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 form consultation	
Update the SA Report	LDP preparation and Deposit
Examination	Submission, Examination and Adoption
D2(ii) Appraising significant changes resulting from representations	
D3 Making decisions and providing information	
Adoption statement and final SA report	
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects on implementing the LDP	Monitoring and Review
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 Report[5]. 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.

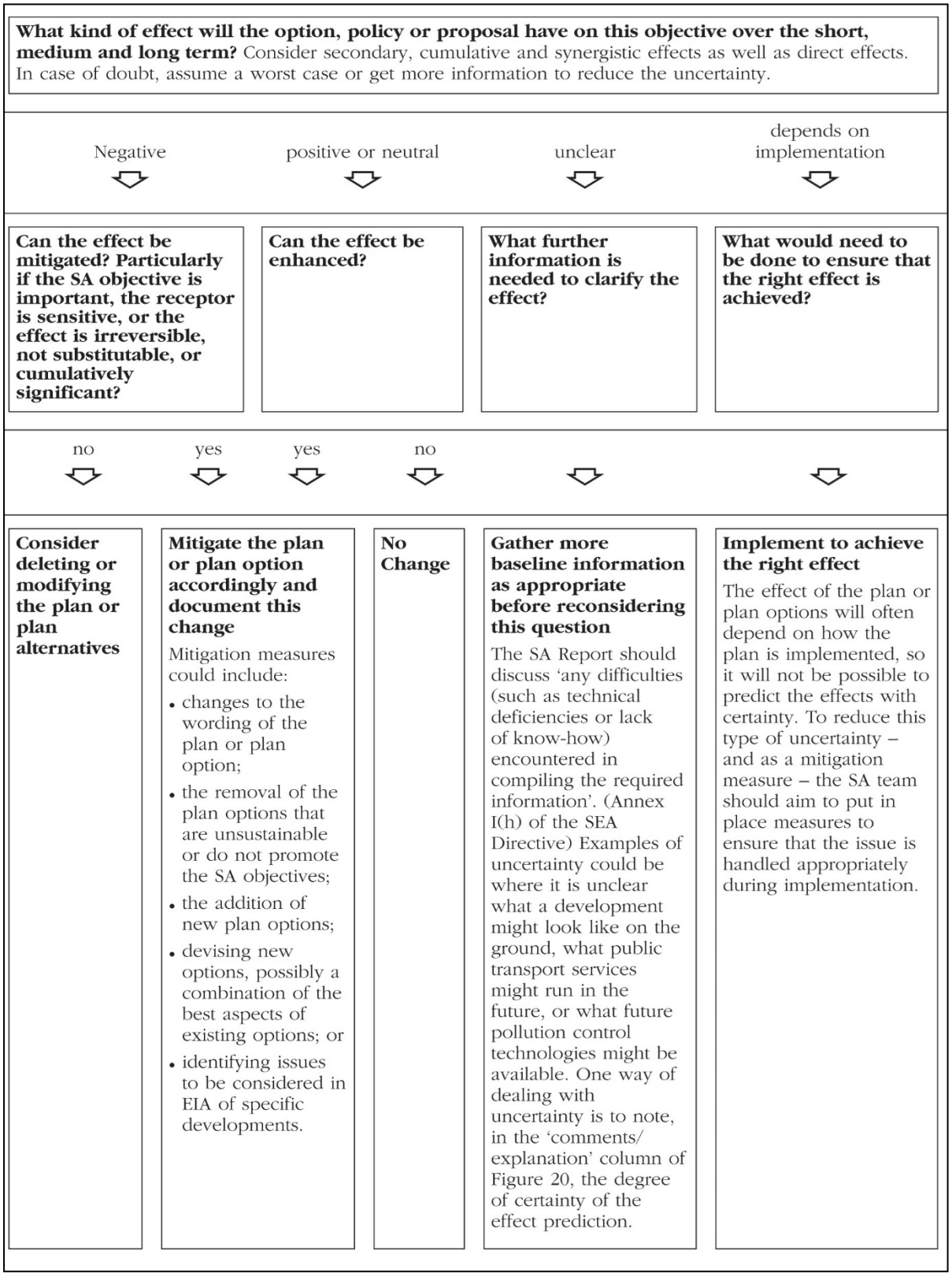
Given the broad nature of plan proposals and the difficulty of separating other causes of the effects, a qualitative approach is considered to be the most meaningful approach. However, qualitative does not mean 'guessed' and predictions need to be supported by evidence. Once the evidence has been considered, 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
I	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 safeguarded 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	• 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	• 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 thorough promotion of access to wellbeing opportunities and facilities (SA10/SA15). • This objective directly aligns with SA12.
SO3	• Aligns positively with the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups, as well as promoting the retention of young people in the community

	(SA10/SA12/SA15) by promoting access to education and skills training opportunities for all. • 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	• 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	• 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	• 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	• 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).

