site. <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for otter and grey seal;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminant burdens derived from human activity are below levels that may cause physiological damage, or immune or reproductive suppression <p>For grey seal, populations should not be reduced as a consequence of human activity</p> <p>Range: The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for otter and grey seal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their range within the SAC and adjacent inter-connected areas is not constrained or hindered • There are appropriate and sufficient food resources within the SAC and beyond • The sites and amount of supporting habitat used by these species are accessible and their extent and quality is stable or increasing <p>Supporting Habitats and Species: The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and</p> |

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| | Shore dock <i>Rumex rupestris</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Feb 2006) | <p>species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing. Important considerations include; distribution, extent, structure, function and quality of habitat, prey availability and quality.</p> <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abundance of prey species subject to existing commercial fisheries needs to be equal to or greater than that required to achieve maximum sustainable yield and secure in the long term. • The management and control of activities or operations likely to adversely affect the species feature is appropriate for maintaining it in favourable condition and is secure in the long term. | |
| | Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Declining (Apr 2005) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contamination of potential prey species should be below concentrations potentially harmful to their physiological health. • Disturbance by human activity is below levels that suppress reproductive success, physiological health or long-term behaviour |
| | River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Unfavourable: No change (Apr 2005) | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For otter there are sufficient sources within the SAC and beyond of high quality freshwater for drinking and bathing. |
| | Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i> | Not Assessed | | <p>Restoration and recovery: In the Milford Haven waterways complex inputs of nutrients and contaminants to the water column and sediments derived from human activity must remain at or below levels at the time the site became a candidate SAC.</p> |
| | Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> | Not Assessed | | |
| | Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2010) | | <p>As part of this objective it should be noted that for the otter, populations should be increasing.</p> |

Site name : Gower Commons / Tiroedd Comin SAC

Location Grid Reference: SS497900

JNCC Site Code: UK0012685

Size: 1775.29ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I habitat primary reason for selection | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The wet heath will be found on moist and generally acidic soils across the commons.• The wet heath will be characterised by western gorse growing amongst cross-leaved heath and purple moor grass. The gorse will be low growing and does not seem to dominate the heath. The yellow of the gorse and the pink of the cross-leaved heath make a spectacular display. Pink lousewort will be seen growing amongst the mixture of gorse and heath, with grasses and sedges weaving their way through the mix of species such as cotton grass, heath bedstraw, heath milkwort, flea sedge and carnation sedge.• Sphagnum mosses grow beneath the heath, holding moisture like a sponge. Plants capable of growing in certain very wet areas associated with wet heath like bog asphodel and the insect eating sundews will also be found as you walk around the wet heath.• The wet heath is not poached by grazing animals, but is evenly and sensitively grazed. There are no invasive species like Rhododendron or Japanese Knotweed growing in the wet heath and willow and birch are found only very thinly scattered throughout the site, mainly on the edges.• All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |

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| European dry heaths | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2008) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry heath is found on the free-draining parts of the commons. In some parts of the SAC dry heath grows in large continuous areas like at Rhossili Down, in other parts of the SAC, the dry heath grows in mosaics with wet heath and acid grassland. Bell heather and cross-leaved heath grow along side European and western gorse. There is a lack of purple moor grass and sphagnum mosses which tell us that the heath is drier. Heath milkwort, tormentil and heath bedstraw are seen regularly decorating the dry heaths. • Scrub like birch and overgrown gorse is rare with the dry heaths, except where island of scrub provide some shelter for grazing animals. These islands will be accepted within the heathland landscape. • Bracken is present within the dry heath and grows around the edges but bracken never dominates stands of dry heath and does not encroach on the dry heath. • Burning of the heath is only carried out as a controlled management technique to create a mosaic of different ages of heath. There are no signs of burning causing damage or causing bracken to spread. |
| Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016) | <p>On the wettest ground, marshy grassland will be found; it will often be found growing in a mosaic with wet heath.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The marshy grassland will be dominated by tussocks of purple moor grass. The tussocks will provide little sheltered areas where flowers grow and help to provide some shelter for the marsh fritillary butterfly. • The tussocks are uneven in size, but there will always be young purple moor grass coming through each spring. Only a few of the tussocks will have old and 'rank' purple moor grass growing on them. • Devil's bit scabious, the food plant for the larvae of marsh fritillary butterflies will be found commonly growing amongst the purple moor grass. Whorled caraway and soft leaved sedge are both scarce plants that will be commonly found in the marshy grassland areas. • Often heathy plants like cross-leaved heath and gorse will be found in marshy grassland – this is a transition area between the two habitats. |

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| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2017) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seepages and runnels at Rhossili Down, Cefn Bryn and Sluxton Marsh will be well maintained, clear and pollution free. • They will support good numbers of native aquatic plants. • On summer days each year southern damselflies will be seen darting over the seepages and runnels. • Each year the population of southern damselflies will stay the same or increase. |
| | Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2009) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site will contribute towards supporting a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary on Gower. This will require a minimum of 50ha of suitable habitat, of which at least 10ha must be in good condition. Some will be on nearby land within a radius of about 2km. • The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species. • Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation. • At least 50ha of the total site area within the SAC & associated SSSI will be marshy grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary, with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> present and only a low cover of scrub. • At least 10ha will be good marsh fritillary breeding habitat in good condition, dominated by purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, with <i>S. pratensis</i> present throughout and a vegetation height of 10-20cm over the winter period. • Suitable marsh fritillary habitat is defined as stands of grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present and where scrub more than 1 metre tall covers no more than 10% of the stands • Optimal marsh fritillary breeding habitat will be characterised by grassland where the vegetation height is 10-20 cm, with abundant purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, frequent “large-leaved” devil’s-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> suitable for marsh fritillaries to lay their eggs and only occasional scrub. In peak years, a density of 200 larval webs per hectare of optimal habitat will be found across the site. (Fowles 20042) • The marshy grassland will be well sheltered by hedgerows and mature trees. • All factors affecting the achievement of the foregoing conditions are under control. |

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
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| Annex I habitats primary reason for selection | Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculus fluitans and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met • The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. • The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing • The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. |
| Annex I habitat qualifying feature | Transition mires and quaking bogs | Unfavourable: Declining (Jul 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met • The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. • The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing • The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. |

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| Annex II species primary reason for selection | White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish Austropotamobius pallipes | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Sept 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis. |
| | Otter Lutra lutra | Favourable: Recovered (Mar 2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers. |
| | Sea lamprey Petromyzon marinus | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis. |
| | Brook lamprey Lampetra planeri | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| | River lamprey Lampetra fluviatilis | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| | Twaite shad Alosa fallax | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| | Atlantic salmon Salmo salar | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| Bullhead Cottus gobio | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Dec 2016) | | |
| Annex II species qualifying features | Allis shad Alosa alosa | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |

| Site name : Gweunydd Blaencleddau SAC Location Grid Reference: SN155317 NCC Site Code: UK0030144 Size: 149.13ha | | | |
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| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
| Annex I habitats qualifying features | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet heath will occupy at least 6% of the total site area. The following plants will be common in the wet heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>; purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; bog asphodel <i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>; short sedges <i>Carex</i> species; mosses including bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the wet heath. |
| | Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>) | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Molinia meadows will occur as small patches around the site. The following plants will be common: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; small sedges including <i>Carex pulicaris</i> and <i>hostiana</i>, and devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> will be virtually absent. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions will be under control. |
| | Blanket bogs | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanket bog will occupy at least 4% of the total site area. The following plants will be common in the blanket bog: hare's-tail cotton grass <i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i>; heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the blanket bog. |
| | Transition mires and quaking bogs | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition mire and quaking bog will occupy at least 2% of the total site area. Bottle sedge should be abundant over carpets of bog mosses, 'brown' mosses or swamp species such as marsh cinquefoil Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. |

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| | Alkaline fens | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2017) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flushes will occupy at least 10% of the total site area. • The majority of the flushes will naturally support carpets of bog moss below a canopy of tall rushes or sedges. • A proportion (at least 15%) should support short, open vegetation rich in small mosses, sedges and wildflowers characteristic of less acidic conditions. This type of flush corresponds to the Alkaline Fen feature of European interest. • Many of the flushes will have short, open vegetation to suit the requirements of the southern damselfly. • Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> will be kept in check. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. |
| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of larval webs during sampling will be at least 200 per hectare of Good Condition habitat • There are at least 50ha of Suitable habitat on the site or within a 2km radius around it. • At least 10ha of the suitable habitat is Good Condition habitat • Good Condition habitat comprises grassland, with <i>Molinia</i> abundant, where the vegetation height is within the range of 10 to 20 cm, and where, for at least 80% of sampling points, <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present within a 1 m radius. Scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 10% of area. • Suitable marshy grassland comprises grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present at lower frequencies but still widely distributed throughout the habitat patch and in which scrub (>1 metre tall) covers no more than 20% of area. Alternatively, <i>Succisa</i> may be present at high density in close-cropped swards. • The factors influencing the breeding habitat are under control |
| Annex II species qualifying feature | Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 2016) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Density of adult males during sampling is at least 1 male per 10 square metres of breeding habitat • The extent of breeding habitat is at least 1500 square metres. • Breeding habitat will be mapped where patches of oviposition plants are present as more than 20% cover over areas greater than 0.5 square metres and no more than 20% of the total cover consists of <i>Apium nodiflorum</i> greater than 15cm tall. Southern damselfly females lay their eggs into the tissue of emergent aquatic plants and in Wales the key species are <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> (bog-bean), <i>Hypericum elodes</i> (marsh St. John's wort), <i>Potamogeton polygonifolius</i> (bog pondweed) and <i>Apium nodiflorum</i> (fool's watercress). • The factors influencing the flush habitat are under control |

| Site name : Preseli SAC Location Grid Reference: SN110320 NCC Site Code: UK0012598 Size: 2701.68ha | | | |
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| Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives | |
| Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2012) | <p>Wet heath will cover at least 11%3 of the site and display a range of plant species typical of the habitat. Most of the wet heath will have a mixture of tussocks of purple moor-grass, separated by closely grazed patches rich in deer grass, bog mosses and heathers such as cross-leaved heath. A proportion should also have a range of short sedges and flowering plants such as round leaved sundew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following plants will be common in the wet heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>; purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; bog asphodel <i>Narthecium ossifragum</i>; short sedges <i>Carex</i> species; mosses including bog moss <i>Sphagnum</i> species; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly Purple Moor Grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and Western Gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check. Bracken, and scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the wet heath. | |
| European dry heaths | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jun 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry heath will cover at least 11%2 of Mynydd Preseli SSSI and display a range of plant, insect and bird species typical of the habitat. The following plants will be common in the dry heath: heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>; bell heather <i>Erica cinerea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i>. Competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>, purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and western gorse <i>Ulex gallii</i> will be kept in check. | |
| Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion | Unfavourable: Declining (Aug 2012) | <p>Depressions on peat substrates is a habitat type which typically occurs in complex mosaics with wet heath and flush habitats. The vegetation will be open, and have an abundance of species such as white beak-sedge <i>Rhynchospora alba</i>, the bog moss <i>Sphagnum auriculatum</i>, marsh clubmoss <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i> and round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>. The amount of this habitat on the site has not been clearly defined yet, but is thought to be around 1-2% of the total site area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion will occupy roughly 1-2% of the SAC, and be present in at least two management units (currently units 2 and 3). The following plants will be common: white beaked sedge <i>Rhynchospora alba</i>, the bog moss, <i>Sphagnum denticulatum</i>, round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i> and, in relatively base-rich sites, brown mosses such as <i>Drepanocladus revolvens</i> and <i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>. The vegetation in these areas will be typically very open and competitive species indicative of under-grazing, particularly purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, will be kept in check. Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. | |