	• 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	• 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	• 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	• 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	• 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	• 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

	developments situated in Carmarthen and Llanelli do not currently support this. • 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.
SO13	• 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)
SO14	• 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 Ih). 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 Deal[6], Carmarthenshire's Strategic Regeneration Plan [7]and Employment Sectoral Study[8], 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	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+	I	I	--	-	--	?	--	--
Option 2 436 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-	I	I	-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 3 470 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-	I	I	-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 4 482 dwellings a year	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+		+/-	I	I	-	-	-	?	-	-
Option 5 659 dwellings a year	+	+/-	+/--	+/-	+		+/-	I	I	+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 6 939 dwellings a year	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	-		+/-	I	I	+	+	?	?	+	+
Option 7 1,160 dwellings a year	-	-	-	-	-		-	I	I	+	+/-	+	?	++	+
Option 8 1,313 dwellings a year	-	-	-	-	--		-	I	I	+	+/-	+	?	++	+

Table 6 Sustainability Commentary for the Strategic Growth Options

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.

Population Change

- 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.

Employment Growth

- 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

		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 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 disadvantages 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 disadvantages 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

		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

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 disadvantages 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

		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 education 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.

		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	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 education 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

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.

Population Change

- 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.

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

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.

Population Change

- 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	I	+	I	I	+	I
SA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-
SA5 Water	+/-	+	-	+	-	-
SA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-
SA7 Soil	I	+	-	I	+	+
SA8 Cultural Heritage	I	I	I	I	I	I
SA9 Landscape	I	I	-	I	I	I
SA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
SA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-
SA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-
SA13Education and Skills	+	-	-	+	++	?
SA14 Economy	+	-	-	+	++	?
SA15 Social Fabric	+	-	-	++	-	-

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 availability of facilities and services.
- Reflects the diversity of the County and growth is apportioned appropriately to urban and rural use areas.
- Focusses 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
SO1	S	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+	+	+
	M	+	I	-	+	+/-	+	I	I	I	++	+	+	+	+	+	+
	L	+	I	-	+/-	+/-	++	I	I	I	++	+	+	+	+	+	+

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	I	Long Term	I

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
	-	I	I

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
	+	I	I

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
	+	I	I

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

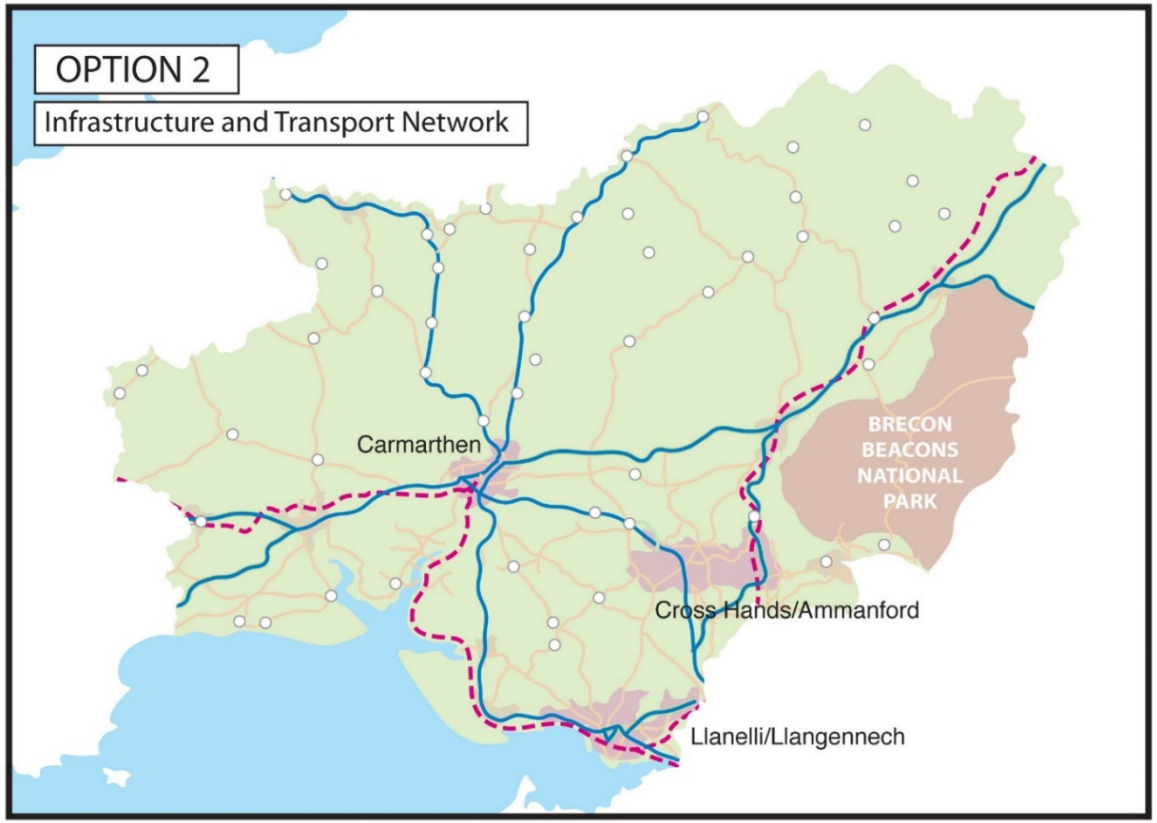
Development within existing urban centres and rural clusters would support existing economic development as well as supporting inward investment by creating viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and market. Concentrating development in areas where, previously development has been focussed 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
SO2	S	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+/-	+	+	+	-	+
	M	-	+	-	+/-	+	-	+	I	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	L	-	-	--	-	-	-	I	I	I	--	-	-	-	-	-	-

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
	+	+	I

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
	+	I	I

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
	+	I	I

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

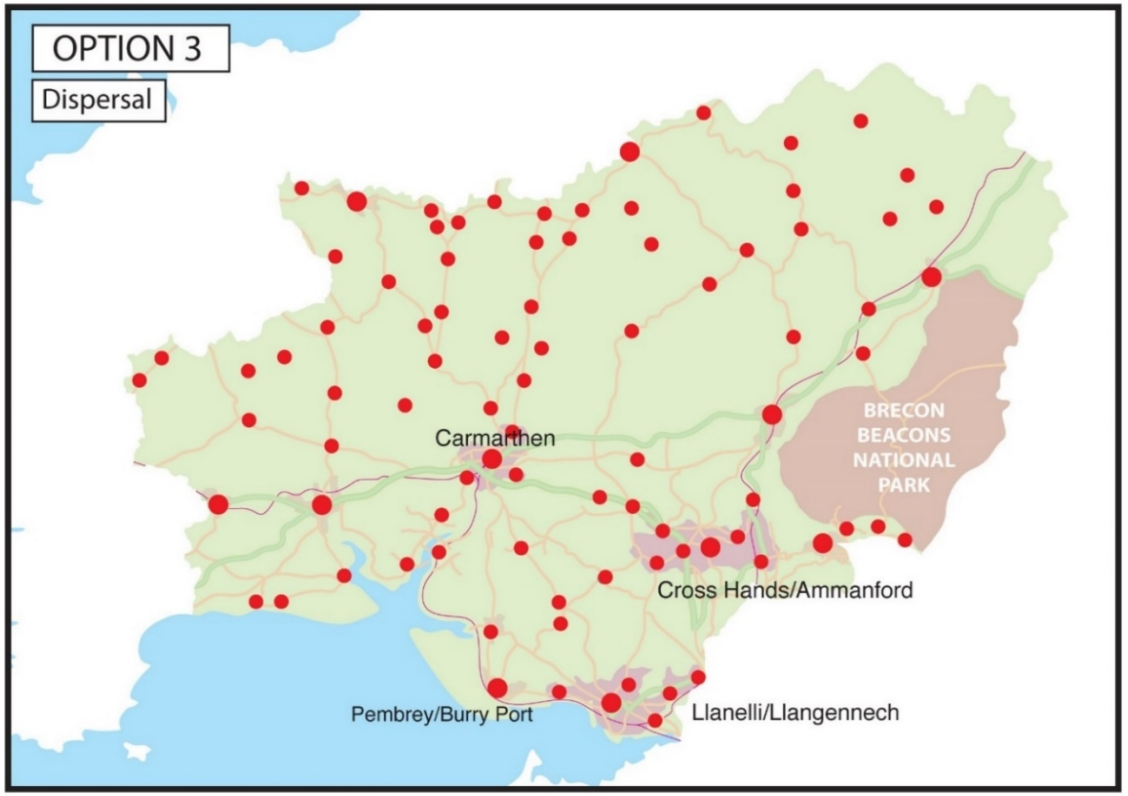
This option would site growth in areas that have previously seen population and employment growth and so aligns with existing market growth in the short term. Does not address economic issues in more rural areas of the county in the long term.