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| | Alkaline fens | Favourable: Unclassified (Dec 2004) | <p>Alkaline fen will be present in patches across the site and display a range of plant and insect species typical of the habitat, including the southern damselfly. The flushes supporting this specific habitat will comprise short, open vegetation rich in small mosses, sedges and plants characteristic of less acidic conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alkaline fens will be present in 8 out of the 10 pink areas as shown on map. • Characteristic flush species such as <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>, <i>Triglochin palustre</i>, <i>Anagallis tenella</i>, <i>Pedicularis palustris</i> and <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i> will be present • Species indicative of negative change, such as <i>Juncus squarrosus</i>, will be absent. • Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent. |
| Annex II habitats qualifying features | Southern damselfly <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jul 11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The density of adult males, during sampling, will be at least 1 male per 10 square metres of breeding habitat • • There will be at least 3500 square metres of breeding habitat • • All factors affecting the feature will be under control |
| | Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i> , <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i> | Unfavourable: No change (Sept 2011) | <p>A healthy population of the marsh fritillary butterfly will be present on and around the SAC. There will be sufficient suitable and good condition habitat to support viable meta-populations of the butterfly which is dependent here on marshy grassland and flush, with tussocks of purple moor-grass and plenty of the caterpillar's main food-plant, devil's bit scabious. The swards will vary in height so that there are short 'lawn' areas for the caterpillars to sun themselves on, and taller tussocky areas to provide shelter. For each of the two Meta-populations present within the SAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • There should be at least 200 larval webs per hectare of Good Condition habitat • • There should be at least 50ha of Suitable habitat on the SAC or within a 2km radius around it. • • At least 10ha of this suitable habitat should be Good Condition Habitat • All factors affecting the feature must be under control |
| | Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus</i> (<i>Hamatocaulis</i>) <i>vernicosus</i> | Favourable: Maintained (Feb 2006) | <p>Slender green feather moss is a qualifying feature in the SAC, but has been found to be considerably more frequent and abundant both within Preseli SAC, and indeed in a number of other sites in Wales than was previously thought. In the light of this, it has been decided to treat the feature as part of the Rare mosses on damp ground SSSI feature.</p> |

| 364 | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|---|---|--|--|
| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus</i> (<i>Hamatocaulis</i>) <i>vernicosus</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Aug 2009) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a thriving population of varnished hook-moss in the mildly base-rich flushes, at six different locations spread throughout the site. • Around 1.5 ha of suitable flush vegetation will continue to occur at Mynydd Epynt at the six different locations and the moss will continue to be present and maintain its distribution throughout the suitable areas of flush in at least ten separate locations overall. • The water table is maintained at or near to the surface for most of the year within the flushes. • The flushes are open in character with no woody shrubs present. • The flushes are not dominated by rushes, purple moor-grass or bog-mosses (<i>Sphagnum</i> spp.). • The following plants are typically found in the flushes scattered amongst the moss carpet but not dominant: carnation sedge <i>Carex panicea</i>, star sedge <i>C. echinata</i>, common sedge <i>C. nigra</i>, purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and rushes <i>Juncus acutifolius</i> and <i>J. articulatus</i>. • Species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> are absent from the flushes and the surrounding areas of SSSI/SAC in the six locations. • All six locations continue to be grazed by sheep at a level which maintains the short open sward of the flushes without poaching. • All six locations are free from physical damage such as trampling/poaching caused by livestock, troop activity, passage of agricultural/other vehicles, or impact damage from weapons practice. • The population of varnished hook-moss is stable and is sustainable in the long term with its range not contracting and all factors that may affect the species are under control. |

Site name : River Usk / Afon Wysg SAC
 Location Grid Reference: SO301113
 JNCC Site Code: UK0013007
 Size: 967.97ha

| | Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
|---|--|--|--|
| Annex I habitats qualifying features | Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The natural range of the plant communities represented within this feature should be stable or increasing in the SAC. The area covered by the feature within its natural range in the SAC should be stable or increasing. The conservation status of the feature's typical species should be favourable. The typical species are defined with reference to the species composition of the appropriate JNCC river vegetation type for the particular river reach, unless differing from this type due to natural variability when other typical species may be defined as appropriate. |
| Annex II species primary reason for selection | Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> | Favourable: Recovered (Mar 2010) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour. The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers. |
| | Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conservation objective for the water course as defined in 4.1 above must be met The population of the feature in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term. The natural range of the feature in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the SAC on a long-term basis. |
| | Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012) | |
| | River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Nov 2012) | |
| | Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| | Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| | Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | |
| Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i> | Unfavourable: Unclassified (Jan 2012) | | |
| Annex I species qualifying feature | | | |

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| Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites | | |
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| Site name : Elenydd-Mallaen SPA Location Grid Reference: JNCC Site Code: UK9014111 Size: 30022.14ha | | |
| Qualifying Features | Condition Assessment | Conservation Objectives |
| Breeding Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Jun 2000) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 15 pairs of breeding red kites, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. Availability of carrion within the SPA is maintained. Roosting sites within the SPA are maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
| Breeding Merlin <i>Falco columbaris</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Jun 2003) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 7 pairs of breeding merlins, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
| Breeding Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i> | Favourable: Maintained (2006) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPA area continues to support at least 15 pairs of breeding peregrines, or 0.5% of the British population. Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be used. The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained. All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control. |
| Site name : Carmarthen Bay SPA Location Grid Reference: JNCC Site Code: UK9014091 Size: 30022.14ha | | |
| Common scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i> . | Not Assessed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The numbers of all SPA bird species are stable or increasing. The abundance and distribution of suitable prey are sufficient and appropriate to support the numbers of all SPA bird species. All SPA birds are allowed to inhabit their feeding grounds and resting areas with minimum disturbance, and are allowed to move unhindered between them. All states of the Conservation Objectives for the supporting habitats and species, subject to natural processes, are fulfilled and maintained in the long-term. Supporting habitats for bird species of the Burry Inlet SPA include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Estuaries •Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide •Atlantic salt meadows |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand <p>'Large shallow inlets and bays' are the supporting habitat for the common scoter of the Carmarthen Bay SPA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management and control of activities or operations likely to be of significant effect to the oystercatchers, is appropriate for maintaining the feature at FCS and is secure in the long-term. |
| <p>Site name : Burry Inlet SPA/Ramsar Location Grid Reference: JNCC Site Code: Size: 6627.99</p> | | |
| Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The numbers of all SPA bird species are stable or increasing. • The abundance and distribution of suitable prey are sufficient and appropriate to support the numbers of all SPA bird species. • All SPA birds are allowed to inhabit their feeding grounds and resting areas with minimum disturbance, and are allowed to move unhindered between them. • All states of the Conservation Objectives for the supporting habitats and species, subject to natural processes, are fulfilled and maintained in the long-term. • Supporting habitats for bird species of the Burry Inlet SPA include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Estuaries •Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide •Atlantic salt meadows •Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand <p>'Large shallow inlets and bays' are the supporting habitat for the common scoter of the Carmarthen Bay SPA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management and control of activities or operations likely to be of significant effect to the oystercatchers, is appropriate for maintaining the feature at FCS and is secure in the long-term. |
| Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Redshank <i>Tringa tetanus</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |
| Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i> | Not Assessed | |
| Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> | Favourable: Unclassified (Mar 2004) | |

Appendix 2. Nitrogen Deposition Data for SAC's/SPA's within Carmarthenshire and 15km Buffer Zone

| Site | Designated features | Critical Load Class | Critical Load (kg N/ha/yr) | Site Average (kg N/ha/yr) |
|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Afon Teifi | Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoeto-Nanojuncetea | Permanent oligotrophic waters: Softwater lakes | 3 - 10 | 14.2 |
| | Luronium natans – Floating water-plantain | | 3 - 10 | 14.2 |
| Caeau Mynydd Mawr | Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 22 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 22 |
| | | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 22 |
| | Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 15 | 22.0 |
| Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries | Atlantic salt meadows Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand | Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper salt marshes | 30 | 11.1 |
| Carmarthen Bay and Dunes | Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) | Coastal stable dune grasslands - acid type | 8 | 12.7 |
| | | Coastal stable dune grasslands - calcareous type | 10 | 12.7 |
| | Humid dune slacks | Moist to wet dune slacks – acid type | 10 | 12.7 |
| | | Moist to wet dune slacks – calcareous type | 15 | 12.7 |
| | Fen Orchid – Liparis loeselii | Moist to wet dune slacks | 10-15 | 12.7 |
| | Petalwort - Petalophyllum ralfsii | | | |
| | Dunes with Salix repens ssp argentea (Salicion arenariae) | | | |
| | Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (“white dunes”) Embryonic shifting dunes | Shifting coastal dunes | 10 | 12.7 |
| Cernydd Carmel | Active raised bogs | Raised and blanket bogs | 5 | 21.1 |
| | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix | Northern wet heath: Erica tetralix dominated wet heath | 10 | 21.1 |
| | European dry heaths | Dry heaths | 10 | 21.1 |
| | Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines | Meso- and eutrophic Quercus woodland | 15 | 31.3 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|----|------|
| Cleddau Rivers | Active raised bogs | Raised and blanket bogs | 5 | 19.2 |
| Cwm Doethie | Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles | Acidophilous Quercus-dominated woodland | 10 | 21.5 |
| | European dry heaths | Dry heaths | 10 | 13.8 |
| Gower Ash Woods | Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines | Meso- and eutrophic Quercus woodland | 15 | 17.3 |
| Gower Commons | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix Southern damselfly Coenagrion mercuriale | Northern wet heath: Erica tetralix dominated wet heath | 10 | 11.9 |
| | European dry heaths | Dry heaths | 10 | 11.9 |
| | Marsh fritillary butterfly | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 11.9 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 11.9 |
| | Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 11.9 |
| | | | | |
| Gweunydd Blaencleddau | Blanket bogs | Raised and blanket bogs | 5 | 21.3 |
| | Marsh fritillary butterfly Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 21.3 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 21.3 |
| | | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 21.3 |
| | Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) | | | |
| | Transition mires and quaking bogs | Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires | 10 | 21.3 |
| | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix Southern damselfly Coenagrion mercuriale | Northern wet heath: Erica tetralix dominated wet heath | 10 | 21.3 |
| | Alkaline fens | Rich fens | 15 | 21.3 |
| | | | | |
| Mynydd Epynt | Slender green feather-moss Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus | Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires | 10 | 14.9 |
| Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes | Rhinolophus hipposideros - Lesser horseshoe bat | Broadleaved deciduous woodland | 10 | 18.1 |
| | Rhinolophus ferrumequinum - Greater horseshoe bat | | | |
| Pembrokeshire Marine | Shore Dock – Rumex rupestris | Moist to wet dune slacks | 10 | 8.9 |
| | Coastal lagoons | Pioneer, low-mid, | 30 | 5.8 |