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
SO3	S	-	I	-	+/-	+/-	-	I	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	-	I	-	+/-	-	-	-	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	L	+	-	+	+/-	-	+	-	I	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+

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 | I | Medium Term | I | 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

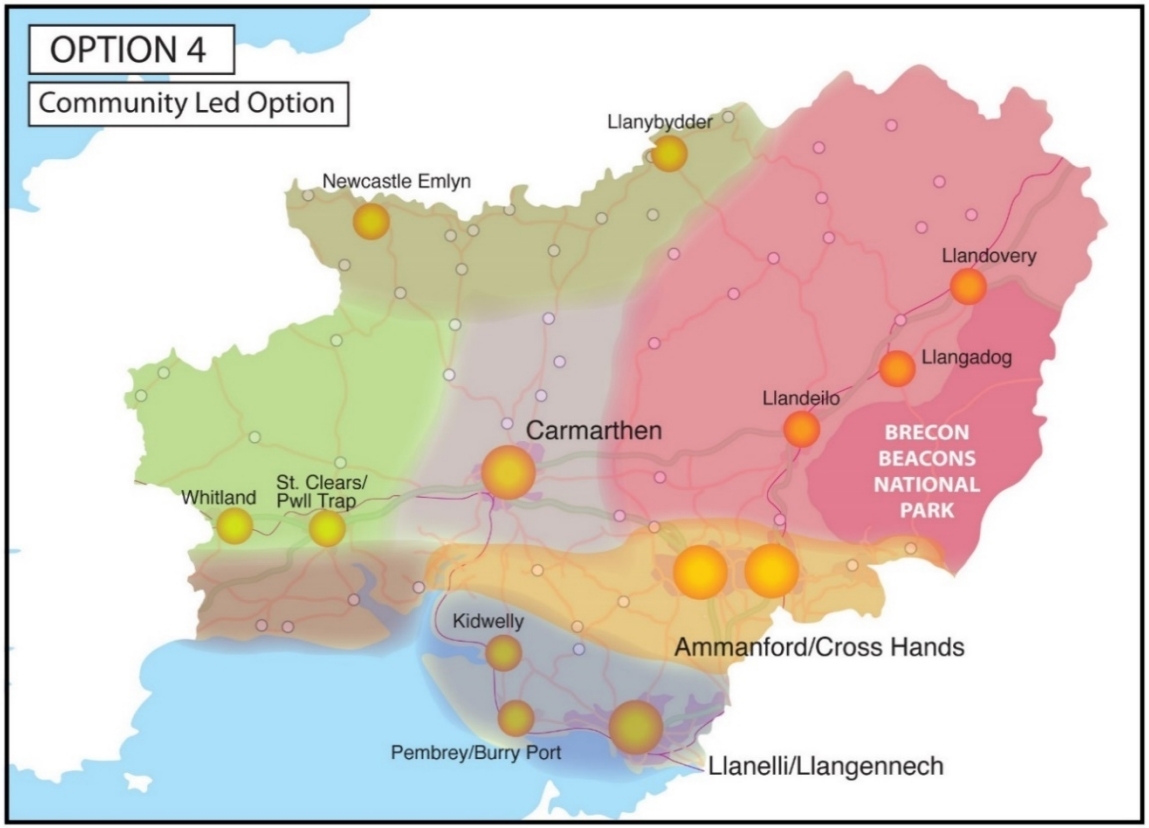
This option has no regard to local need, the market or the supporting infrastructure and is therefore unlikely to create attractive areas for investment and economic growth.