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| | Atlantic salt meadows | mid-upper saltmarshes | 30 | 8.9 |
| | Estuaries | | 30 | 8.9 |
| Preseli | Marsh fritillary butterfly – Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 18.9 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 18.9 |
| | | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 18.9 |
| | Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion | Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires | 15 | 18.9 |
| | | | 15 | 18.9 |
| | Slender green feather-moss - Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus | | | |
| | European dry heaths | Dry heaths | 10 | 18.9 |
| | Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix | Northern wet heath: Erica tetralix dominated wet heath | 10 | 18.9 |
| Southern damselfly – Coenagrion mercuriale | 10 | | 18.9 | |
| Alkaline Fens | Rich fens | 15 | 18.9 | |
| Rhos Llawr-cwrt | Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 19.9 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 19.9 |
| | | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 19.9 |
| | Slender green featherrela-moss - Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus | Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires | 15 | 19.9 |
| North Pembrokeshire Woodlands | Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles | Acidophilous Quercus-dominated woodland | 10 | 28.6 |
| | Barbastelle Bat - Barbastella barbastellus | Broadleaved deciduous woodland | 10 | 28.6 |
| Yerbeston Tops | Marsh fritillary butterfly - Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia | Non-mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland | 10 | 17.4 |
| | | Sub-atlantic semi-dry calcareous grassland | 15 | 17.4 |
| | | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Molinia caerulea meadows | 10 | 17.4 |
| Burry Inlet SPA | Eurasian curlew – Numenius arquata | Moist and wet oligotrophic grasslands: Heath (Juncus) meadows and humid (Nardus stricta) swards | 10- 20 | 11.7 |

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| | | Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper saltmarshes | 20 - 30 | 11.7 |
| | | Low and medium altitude hay meadows | 20 - 30 | 11.7 |
| | Tringa tetanus (eastern Atlantic – wintering) – Common redshank | Pioneer, low-mid, mid-upper saltmarshes | 20 - 30 | 11.7 |
| | Calidris alpina alpine (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa) DUnlin | | | 11.7 |

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Appendix 3 Plans and Programmes with potential in-combination effects.

| National | |
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| <u>People, Places, futures – The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) (2008 update)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) provides an overarching policy context for spatial planning and development in Wales by establishing cross-cutting national priorities.</p> <p>Carmarthenshire is situated within three of the six sub areas identified within the WSP.</p> <p>Carmarthen, is identified as playing a vital role between this area, Swansea Bay and Pembrokeshire; and Newtown, with a key role in the Severn Valley area, providing services to the surrounding settlements. These have all been identified by Wales Spatial Plan partners as primary settlements for the future development of Central Wales.</p> <p>The Wales Spatial Plan Area of Pembrokeshire and western Carmarthenshire combines exemplary coast and countryside, with a history of development based on agriculture, tourism, defence and the Milford Haven Waterway.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct loss of habitat and/or migratory routes through development, particularly localised hub & cluster development for specific sites • Housing and employment growth in rural areas may lead to increased transport movements - the potential for in-combination effect is greater where housing sites are in close proximity to Natura 2000 sites. • Added growth in rural communities require increased infrastructure - potential for land take, pollution increase, disturbance / fragmentation & severance of habitats and species. • Atmospheric pollution generated as a result of housing, employment and transport growth leading to further climate change impact. • Encouraging tourism and diversification in rural areas will open up the countryside and increase possibility of further pollution and disturbance to the European sites via noise and physical erosion through walking activities. <p><i>NOTE: Wales Spatial Plan does not set policy although, has considerable influence insofar as the Local Development Plan must have regard to the Plan.</i></p> <p>A HRA screening report of the Wales Spatial plan concluded that specific impacts could not be identified at this stage due to the lack of detail on the development that might occur under the plan but did identify the following potential impact pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology, water quality and water resources • Population pressure • Recreation pressure • Direct and indirect effects from transport |
| <u>The Wales Transport Strategy 2008</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The National Transport Plan (2008) sits alongside the Regional Transport Plans in delivering the Wales Transport Strategy. This Plan details the</p> | <p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of people and freight as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas</p> |

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| <p>approach to putting transport onto a carbon reduction pathway, whilst at the same time ensuring that it can continue to support sustainable economic development and social inclusion.</p> | <p>emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> <p>Supports investment travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p> |
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Wales Coastal Tourism Strategy 2008

| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
|---|--|
| <p>The Coastal Tourism Strategy for Wales was launched in 2008. The purpose of the strategy was to identify a clear way forward for the development of Coastal Tourism, which realised and built on the economic potential of the coastline of Wales whilst respecting its environmental quality and recognising the importance of achieving community benefits.</p> <p>Within the regions, seaside tourism is particularly important for South West Wales where it accounts for half of all tourism activity. Carmarthenshire has a number of coastal towns including Llanelli and Burry Port, which have not traditionally attracted much tourism activity, but the development of their coastal resources such as the Burry Port Harbour Development, Pembrey and the Millennium Coastal Parks provide opportunities for attracting a wider day visitor market as well as staying tourists.</p> <p>Tourism is an important contributor to the local economy, with villages attracting both staying and day visitors, as well as acting as service points for the surrounding rural areas. Most have an attractive environment and ambience for the visitor as well as specific heritage attractions, cultural or historic associations such as Laugharne, Llansteffan. Pendine and Pembrey .</p> | <p>There is the potential for the following impacts on all coastal SACs and SPAs related to the plan area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution. • Potential for increased recreational pressure and therefore disturbance through various activities such as water sports. • An increased level of waterborne transport and development along the coast has the potential to increase diffuse levels of water pollution. |

Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020

| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
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| <p>This strategy sets the vision for the Welsh Government and the industry to work in partnership to increase visitor spend to Wales. The strategy focuses on 5 key areas:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for the plan to increase levels of disturbance through increased tourism and therefore recreational activity. |

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| <p>promoting the Brand product Development people Development profitable Performance place building.</p> <p>The strategy identifies a product-led approach to developing and marketing tourism in Wales. This means working with iconic, high quality, reputation-changing products and events. We will be focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more luxury and branded hotels • more well-being facilities, such as spas • more heritage hotels that utilise historic and distinctive buildings • more all year round attractions, activities and cultural experiences • more innovative, unusual and distinctive products. <p>The Great Britain domestic market is the main market for Wales and will continue to be the main focus. Marketing activity will be increased in London and South East Midlands and Yorkshire, as well as within Wales itself for the first time. Overseas, the 3 key markets identified by the panel are Ireland, Germany and USA.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution. |
| <u>Active Travel Action Plan (2016)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The purpose of the Active Travel Plan (2016) is to set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Welsh Government's vision for active travel and how it relates to wider aims • how WG will work with others to achieve the changes required • how WG will embed consideration of active travel across different portfolios • how WG will monitor progress against these actions and the rates of active travel across Wales | <p>Supports investment in highway and active travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p> <p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> |
| <u>A Walking and Cycling Action Plan for Wales (2009 – 2013)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |

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| <p>This Action Plan brings together the key initiatives which the Welsh Assembly Government and its partners are planning to undertake in support of walking and cycling in Wales. It replaces the previous Walking and Cycling Action Plan which ran from 2007 – 2013. The plans core objectives are to improve the health and well-being of the population and the environment by encouraging sustainable travel. This should be done by promoting walking and cycling and associated facilities in crosscutting policies, guidance and funding.</p> | <p>Promoting sustainable travel may influence infrastructure such as cycleways, paths, lighting which in turn may have a substantial negative effect to the qualifying features within a European Site.</p> <p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions may help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> |
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Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Water Resources Management Plan (2015-2040)

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
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| <p>The Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) up to 2035 sets out how Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) intends to achieve the required balance between supply and demand. The aim is to do so efficiently so that water bills are no higher than they need to be and the impact on our environment is minimised. In order to develop the plan, DCWW have projected the future demand for water from our customers, we have calculated how much will be available from current sources, and, where there is a shortfall, looked at all the ways of increasing supply and reducing demand so as to arrive at the best overall package of solutions.</p> | <p>The Water Resource Management plan does not set out policy although gives prioritised direction and guidance on what achievements are required during the plan period to take consideration of water demand and water supply in the context of future challenges including that of climate change.</p> <p>A HRA of the WRMP concluded that no significant or adverse effects on any European sites as a result of its implementation (alone or in combination with other plans and programmes), and that sufficient safeguards are in place to ensure this.</p> |

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2019

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
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| <p>In line with our 2050 strategy, this Plan describes the water resources risks that need to be overcome between 2020 and 2050, whether this be from the balance between our ability to supply water against the demand from our customers, the need to invest in our water resource infrastructure to maintain resilient water supplies or to meet the expectations of our regulators and customers.</p> | <p>The Water Resource Management plan does not set out policy although gives prioritised direction and guidance on what achievements are required during the plan period to take consideration of water demand and water supply in the context of future challenges including that of climate change.</p> <p>The preliminary conclusion of the draft HRA for the draft Water Resources Management Plan (2019) found that the plan would have no adverse effects alone, or in combination. However, it is possible that some aspects of the plan (and therefore HRA conclusion) may change whilst the plan is in draft format and undergoing consultation.</p> |

Towards Zero Waste – One Wales One Planet: The Overarching Waste Strategy for Wales (2010)

| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
|---|---|
| <p>This Strategy sets out a long term framework for resource efficiency and waste management up to 2050. It identifies the outcomes to achieve, sets high level targets and lays out the general approach to delivering these targets and other key actions. The Strategy identifies high level outcomes, policies and targets, and forms part of a suite of documents that comprise the national waste management plan for Wales. The Strategy is accompanied by a number of Sector plans - implementation plans that describe the role of the individual sector, the Welsh Assembly Government and others in delivering the outcomes, targets and policies in Towards Zero Waste.</p> | <p>There are a number of potential impacts that a Waste development can have on qualifying features. These are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the presence of protected or rare species • Dust • Hours of operation / disturbance • Litter • Impact of landfill on existing nature conservation and archaeology • Noise • Odours • Protection of surface and groundwater • Transport and access • Visual impact <p>LDP is not proposing landfill sites so minimal impact on qualifying features.</p> |

| Regional | |
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| <u>The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 - 2030</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy represents an ambitious strategic framework to support South West Wales and its future economic development. The strategy contains 5 strategic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business growth, retention and specialisation • Skilled and ambitious long-term success • Maximising job creation for all • Knowledge, economy and innovation • Distinctive places and competitive infrastructures | <p>This strategy supports economic investment in the South West Wales area, including Carmarthenshire.</p> <p>This has the potential to result in increased growth and development and could result in the following, in combination effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology, water quality and water resources • Population pressure • Recreation pressure • Direct and indirect effects from transport • Habitat fragmentation |
| <u>Swansea Bay City Deal 2017</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The £1.3 billion Swansea Bay City Deal was signed in March 2017. It is claimed that the Deal will transform the economic landscape of the area, boost the local economy by £1.8 billion, and generate almost 10,000 new jobs over the next 15 years. There is reference to 11 major projects overall, with the following specific projects proposed for Carmarthenshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness and Life Science Village in Llanelli • Creative industry project Yr Egin in Carmarthen <p>4 key themes of Economic acceleration, Life science and Well-being, Energy and Smart manufacturing. An enhanced Digital infrastructure and next generation wireless networks and the development of workforce skills and talent will underpin each.</p> | <p>The proposed Wellness and Life Science village in Llanelli is situated adjacent to the Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries European Marine Site. It has the potential to have to following in combination effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on mobile species (bird assemblages and otter populations) • Water Quality • Noise, disturbance • Recreation • Population pressure • Transport related air pollution |
| <u>Joint Local Transport Plan for South West Wales (2015 – 2020)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The joint local transport plan sets out a long term strategy for improvements to transport across four Local Authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthenshire County Council • Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council | <p>Potential to improve air quality through proposed mitigation</p> <p>Supports investment in travel infrastructure, which could, in turn, have negative effects on qualifying features within a European Site, through disturbance and habitat fragmentation.</p> |