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
SO4	S	?	-	-	+/-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
	M	+	I	-	+/-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+	++	+	+	++	+
	L	+	I	+	+/-	+	++	I	I	I	++	+	++	+	++	++	++

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
	-	I	I

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 I Long Term I

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 I Long Term I

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 I Long Term I

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

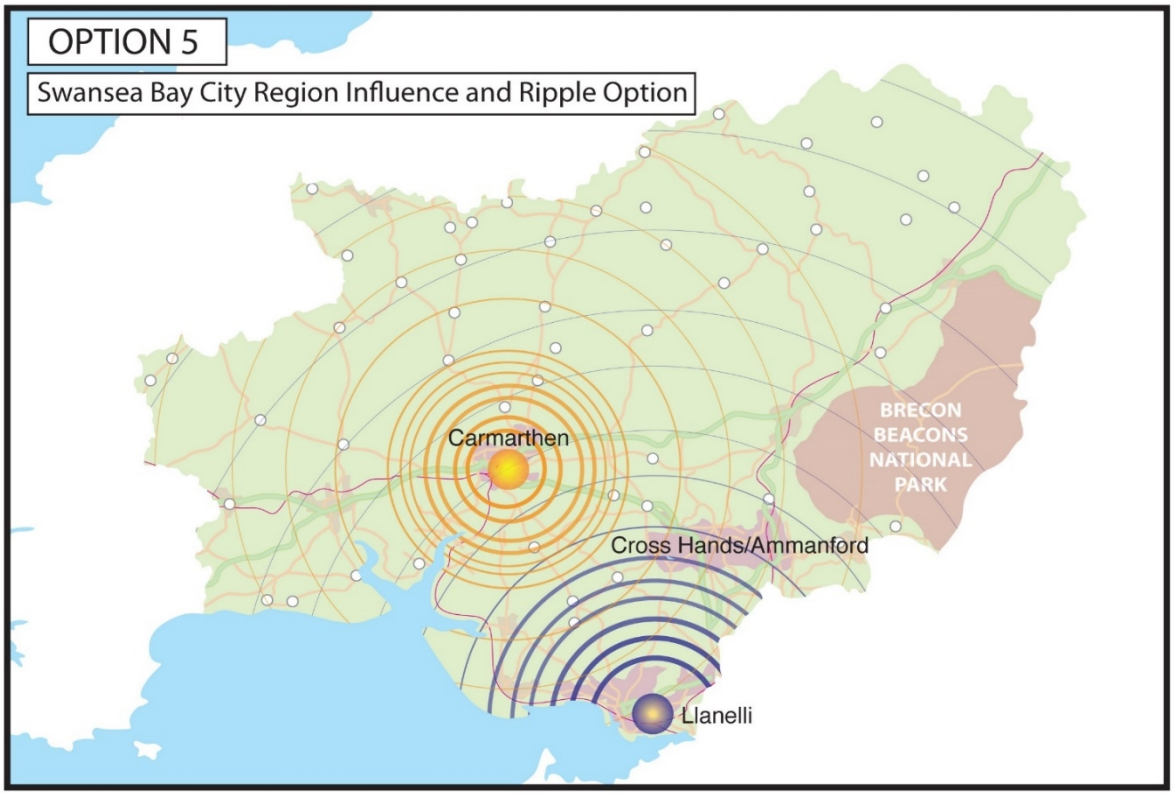
Balanced development in both urban and rural areas would support existing economic development as well as supporting the rural economy by creating viable economic centres supported by a local workforce and markets.

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)
SO5	S	+	+	+/-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	++	++	+	+
	M	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	I	I	+/-	+/-	+/-	++	++	-	-
	L	-	I	--	-	-	-	I	I	I	+/-	+/-	+/-	++	-	-	-