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| <p>Pembrokeshire County Council City and County of Swansea</p> <p>Aims include: Economic Growth, Access to employment, tackling poverty, sustainable travel and safety and access to services.</p> <p>The plan lays out a programme of schemes to improve transportation across Carmarthenshire.</p> | |
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Lavernock Point to St Ann’s Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2012)

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
|---|--|
| <p>A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding at the coast. It also presents policies to help manage these risks to people and to the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>This document is the second generation Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) for the shoreline between Lavernock Point (Vale of Glamorgan) in the east and St Ann’s Head (Pembrokeshire) in the west, including the counties of Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.</p> <p>The study area includes the Neath Estuary, the Tawe Estuary, the Loughor Estuary (Burry Inlet), the Three Rivers Estuarine Complex (Gwendraeth, Towy and Taf) and Milford Haven, as well as a number of smaller estuaries.</p> | <p>The overall conclusion of the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Shoreline Management Plan was that its policies may lead to adverse effects on the Integrity of the following Natura 2000 sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation (SAC); • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC; • Burry Inlet Special Protection Area (SPA); and • Burry Inlet Ramsar Site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat loss • Surface water pollution <p>An ‘in combination’ assessment refers to the total effect of all influences acting on a feature from all plans and projects in the context of prevailing environmental conditions. No effects were identified that might, in combination with the Lavernock Point to St Ann’s Head SMP2, adversely affect the integrity of the SAC, SPA or Ramsar designations present.</p> |

Waste Planning Monitoring Report(s) for the South West Wales Region

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
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| <p>The principal purpose of the Plan is to provide a land use planning framework which will assist in the provision of a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable network of new waste management facilities throughout the South West Wales Region to deal with the future waste forecast to be generated in the Region in 2013. The plan, which deals with all controlled waste, provides a sustainable land use planning framework for the Region for the next ten years.</p> | <p>Each of the Unitary Authorities in the Region have a duty to allocate within their own development plan an integrated and adequate network of waste management facilities to deal with the forecast waste generated within their own Local Authority area. In doing the HRA we need to be aware of neighbouring authority plans for waste management.</p> |

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| <p>The Plan provides guidance on how the individual Authorities in the Region should plan for the future sustainable management of waste in their Unitary Development Plans. It does this by forecasting what waste will be generated in each Authority area as well as providing a broad commentary on the different waste management methods and facilities that are available. While not specifically allocating sites the Plan provides the relevant information to allow each Unitary Authority in the Region to allocate sites, or to come to cross border</p> | <p>Neighbouring planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Carmarthenshire through their waste management policies and proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration should be given to the presence of protected or rare species • Dust • Hours of operation / disturbance • Litter • Impact of landfill on existing nature conservation and archaeology • Noise • Odours • Protection of surface and groundwater • Transport and access • Visual impact <p>In combination effects may arise in the very nature of a waste management facility being developed either within the plan area or a neighbouring plan area</p> <p>The waste plans state “Where it is not possible / practicable for an Authority to deal with all forecast waste arising within its area, then that Authority’s LDP shall identify how that particular element of waste generated within its area is to be managed by reference to cross boundary arrangements. The allocation of waste management facilities within the Region shall have a cumulative capacity that deals with all of the waste forecast to be generated in the Region. Any additional capacity over and above the waste forecast to be generated in the Region will need to be fully justified.</p> |
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Regional Technical Statement Regional Aggregate Working Parties (2014)

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
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| <p>The main purpose of the statement is to set out the strategy for the provision of the aggregates in the North Wales region for the period until 2021. As appropriate, MPAs in South Wales will then include allocations for future aggregates provision in their area, as part of the UDP / LDP process. The RTS will therefore seek to:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of Habitat - land-take. • Loss of Supporting Habitat - land-take adjacent to European sites. • Habitat Fragmentation Impacts - land-take due. • increased levels of disturbance - acoustic, noise and light pollution; and • Impacts for Increased Use of Roads - Impacts from increased numbers of heavy vehicles: |

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- Maximise the use of secondary and recycled materials and mineral wastes.
- Safeguard land-based minerals which may be needed in the long term.
- • Acknowledge that where the principles of sustainable development can be achieved, the extension of existing aggregate quarries is likely to be appropriate.
- • Where there is a need for new areas of aggregates supply, these should come from locations of low environmental constraint and take into account transport implications.
- • Maintain supply of marine aggregate consistent with the requirements of good environmental practice.

- increased noise impacts (volume, duration);
- increased vehicular emissions;
- increased road mortality; and
- increased fragmentation impacts.

| Local | |
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| <u>Moving Forward in Carmarthenshire: the next 5 years (2018)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The Council has identified almost 100 priority projects, schemes or services that it wants to deliver over the next five years to make Carmarthenshire <i>"the best place to live, work and visit"</i>. The Council will be investing in key areas as it strives to improve economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being in the county.</p> | <p>Has potential to deliver mitigating effects for some potential impacts, such as improvements to sewerage system may have positive effects, as well improvements to active travel routes which could contribute to improvements in air quality.</p> <p>A number of the projects outlined for delivery in this strategy are in proximity to European designated sites.</p> <p>Potential in combination impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply |
| <u>Transformations: A Strategic Regeneration Plan for Carmarthenshire – 2015 – 2030</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>The economic landscape is evolving with Carmarthenshire's position in the new Swansea Bay City Region for which the strategy has been adopted by the Council; "by 2030, Carmarthenshire will be a confident, ambitious and connected component of a European City Region."</p> <p>Strategic regeneration sites highlighted include:</p> <p>Delta Lakes The Beacon Cross Hands Food Park Carmarthen Town Centre Fanelli Town Centre Llanmannon Town Centre</p> | <p>A number of the projects outlined for delivery in this plan are in proximity to European designated sites.</p> <p>Generic impacts associated with growth and development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply |

| <u>Affordable Homes Delivery Plan 2016 – 2020: Delivering more homes for the people of Carmarthenshire – 2015 – 2030</u> | |
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| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
| <p>This sets out the Council’s five year vision for maximising the supply of affordable homes. Its purpose is to provide detail on how and where more homes will be delivered and what resources will be used and how more could potentially be accessed. It also outlines how an ambitious new build programme can be delivered.</p> <p>The programme will initially deliver over 1000 additional affordable homes over five years, with a total investment exceeding £60m.</p> | <p>Generic impacts associated with growth and development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality • Disturbance (noise, light, recreation) • Habitat fragmentation • Water quality • Water supply |
| <u>Carmarthenshire Destination Management Plan 2015 – 2020 (June 2015) – Carmarthenshire Destination Partnership</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
| <p>The purpose of the Destination Management Plan (DMP) for Carmarthenshire is to clarify what is important to get right for the future, to shape policy and priorities, to steer resources and to form the basis for people, businesses and organisations to work together to achieve common goals.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for the plan to increase levels of disturbance through increased tourism and therefore recreational activity. • Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements, which could then result in increased noise/ disturbance and increased levels of atmospheric pollution. |
| <u>Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2013)</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
| <p>This document identifies the Risk Management Authorities within Carmarthenshire, the key requirements and contents of the strategy, and outlines the high level objectives and measures for implementing the strategy. In addition, this document identifies the potential sources which could fund the implementation of the measures. The document also discusses the context within which the strategy is required to achieve wider environmental benefits.</p> | <p>No structural measures to control flood risk are proposed in this strategy and therefore there are unlikely to be in-combination effects. However the strategy does state that is requirements for structural measures do arise, that the strategy would be subject to a HRA and in-combination effects may be possible.</p> <p>These may include disturbance, barriers to migration and pollution.</p> |
| <u>Flood Risk Management Plan for the Western Wales River Basin District</u> | |
| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
| | <p>The HRA of the FRMP concluded that the plan contained insufficient detail to ascertain significant effects and consequently the assessment for these measures have been deferred to lower tier plans or projects.</p> <p>Environmental Assessment and HRA will be undertaken of these lower tier plans or projects.</p> |

Sites a relevance to Carmarthenshire which likely significant effects could not be screened out include:

- Burry Inlet
- Elenydd – Mallaen
- Cleddau Rivers
- North Pembrokeshire Woodlands
- Pembrokeshire Bat sites and Bosherton lakes
- River Usk
- River Wye

Sites were screened in for potential impacts on mobile species (birds, otters lamprey, bullhead, shad, bats)

| Local Development Plans | |
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| Pembrokeshire County Council Local Development Plan (2013 – 2021) - Adopted | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
| <p>Spatial approach New allocations for housing development will be directed to the Hub Towns, which are Haverfordwest, Milford Haven, Neyland, Pembroke, Pembroke Dock, Fishguard and Goodwick, and, in rural Pembrokeshire, to those settlements identified as appropriate for future growth in the settlement hierarchy. The settlement hierarchy classifies all settlements according to their functional characteristics and provision of services and facilities, with Settlement Boundaries defined for Narberth, the Service Centres, Service Villages, and Local Villages</p> <p>Housing growth Provision is made for approximately 7,300 dwellings in the Plan period, to enable delivery of 5,700 dwellings</p> <p>This plan is now under review as of 5th May 2017. The preferred strategy is scheduled to be published for consultation by 2018. The deposit plan is scheduled to be published for consultation by October 2019. This will have to be considered as the HRA process develops.</p> | <p>The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.</p> <p>Generic effects related to development/ growth scenarios include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for land take/ habitat fragmentation • Increased demand for water resources/ abstraction/ hydrological impacts • Increased traffic movements, contributions to atmospheric pollution loading • Growth in requirements for waste management facilities, increased demand for minerals • Increased recreational pressure from existing/ new populations <p>Specific sites include:</p> <p>SAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preseli • Afon Teifi • Cleddau Rivers • Yerboston Tops • North Pembrokeshire Woodlands • Gwenydd Blaencleddau • Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lake • Pembrokeshire Marine • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries <p>SPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthen Bay |
| Swansea Local Development Plan (2010 – 2025) – Deposit | |
| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |