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 I

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 I

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 I Long Term I

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 I Long Term I

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

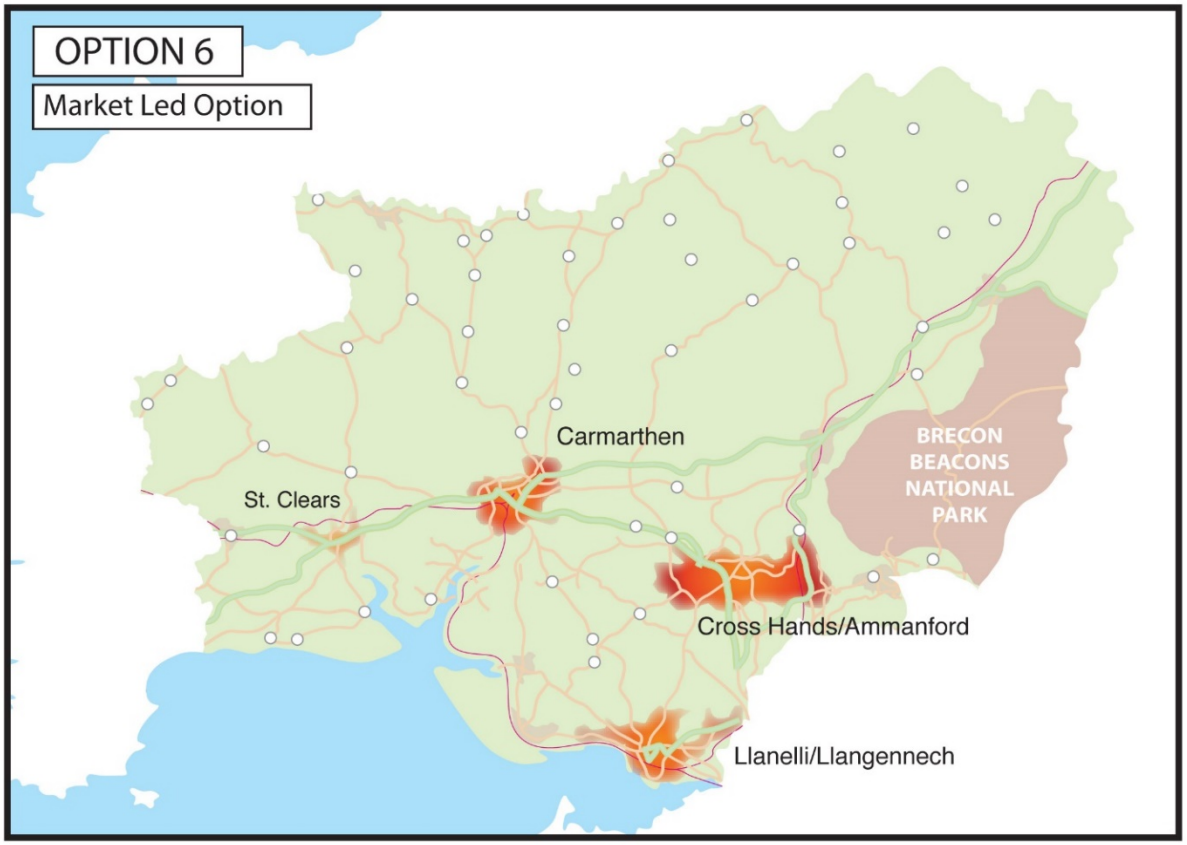
This option is likely to support high economic growth, including significant job creation, in Llanelli, Carmarthen and their surrounding areas, following inward investment via the Swansea Bay City deal. Settlements outside of these areas may benefit from the inward investment in these areas, however 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)
SO6	S	+	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	+
	M	-	I	-	-	-	-	+	I	I	+/-	-	+/-	?	?	-	-
	L	-	I	--	-	-	-	I	I	I	+/-	-	+/-	?	-	-	-

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	I	Long Term	I

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 I

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 I Long Term I

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 I Long Term I

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	I	+	I	I	+	I	I
SA3 Air Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
SA4 Climatic Factors	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+/-
SA5 Water	-	+	-	+	-	-	+
SA6 Material Assets	+	-	-	+	-	-	+
SA7 Soil	I	+	-	I	+	+	I
SA8 Cultural Heritage	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
SA9 Landscape	I	I	-	I	I	I	I
SA10 Population	++	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA11 Welsh Language	+	-	-	+	+/-	-	+
SA12 Health and Wellbeing	+	-	-	++	+/-	+/-	++
SA13Education 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)
SO7	S		-	+/-	+/-	+/-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	++	+	+	+
	M		I	+	+/-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+	++	++	++	++	+
	L		I	+	+	+	++	I	I	I	++	+	++	++	++	++	+

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
	-	I	I

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
	-	I	I

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
	+	I	I

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
	-	I	I

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	+	-	-	-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP2	+	I	+/-	+/-	I		I	I	+	+				++	
SP3	+	-	-	-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP4	+									++	+	+	+	+	++
SP5	+	-	+/-	+/-	?	+	I	I	I	++	+	++	++	++	++
SP6	+	-	+/-	+	?	+	I	I	I	++	+/-		+	++	+
SP7	+							+		+	++		+	+	++
SP8	++	+/-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	++		+	+	+	++
SP9	+	I			?		I	I	I	+					+
SP10	+	I	+/-	+/-	I	+	I	I	I	+	+/-	++	+	++	+
SP11	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+
SP12	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	I	-	+	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP13	+	++	+	+	+		+		+			+		+	
SP14	+							++	+			+		+	
SP15	++	+	+	++