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| <p>Spatial approach The broad locations identified for growth arising from the analysis of spatial options are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater North West (GNW) encompasses former industrial communities such as Gorseinon and Pontarddulais, which have become primarily dormitory settlements served by large district centres. • The North Zone incorporates largely residential urban areas around the fringes of Central Swansea, including Penlan, Mynyddbach, Llangyfelach, and Morriston; and also established business parks at Fforestfach and Waunarlwydd. • The East Zone largely comprises the urban area east of the River Tawe and extends as far north as Clydach. It includes employment and mixed use locations, such as Swansea Enterprise Park, Swansea Vale, Swansea Port and SA1 Swansea Waterfront. • The West Zone rapidly expanded and merged in the late Twentieth Century, expanding to its environmental limits from the waterfront through to the Gower Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) boundary. The Zone comprises primarily residential settlements, including Sketty and Mumbles. • The Gower and Gower Fringe Zones are characterised by small and large villages located in rural and semi-rural landscapes, some near the western fringe of the urban area. <p>Housing growth This analysis of demographic trends and economic growth scenarios has concluded that between 16,100 and 17,100 new dwellings (including a 10% flexibility allowance to allow for where some sites may not come forward as planned or to respond to unforeseen needs) are required over the Plan period</p> | <p>The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.</p> <p>Generic effects related to development/ growth scenarios include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for land take/ habitat fragmentation • Increased demand for water resources/ abstraction/ hydrological impacts • Increased traffic movements, contributions to atmospheric pollution loading • Growth in requirements for waste management facilities, increased demand for minerals • Increased recreational pressure from existing/ new populations <p>Specific sites include:</p> <p>SAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries • Gower Commons • Gower Ash Woods • Carmarthen Bay Dunes <p>SPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burry Inlet |
| <p>Ceredigion Local Development Plan (2021 – 2033) - Adopted</p> | |
| <p>Document Details</p> <p>Spatial Approach Urban service centres: Aberystwyth, Cardigan, Lampeter, Llandysul, Aberaeron and Tregaron</p> | <p>Potential ‘in-combination’ effects The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other</p> |

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| <p>Rural service centres: Aberporth/Parcllyn, Bow Street, Cenarth, Felinfach/ Ystrad Aeron, Llanarth, Llanilar, Llanon Llanrhystud, Llanybydder (Carmarthenshire), New Quay, Penrhyncoch, Pontarfynac, Pontrhydfendigaid, Talybont, Y Borth</p> <p>Housing Growth Approximately 6544 dwellings in order to meet the projected growth of 6000 units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 51% of this growth in the Urban Service Centres (USCs); • 24% of this growth in the Rural Service Centres (RSCs); and • A maximum of 25% of this growth (or in any event not more than 1522 units) in settlements and locations other than the Service Centres (predominantly in the Linked Settlements) | <p>policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.</p> <p>Generic effects related to development/ growth scenarios include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for land take/ habitat fragmentation • Increased demand for water resources/ abstraction/ hydrological impacts • Increased traffic movements, contributions to atmospheric pollution loading • Growth in requirements for waste management facilities, increased demand for minerals • Increased recreational pressure from existing/ new populations <p>Specific sites include: SAC Afon Teifi Rhos Lawr-cwrt Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen SPA Ellenydd – Mallaen</p> |
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Powys Local Development Plan (2011 – 2026) - Adopted

| Document Details | Potential 'in-combination' effects |
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| <p>Spatial Approach: Towns: Builth Wells (including Llanellwedd), Knighton, Llandrindod Wells, Llanfair Caereinion, Llanfyllin, Llanidloes, Llanwrtyd Wells, Machynlleth, Montgomery, Newtown, Presteigne, Rhayader, Welshpool, Ystradgynlais, Hay-on-Wye (part BBNP area)</p> <p>Large Villages: Abercrave, Abermule, Arddleen, Berriew, Bettws Cedewain, Boughrood and Llyswen, Bronllys, Caersws, Carno, Castle Caereinion, Churchstoke, Clyro, Coelbren, Crewgreen, Crossgates, Forden and Kingswood, Four Crosses, Glasbury, Guilsfield, Howey, Kerry, Knucklas, Llanbrynmair, Llandinam, Llandrinio, Llanfechain, Llangurig, Llangynog, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain, Llansilin,</p> | <p>The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause 'in-combination' effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.</p> <p>Generic effects related to development/ growth scenarios include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for land take/ habitat fragmentation • Increased demand for water resources/ abstraction/ hydrological impacts |

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| <p>Llanymynech, Llanyre, Meifod, Middletown, New Radnor, Newbridge on Wye, Penybontfawr, Pontrobert, Three Cocks, Trefeglwys, Tregynon, Trewern</p> <p>Housing Growth: The LDP evidence identifies a Dwelling Requirement Figure of 4,500 including an affordable housing target of 952 new affordable homes.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased traffic movements, contributions to atmospheric pollution loading • Growth in requirements for waste management facilities, increased demand for minerals • Increased recreational pressure from existing/ new populations <p>Specific sites include: SAC River Wye River Usk</p> |
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Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan (2007 – 2022) – Adopted

| Document Details | Potential ‘in-combination’ effects |
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| <p>Spatial approach: HUB: Brecon - Identified as the “Primary Key Settlement” for the Region CLUSTER: Talgarth, Hay-on-Wye, Crickhowell, Sennybridge - Identified as “Key Settlements” having an important strategic function in serving the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Housing Growth: The identified housing requirement for the Brecon Beacons National Park is 1990 dwellings between 2007 and 2022.</p> | <p>The development plans of nearby local planning authorities have the potential to cause ‘in-combination’ effects to the European sites within Powys through their housing and employment land allocations and other policies. Development could have an indirect effect on the sites and could increase their vulnerability and have a substantial negative effect if connected in any way.</p> <p>Generic effects related to development/ growth scenarios include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for land take/ habitat fragmentation • Increased demand for water resources/ abstraction/ hydrological impacts • Increased traffic movements, contributions to atmospheric pollution loading • Growth in requirements for waste management facilities, increased demand for minerals • Increased recreational pressure from existing/ new populations <p>Specific sites include: SAC River Tywi River Usk</p> |

Appendix 4 Preliminary screening of draft Strategic Objectives

| Objective | | Assessment category | Screening Conclusion |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| Healthy Habits - People have a good quality of life and make healthy choices about their lives and environment | | | |
| SO1 | To ensure that the natural environment, including habitats and species, are safeguarded and enhanced | D | Screened Out |
| SO2 | To assist with widening and promoting wellbeing opportunities through access to community, leisure and recreational facilities as well as the countryside | A | Screened Out |
| SO5 | To safeguarded and enhance the built and historic environment and promote the appropriate reuse of redundant buildings. | A | Screened Out |
| Early Intervention - To make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it | | | |
| SO3 | To assist in widening and promoting education and skills training opportunities for all. | A | Screened Out |
| SO4 | To ensure that the principles of equal opportunities and social inclusion are upheld by promoting access to a high quality and diverse mix of public services, healthcare, shops, leisure facilities and work opportunities, as well as vibrant town centres. | A | Screened Out |
| Strong Connections - Strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change | | | |
| SO6 | To ensure that the principles of spatial sustainability are upheld by directing development to sustainable locations with access to services and facilities and wherever possible encouraging the reuse of previously developed land. | A | Screened Out |
| SO7 | To make a significant contribution towards tackling the cause and adapting to the effect of climate change, including promoting the efficient use and safeguarding of resources. | D | Screened Out |
| SO8 | To contribute to the delivery of an accessible integrated and sustainable transport system, including links to alternative transport methods | A | Screened Out |
| Prosperous People and Places – To maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county | | | |
| SO9 | To protect and enhance the diverse character, distinctiveness, safety and vibrancy of the County's communities by promoting a place making approach and a sense of place. | A | Screened Out |
| SO10 | To make provision for an appropriate mix of quality homes across the County based around the principles of sustainable socio-economic development and equality of opportunities. | A | Screened Out |
| SO11 | To assist in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Welsh Language and the County's unique cultural identity, assets and social fabric. | A | Screened Out |

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| SO12 | To encourage investment & innovation in rural and urban areas by making adequate provision to meet employment need and to contribute at a regional level to the delivery of the Swansea Bay City Deal. | A | Screened Out |
| SO13 | To make provision for sustainable & high quality all year round tourism related initiatives. | A | Screened Out |
| SO14 | To reflect the requirements associated with the delivery of new development, both in terms of hard and soft infrastructure (including broadband). | A | Screened Out |

Appendix 5 Preliminary screening of draft Strategic Policies

| Policy | Screening Category | Justification and conclusion | Mitigation measures? | Screening Outcome |
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| <p>SP1 – Strategic Growth The LDP will provide for the future growth of the economy and housing requirement through the provision of following:</p> <p>a) 10,480 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 9,887. b) A minimum of 5,295 new jobs</p> <p>The focus on regeneration and growth reflects the Councils core strategic ambitions with development distributed in a sustainable manner consistent with the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy.</p> | I | <p>This policy promotes change, but potential effects on European sites cannot be identified, because at this stage the proposal is too general. Detailed assessment is required when, location specific information is available</p> <p><u>This policy will require further screening following the consideration of mitigation.</u></p> | It is suggested that the potential for likely significant effects can be avoided through the incorporation of specific policy restriction. | Screened In |
| <p>SP2 – Retail and Town Centres Proposals for retail development will be considered in accordance with the following retail hierarchy.</p> <p>Proposals will be permitted where they maintain and enhance the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of our retail centres. They should protect and promote the viability and vitality of the defined retail centres, supporting the appropriate delivery of</p> | B | <p>This policy relates specifically to town centre locations and maintaining the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of Carmarthenshire’s town, district, and local centres. Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p> | N/A | Screened Out |

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| <p>retail provision (comparison and convenience), leisure, entertainment, office and cultural facilities.</p> <p>Proposals for small local convenience shopping facilities in rural and urban areas where they accord with the settlement framework will be supported.</p> | | <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | | |
| <p>SP3 – Providing New Homes In order to ensure the overall housing requirement of 9,887 homes for the plan period 2018-2033 is met, provision is made for 10,480 new homes in accordance with the settlement framework.</p> | I | <p>This policy promotes change, but potential effects on European sites cannot be identified, because at this stage the proposal is too general. Detailed assessment is required when, location specific information is available</p> <p><u>This policy will require further screening following the consideration of mitigation.</u></p> | <p><u>It is suggested that the potential for likely significant effects can be avoided through the incorporation of specific policy restriction.</u></p> | Screened In |
| <p>SP4 – Affordable Homes The Plan will maximise the delivery of affordable homes up to 2033 through the provision of XXXX affordable homes.⁹</p> | I | <p>This policy promotes change, but potential effects on European sites cannot be identified, because at this stage the proposal is too general. Detailed assessment is required when, location specific information is available.</p> <p><u>This policy will require further screening following the consideration of mitigation.</u></p> | <p>It is suggested that the potential for likely significant effects can be avoided through the incorporation of specific policy restriction.</p> | Screened In |

⁹ The level of affordable housing provided will be populated as part of the preparation of the Deposit LDP.

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| <p>SP5 - Strategic Sites In reflecting their contribution to the future growth requirements for Carmarthenshire and as key components of the Swansea Bay City deal, two Strategic Sites have been identified as making an important contribution to the overall provision for growth during the Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Llanelli Life Science and Well-being Village; and • Yr Egin – Creative Digital Cluster | C | <p>This policy refers to specific proposals for projects that would progress irrespective of LDP adoption.</p> <p>Both proposals will be subject to HRA if required through the planning process.</p> <p><u>Therefore, it is determined that there will be no likely significant impacts on European sites as a result of the implementation of this policy.</u></p> | | Screened Out |
| <p>SP6 Employment and the Economy Sufficient and appropriate land will be allocated for the provision of employment opportunities for the Plan period (figure to be quantified) in accordance with the Plan’s Spatial Strategy / Settlement Framework.</p> | I | <p>This policy promotes change, but potential effects on European sites cannot be identified, because at this stage the proposal is too general. Detailed assessment is required when, location specific, site allocation information is determined.</p> <p><u>This policy will require further consideration at the detailed screening stage.</u></p> | | Screened In |
| <p>SP7 – Welsh Language and Culture The Plan supports development proposals which safeguard and promote the interests of the Welsh language and culture in the County. Development proposals which have a detrimental impact on the vitality and viability of the Welsh language and</p> | F | <p>This policy will not lead to any development and it relates to general safeguarding of Welsh language.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |

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| culture will not be permitted unless the impact can be mitigated. | | <u>a result of implementation of this policy</u> | | |
| <p>SP8 – Infrastructure Development will need to be directed to locations where the infrastructure, services and facilities considered necessary to deliver and support the development proposal are available.</p> <p>Development proposals will need to demonstrate that there is sufficient capacity in the existing infrastructure to deliver and support the proposed development. Where this cannot be achieved, proposals will need to demonstrate that suitable arrangements are in place to provide the infrastructure capacity considered necessary to deliver and support the development.</p> <p>Planning obligations may be sought to ensure that the infrastructure, services and facilities needed to deliver and support the development are delivered.</p> | B | <p>This policy refers specifically to ensuring that development is sufficiently supported by infrastructure, and is designed to test plan proposals for their general acceptability.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |
| <p>SP9 – Gypsy and Traveller Provision Land will be allocated within the Llanelli area to meet the identified need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and to allow for the potential future expansion of Gypsy and Traveller Households.</p> | H | <p>This policy identifies the need to address the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople. The policy sets out the Council’s legal duty, but the policy itself does not allocate any sites. Given the likely small-scale nature of</p> | | Screened Out |

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| | | such sites, and their likely location adjacent to existing development, <u>it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy.</u> | | |
| <p>SP10 – The Visitor Economy Proposals for tourism related developments will be supported where they:</p> <p>(a) add value to our visitor economy; and, (b) preserve our social, economic and environmental fabric for future generations; and, (c) are sustainably located.</p> | A | <p>This policy relates to supporting sustainable tourism within the County. Although SP10 supports new development, there are no specific sites allocated under this policy. The policy states that tourism related developments will be <i>'sustainably located'</i> and will <i>'preserve social, economic and environmental fabric for future generations'</i>.</p> <p><u>Given that the aim of this policy emphasises sustainable tourism, it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of this policy.</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |
| <p>SP11 – Placemaking, Sustainability and High Quality Design In order to facilitate sustainable development, new development should acknowledge local distinctiveness and sense of place, and be designed to high standards that are adaptable to climate change.</p> | B | <p>This policy refers specifically to ensuring that development is considers placemaking, sustainability and high quality design, and proposed criteria to test plan proposals for their general acceptability.</p> <p>Therefore, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |

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| <p>In order to achieve this, all development should:</p> <p>Contribute towards the creation of attractive, safe places and public spaces, which enhance the well-being of communities, including safeguarding amenity, landscaping, the public realm and the provision of open space and recreation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Retain and where appropriate incorporate new green infrastructure which encourages opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity; b) Be adaptable to climate change and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located; c) Exhibit and demonstrate a clear understanding of the existing natural and built heritage, local character and sense of place; d) Be accessible and integrated allowing permeability and ease of movement; e) Have regard to the generation, treatment and disposal of waste; f) Manage water sustainably, including incorporating sustainable urban drainage | | <p><u>a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | | |
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| systems (SuDS) into development proposals where feasible. | | | | |
| <p>SP12 – Rural Development The Plan supports development proposals which will contribute towards the sustainability of the County’s rural communities. Development proposals in rural areas should demonstrate that they support the role of the rural settlements in the settlement hierarchy to meet the housing, employment and social needs of Carmarthenshire’s rural communities.</p> | A | <p>Although this policy does support development in rural areas, there are no specific areas or sites allocated under the policy. The policy does state that ‘the sustainability of the countryside and natural environment’ is ‘imperative’ and that ‘development would need to demonstrate that they accord with the provisions of national planning policies’.</p> <p><u>Given that this policy emphasises that the consideration of the sustainability of countryside and natural environment is imperative and that national planning policy must be adhered to, it is considered unlikely that there would be LSE on European sites as a result of this policy.</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |
| <p>SP13 – Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment Proposals for development will be expected to protect and enhance the County’s natural environment. Proposals must reflect the role an ecologically connected environment has in protecting and enhancing biodiversity, defining the landscape,</p> | D | <p>The direct purpose of this policy is the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.</p> <p>For this reason, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | <p>In order to strengthen this policy the addition of the following wording is suggested:</p> <p><i>All development proposals should be considered in accordance with national policy (PPW and TAN5) where a proposal for development would result in a significant adverse</i></p> | Screened Out |

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| <p>creating a sense of place and contribute to a sense of Well-being.</p> | | | <p><i>effect on a European designated site.</i></p> <p><i>Development that would result in unacceptable adverse environmental effects will not be permitted.</i></p> | |
| <p>SP14 – Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment Development proposals should preserve or enhance the built and historic environment of the County, its cultural, townscape and landscape assets, and, where appropriate, their setting.</p> <p>Proposals will be expected to promote high quality design that reinforces local character and respects and enhances the cultural and historic qualities of the plan area.</p> | <p>D</p> | <p>The direct purpose of this policy is the protection and enhancement of the built and historic environment.</p> <p>For this reason, <u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>Screened Out</p> |
| <p>SP15 – Climate Change Where development proposals respond to, are resilient to, adapt to and minimise the causes and impacts of climate change they will be supported. In particular proposals will be supported where they:</p> <p>a) Reflect sustainable transport principles and minimise the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;</p> | <p>B</p> | <p>This policy relates specifically to ensuring development is resilient to climate change Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>Screened Out</p> |

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| <p>b) Avoid, or where appropriate, minimise the risk of flooding including the incorporation of measures such as SuDS and flood resilient design;</p> <p>c) Promote the energy hierarchy by reducing energy demand, promoting energy efficiency and increasing the supply of renewable energy;</p> <p>d) Incorporate appropriate climate responsive design solutions including orientation, layout, density and low carbon solutions (including design and construction methods) and utilise sustainable construction methods where feasible.</p> <p>Proposals for development which are located within areas at risk from flooding will be resisted unless they accord with the provisions of Planning Policy Wales TAN 15.</p> | | | | |
| <p>SP16 – Sustainable Distribution – Settlement Framework The provision of growth and development will be directed to sustainable locations in accordance with the following spatial framework (see <i>Preferred Strategy for settlement framework</i>).</p> | <p>I</p> | <p>This policy promotes change, but potential effects on European sites cannot be identified, because at this stage the proposal is too general. Detailed assessment is required when, location specific information is available</p> | | <p>Screened In</p> |

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| | | <u>This policy will require further screening following the consideration of mitigation.</u> | | |
| <p>SP17 – Transport and Accessibility Sustainable and deliverable development requires an integrated, accessible, reliable, efficient, safe and sustainable transport network to underpin delivery. The Plan therefore contributes to the delivery of a sustainable transport system and associated infrastructure through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reducing the need to travel, particularly by private motor car; b. Addressing social inclusion through increased accessibility to employment, services and facilities; c. Supporting and where applicable enhancing alternatives to the motor car, such as public transport (including park and ride facilities and encourage the adoption of travel plans) and active transport through cycling and walking; d. Re-enforcing the function and role of settlements in accordance with the settlement framework; e. Promoting the efficient use of the transport network; | B | <p>This policy relates specifically to ensuring the plan contributes to the delivery of a sustainable transport system through sustainable location of development Implementation of this policy would not lead directly to development, as they list general criteria for testing the acceptability of proposals.</p> <p><u>There would be no LSE on European sites as a result of implementation of this policy</u></p> | N/A | Screened Out |

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| <p>f. Enhancing accessibility to employment, homes, services and facilities at locations accessible to appropriate transport infrastructure – including significant trip generating proposals;</p> <p>g. The incorporation of design and access solutions within developments to promote accessibility. Provide walking and cycling routes, linking in with active travel networks and green infrastructure networks; and</p> <p>h. Adopt a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking.</p> | | | | |
| <p>SP18 – Mineral Resources The County’s identified mineral resources will be sustainably managed by:</p> <p>a) Ensuring supply by maintaining an adequate landbank of permitted aggregate reserves (hard rock and sand and gravel) throughout the Plan period;</p> <p>b) Encouraging the efficient and appropriate use of high quality minerals and maximising the potential for the re-use and</p> | <p>G</p> | <p>This policy makes provision for change, however the policy states that ‘buffer zones’ will be used to ‘reduce the conflict between mineral development and sensitive development’ and that ‘appropriate restoration’ will be secured which can ‘deliver specific environmental community benefits’.</p> <p><u>Given that this policy details the use of buffer zones to avoid sensitive areas, it is considered unlikely that</u></p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>Screened Out</p> |

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| <p>recycling of suitable minerals as an alternative to primary won aggregates;</p> <p>c) Safeguarding areas underlain by minerals of economic importance where they could be worked in the future to ensure that such resources are not unnecessarily sterilised by other forms of development;</p> <p>d) The use of buffer zones to reduce the conflict between mineral development and sensitive development;</p> <p>e) Securing appropriate restoration which can deliver specific environmental and community benefits.</p> | | <p><u>there would be LSE on European sites as a result of this policy.</u></p> | | |
| <p>SP19 – Waste Management Provision will be made to facilitate the sustainable management of waste through:</p> <p>a) The allocation of adequate appropriate land to provide for an integrated network of waste management facilities;</p> <p>b) Supporting proposals for waste management which involve the management of waste in accordance with the ranking set out within in the waste hierarchy;</p> <p>c) Supporting proposals for new in-building waste management</p> | I | <p>This policy promotes change, but the wording of the policy does not allow likely significant effects to be ruled out.</p> <p><u>This policy will require further screening, following the consideration of mitigation.</u></p> | <p>Suggested rewording of policy:</p> <p>The location and scale of developments should have regard to the availability and capacity of waste management facilities in the area. They should also have regard to <i>sustainable location and protection of the natural environment.</i></p> | Screened In |

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| <p>facilities at existing and allocated industrial sites which are suitable for waste management facilities;</p> <p>d) Acknowledging that certain types of waste facility may need to be located outside the development limits of settlements;</p> <p>e) Ensuring that provision is made for the sustainable management of waste in all new development, including securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste.</p> | | | | |
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DYDD LLUN, 22 HYDREF 2018

YN BRESENNOL: Y Cynghorydd E. Dole [Cadeirydd]

Y Cyngorwyr:

C.A. Campbell, G. Davies, L.D. Evans, P. Hughes-Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, L.M. Stephens a J. Tremlett

Hefyd yn bresennol:

Y Cyngorwyr: R. James, J.M. Charles and D.M. Cundy

Yr oedd y swyddogion canlynol yn gwasanaethu yn y cyfarfod:

C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol
J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau
G. Morgans, Cyfarwyddwr Addysg a Phlant
Mrs R. Mullen, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd
W. Walters, Cyfarwyddwr Adfywio a Pholisi
L.R. Jones, Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith
P.R. Thomas, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Rheoli Pobl a Pherfformiad)
N. Daniel, Pennaeth Gwasanaeth TGCh
L. Quelch, Y Pennaeth Cynllunio
I.R. Llewellyn, Rheolwr Blaen-gynllunio
J. Owen, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

Y Siambr, Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin : 10.00 am - 10.55 am

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB A MATERION ERAILL

Cafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb gan y Cyngorwyr H.A.L. Evans a P.M. Hughes.

Rhoddodd y Cadeirydd ddiweddariad i'r Bwrdd am yr hyn oedd wedi digwydd mewn perthynas â Storm Callum. Sir Gaerfyrddin ddioddefodd waethaf yn sgil y storm a gwelwyd y llifogydd mwyaf difrifol ers mwy na 30 mlynedd.

Cydymdeimlwyd â theulu Corey Sharpling a fu farw mewn digwyddiad trasig ar yr A484 yng Nghwmdud, rhwng Caerfyrddin ac Aberteifi, yn ystod Storm Callum.

[Cafwyd munud o dawelwch er cof am Mr Sharpling]

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd fod Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin wedi bod yn allweddol o ran rhoi cymorth gwerthfawr i drigolion a busnesau yr effeithiwyd arnynt gan y storm.

Roedd y llifogydd wedi effeithio ar tua 160 o gartrefi. Roedd y Cyngor wedi darparu'r cymorth canlynol:

- Roedd Swyddogion Tai y Cyngor wedi ailgartrefu saith o deuluoedd yn uniongyrchol. Roedd llawer o'r rhai effeithiwyd wedi dod o hyd i'w llety dros dro eu hunain neu wedi cael cymorth gan eu cwmnïau yswiriant.

- Roedd cronfa cymorth yn dilyn llifogydd o £100,000 wedi cael ei sefydlu a oedd yn cynnig taliad o £200 ymlaen llaw i unrhyw un oedd mewn angen. Anogwyd trigolion i wneud cais, ar-lein ac mewn person, a bu timau allan i'r ardaloedd a darwyd waethaf gan ddefnyddio gwasanaeth cwsmeriaid teithiol y Cyngor i gymunedau gwledig, 'Hwb Bach y Wlad'.
- Roedd cymorth ymarferol wedi cael ei roi trwy gasglu celfi ac eitemau tŷ a ddifrodwyd, helpu i gwblhau hawliadau yswiriant, cynnal profion trydanol am ddim a mwy.
- Gweithiodd y Cyngor gyda Celfi Xcel yn Nhre Ioan, Caerfyrddin i lansio apêl at bobl i roi celfi er mwyn helpu'r bobl oedd wedi colli llawer o'u heitemau.
- Roedd rheolyddion lleithder wedi eu darparu i gynifer o gartrefi â phosibl.

Dywedwyd bod y Cyngor wedi rhoi'r cymorth canlynol i fusnesau:

- Roedd celfi, ffitiadau, ac offer a ddifrodwyd wedi cael eu casglu ac roedd ysgubwyr ffordd wedi bod i'r manau a darwyd waethaf;
- Roedd £200,000 wedi'i neilltuo o Gronfa Mentrau Gwledig Sir Gaerfyrddin ar gyfer cefnogi busnesau oedd mewn angen;
- Bu Swyddogion Cymorth Busnes yn ymweld â 110 o fusnesau yn yr ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt, ac mae 67 ohonynt yn dal i gael cymorth. Yn ogystal, roedd cymorth ymarferol wedi cael ei roi er mwyn helpu busnesau yn ôl ar eu traed cyn gynted â phosibl.

O ganlyniad i sgil-ffeithiau ofnadwy Storm Callum, amcangyfrifwyd bod y busnesau dan sylw wedi colli tua £3-4 miliwn, heb gynnwys colli enillion.

O ran priffyrdd, seilwaith, glanhau a gwaredu, dywedwyd bod:-

- Yr holl ffyrdd a phontydd yn yr ardaloedd yr effeithiwyd arnynt wedi cael eu harchwilio, eu clirio a'u hailagor ac eithrio'r A484 yng Nghwmdud a oedd wedi'i chau o achos tirlithriad.
- Ledled Sir Gaerfyrddin, roedd yr asesiad cychwynnol wedi amcangyfrif y byddai angen £3 miliwn i atgyweirio seilwaith y priffyrdd yn unig.
- Gelwid timau arbenigol i gefnogi criwiau, yn cynnwys deifwyr i arolygu strwythurau tanddwr.

Byddai rhagor o ddiweddariadau yn dilyn maes o law.

2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL

Ni ddatganwyd unrhyw fuddiannau personol.

3. LLOFNODI FEL COFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALWYD AR Y 24 MEDI 2018

PENDERFYNWYD llofnodi cofnodion cyfarfod y Cyngor a gynhaliwyd ar 24 Medi, 2018 gan eu bod yn gywir.

4. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBYDD GAN AELODAU

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

5. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

6. DIWEDDARU RHAGLEN GYFALAF 2017-18

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol, ar ôl nodi bod angen cywiro'r teitl i 'Y Wybodaeth Ddiweddaraf am Raglen Gyfalaf 2018-19', yn ystyried yr adroddiad a roddai'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf o ran sefyllfa derfynol y gyllideb ar gyfer rhaglen gyfalaf 2018/19 ar 30 Mehefin, 2018.

Yn adrannol rhagwelwyd gwariant net o £62,301k o gymharu â chyllideb net weithredol o £60,757k gan roi £1,554k o amrywiant. Roedd y gyllideb net wedi cael ei hailbroffilio gan £3.81m o 2018/19 i'r blynnyddoedd i ddod er mwyn ystyried y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y proffil gwariant. Yn ogystal, cynhwyswyd y llithrad yn y gyllideb o 2017/18 yn y ffigurau a oedd ynghlwm wrth yr adroddiad.

Hefyd, nododd y Bwrdd Gweithredol fod ymarfer ailbroffilio Cyllideb Addysg a Gwariant Cyfalaf yn cael ei gyflawni ar hyn o bryd er mwyn dangos cynnydd y cynlluniau sy'n rhan o'r Rhaglen Gyfalaf Bum Mlynedd a'r Rhaglen Moderneiddio Addysg.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn yr adroddiad diweddarau ynghylch y rhaglen gyfalaf.

7. ADRODDIAD MONITRO CYLLIDEB REFENIW Y CYNGOR

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried yr adroddiad monitro'r gyllideb refeniw a oedd yn rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y sefyllfa gyllidebol fel yr oedd ar 30 Mehefin 2018, o ran 2018/2019.

Yn gyffredinol, roedd yr adroddiad yn rhagweld y byddai gorwariant diwedd blwyddyn o £3,016k ar gyllideb refeniw net yr Awdurdod ac y byddai gorwariant o £3,918k ar lefel adrannol. Roedd y Cyfrif Refeniw Tai yn rhagweld tanwariant o £98k i ddiwedd y flwyddyn.

O ystyried y rhagwelir gorwariant sylweddol o bosibl, a fyddai'n defnyddio oddeutu traean o gronfa gyffredinol y Cyngor, roedd yr adroddiad yn argymhell bod y Prif Swyddogion a'r Penaethiaid Gwasanaeth yn adolygu eu sefyllfaoedd cyllidebol yn feirniadol ac yn cymryd camau priodol ac angenrheidiol i ddarparu eu gwasanaethau yn unol â'r cyllidebau a ddyrannwyd iddynt fel mater o frys.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

- 7.1 derbyn yr Adroddiad Monitro ynghylch y Gyllideb Refeniw;**
- 7.2 bod y Prif Swyddogion a'r Penaethiaid Gwasanaeth yn adolygu eu sefyllfaoedd cyllidebol yn feirniadol ac yn cymryd yr holl gamau angenrheidiol a phriodol i ddarparu eu gwasanaethau yn unol â'r cyllidebau a ddyrannwyd iddynt fel mater o frys.**

8. ADRODDIAD YNGYLCH RHEOLI'R TRYSORLYS A DANGOSYDD DARBODAETH EBRILL 1AF 2018 I MEHEFIN 30AIN 2018

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried y wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am weithgareddau rheoli'r trysorlys o 1 Ebrill, 2018 hyd at 30 Mehefin, 2018.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL dderbyn yr adroddiad.

9. POLISI TALIADAU UNIONGYRCHOL CYNGOR SIR CAERFYRDDIN

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad ar Bolisi Taliadau Uniongyrchol Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin a ddiweddarwyd yn unol â'r newidiadau i'r ddeddfwriaeth, sef Deddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) 2014, Rheoliadau Gofal a Chymorth (Taliadau Uniongyrchol) (Cymru) 2015 a Rhan 4 o Gôd Ymarfer Deddf Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol a Llesiant (Cymru) 2014.

Nododd y Bwrdd Gweithredol y prif newidiadau pwysig a wnaed i Bolisi blaenorol y 3 Sir fel y nodwyd yn yr adroddiad. Cafodd y Polisi Taliadau Uniongyrchol diwygiedig a oedd ynghlwm wrth yr adroddiad ei ddiwygio i adlewyrchu'r newidiadau hynny.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn nodi bod taliadau uniongyrchol yn ffordd y gallai unigolion ag anghenion gofal a chymorth cymwys brynu eu gwasanaethau eu hunain er mwyn diwallu'r anghenion gofal a chymorth hynny. Roedd gan yr awdurdod lleol rwymedigaeth gyfreithiol i gynnig taliadau uniongyrchol i unrhyw un a oedd â hawl i gael gofal a chymorth.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo Polisi Taliadau Uniongyrchol Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin.

10. POLISI DIOGELEDD GWYBODAETH

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad ar y Polisi Diogelwch Gwybodaeth a oedd wedi'i adolygu a'i ddiweddarau i sicrhau ei fod yn cydymffurfio â deddfwriaeth bresennol (Rheoliad Diogelu Data Cyffredinol) ac arferion gorau drwy ddarparu polisi cadarn er mwyn diogelu gwybodaeth y Cyngor. Cafodd nodweddion allweddol y Polisi Rheoli Mynediad a'r Polisi Hawlfreintiau, Dyluniadau a Phatentau eu cynnwys yn y Polisi Diogelwch Gwybodaeth diwygiedig.

Nododd y Bwrdd Gweithredol dri phrif amcan y polisïau:

- Sicrhau bod asedau gwybodaeth a chyfarpar TGCh y Cyngor yn cael eu diogelu'n ddigonol rhag unrhyw weithred a allai gael effaith niweidiol ar ddiogelwch gwybodaeth.

- Bod pob ased gwybodaeth yn “eiddo” i swyddog penodol yn yr awdurdod. Mae'r Cyngor yn diffinio pob Pennaeth Gwasanaeth fel Perchennog Asedau Gwybodaeth.
- Bod staff ac aelodau etholedig yn gwybod am yr holl ddeddfwriaeth berthnasol a pholisïau'r Cyngor ac yn cydymffurfio â hwy wrth gyflawni eu dyletswyddau beunyddiol o ran TGCh.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn argymhell y dylid cyhoeddi'r polisi i'r holl staff a'r aelodau etholedig drwy ddefnyddio meddalwedd meta-compliance er mwyn sicrhau bod y polisi yn cael ei ddarllen a'i ddeall yn llwyr.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL gymeradwyo'r argymhellion a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad a chymeradwyo'r Polisi Diogelwch Gwybodaeth diwygiedig.

11. TREFNIADAU TALU CRWNERIAID

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad ynghylch Trefniadau Talu Crwneriaid a oedd yn rhoi manylion am fframwaith talu cenedlaethol newydd ac yn rhoi arweiniad i Grwneriaid a gyhoeddir gan y Cyd-bwyllgor Trafod Telerau ar gyfer Crwneriaid (JNC).

Roedd yr arweiniad a roddwyd gan y Cyd-bwyllgor wedi rhoi cymorth i awdurdodau lleol ynghylch y ffactorau sydd angen rhoi ystyriaeth iddynt er mwyn llunio darlun cyffredinol cytbwys o gymhlethdod crwner ardal. Roedd Cylchlythyr rhif 61 a 62 crwneriaid y Cyd-bwyllgor ynghlwm wrth yr adroddiad yn Atodiad 1 a 2 yn y drefn honno.

Nododd y Bwrdd Gweithredol fod cydweithwyr o Sir Benfro a Sir Gaerfyrddin wedi cwrdd i drafod cyflog y Crwner ac wedi cytuno mewn egwyddor ar y cyflog newydd a fyddai'n cael ei dalu ar sail 50:50 gan y ddau Awdurdod. Roedd yr adroddiad hefyd yn cynnwys y cyflog presennol a'r cyflog arfaethedig newydd yn ei gyfanrwydd yn Sir Gaerfyrddin.

Yn unol â'r arweiniad ac ar ôl trafod â'r Crwner, penderfynwyd ar gyfradd ddyddiol arfaethedig sef £440.00. Cyfrifwyd y gyfradd ddyddiol yn seiliedig ar gymhlethdod y llwyth achosion yn Sir Benfro a Sir Gaerfyrddin a'r cyfraddau cyflog cenedlaethol a osodwyd gan y Cyd-bwyllgor Trafod Telerau ar gyfer Crwneriaid ym mis Ionawr 2018.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn cynnig y dylid mabwysiadu'r fframwaith ar gyfer pennu lefel cyflog y Crwner a lefel cyflog y Crwner Cynorthwyol, a gofynnwyd i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol gytuno ar bennu dyddiad ar gyfer ôl-ddyddio cyflog y Crwner.

Yn unol â'r arweiniad a'r fframwaith cenedlaethol newydd;

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

11.1 cytuno ar y cyflog ar gyfer y Crwner a'r Crwner Cynorthwyol, fel y nodwyd yn yr adroddiad;

11.2 ôl-ddyddio'r cyflog perthnasol ar gyfer y Crwner i 25 Medi 2018.

12. CYNLLUN DATBLYGU LLEOL DIWYGIEDIG SIR GAERFYRDDIN 2018-2033

Dywedwyd wrth y Bwrdd Gweithredol fod y Cyngor Sir yn ei gyfarfod ar 10 Ionawr 2018 wedi cytuno i ddechrau'n ffurfiol ar y gwaith o baratoi Cynllun Datblygu Lleol (CDLI) diwygiedig (newydd), a'i fod wedi cael cymeradwyaeth Llywodraeth Cymru ar Gytundeb Cyflawni ar 28 Mehefin 2018 gan gynnwys amserlen ar gyfer paratoi'r cynllun.

Yn unol â'r argymhelliad hwnnw, ystyriodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol adroddiad ar Gynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2018 sy'n gosod Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir drwy nodi gweledigaeth y Cyngor o ran defnydd tir, amcanion strategol a gofynion twf strategol ar gyfer y Sir hyd at 2033. Atodwyd y dogfennau atodol canlynol i'r adroddiad:

- Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth Cyn-adneuo a Ffefrir
- Fersiwn Drafft o'r Arfarniad Cynaliadwyedd Cychwynnol (sy'n cynnwys y Datganiad Amgylcheddol Strategol)
- Rhagamcanion Poblogaeth ac Aelwydydd - Papur Cyfarwyddo

Nododd y Bwrdd Gweithredol fod y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir wedi'i gynllunio i adlewyrchu cyfrifoldebau statudol y Cyngor er mwyn llunio'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol diwygiedig dan Ddeddf Cynllunio a Phrynu Gorfodol 2004.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn gofyn am gymeradwyaeth gan y Bwrdd Gweithredol er mwyn ei gyhoeddi fel rhan o ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol am gyfnod statudol o 6 wythnos o leiaf. Byddai Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir, fel y nodwyd yn y Cytundeb Cyflawni, yn cael ei gyhoeddi ym mis Rhagfyr 2018.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR;

12.1 cymeradwyo cynnwys y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir (a dogfennau atodol) ar gyfer Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig 2018-2033 at ddibenion ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ffurfiol;

12.2 rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud addasiadau teipograffyddol neu ffeithiol ansylweddol yn ôl yr angen, i wella eglurder a chywirdeb y Fersiwn Drafft o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir .

13. CANLLAWIAU URDDAS A PHARCH YN Y GWEITHLE AR GYFER YSGOLION

Cafodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol adroddiad a oedd yn cynnwys Canllawiau newydd ynghylch Urddas a Pharch yn y Gweithle ar gyfer Ysgolion.

Roedd y canllawiau'n diffinio ymddygiad annerbyniol ac yn nodi strategaethau y gellid eu defnyddio i oresgyn effeithiau anodd ymddygiad o'r fath. Dull a nod allweddol y canllawiau oedd disgwyl a hyrwyddo ymddygiad derbyniol fel y ffordd orau o atal ymddygiad annerbyniol.

Soniodd aelodau fod angen sicrhau bod yr holl ysgolion wedi darllen a deall y canllawiau, ac felly cynigwyd y dylid gofyn i Benaethiaid drefnu bod y canllawiau yn cael eu trafod yn ystod diwrnodau hyfforddiant mewn swydd.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL:

13.1 cytuno i fabwysiadu'r Canllawiau ynghylch Urddas a Pharch yn y Gweithle ar gyfer Ysgolion;

13.2 gofyn i Bennaethiaid drefnu bod y Canllawiau ynghylch Urddas a pharch yn y Gweithle ar gyfer Ysgolion yn cael eu trafod yn ystod diwrnodau hyfforddiant mewn swydd.

14. POLISI A GWEITHDREFN GWEITHIO'N HYBLYG AR GYFER YSGOLION

Rhoddodd y Bwrdd Gweithredol ystyriaeth i adroddiad a oedd yn cynnwys y Polisi a'r Weithdrefn Gweithio Hyblyg ar gyfer Ysgolion.

Mae'r Polisi a'r Weithdrefn wedi'u datblygu i gynorthwyo Penaethiaid i ymdrin â cheisiadau gan weithwyr a oedd wedi defnyddio eu hawl statudol i wneud cais am weithio hyblyg. Roedd yr hawl statudol yn ceisio hwyluso trafodaethau ac annog y gweithiwr a'r rheolwr llinell i ystyried patrymau eraill o weithio hyblyg a dod o hyd i atebion a oedd yn cyd-fynd â gofynion y naill ochr a'r llall.

Nododd y Bwrdd, o dan ddarpariaethau a nodwyd yn Neddf Hawliau Cyflogaeth 1996 a'r rheoliadau a wnaed, fod gan bob gweithiwr yr hawl statudol i ofyn i'w gyflogwr am gael newid yn nhelerau ac amodau contractiol ei gyflogaeth er mwyn gweithio'n hyblyg, ar yr amod ei fod wedi gweithio i'w gyflogwr yn barhaus am o leiaf 26 wythnos ar y dyddiad y gwnaed y cais.

Pwysleisiodd y Dirprwy Arweinydd nad oedd yr hawl statudol yn golygu bod hawl awtomatig i weithio'n hyblyg.

Cyfeiriwyd at bwynt 13 yn y canllawiau a oedd yn rhestru'r 'Rhesymau Busnes dros Wrthod Cais', a mynegwyd pryder ynghylch ysgolion bach a sut y gallent fod dan anfantais o ran gweithredu'r polisi oherwydd y cyllidebau sy'n lleihau a nifer y staff cyfyngedig. Cydnabuwyd er y gallai fod yn anodd i ysgolion bach roi'r un lefel o hyblygrwydd ag ysgolion mawr, yn enwedig yn ystod oriau dysgu, serch hynny, mae dyletswydd i gynnal safon uchel o addysg.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL, gymeradwyo mabwysiadu'r Polisi a'r Weithdrefn Gweithio Hyblyg ar gyfer Ysgolion.

15. UNRHYW FATER ARALL Y GALL Y CADEIRYDD OHERWYDD AMGYLCHIADAU ARBENNIG BENDERFYNU EI YSTYRIED YN FATER BRYS YN UNOL AG ADRAN 100B(4)(B) O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL, 1972.

Diolchodd y Cadeirydd i'r staff am eu holl ymdrechion yn ystod ac yn dilyn y storm y penwythnos diwethaf. Roedd ymrwymiad a pharodrwydd y staff i fynd yr ail filltir yn golygu bod y Cyngor wedi gallu ymdrin â materion yn effeithiol ac yn effeithlon er mwyn diwallu anghenion y bobl yr effeithiwyd yn ddirfawr arnynt.

**NODER: AIL-GYHOEDDWDYD Y PECYN DDOGFEN HON OHERWYDD
CAMGYMERIAD CYFUNO.**

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD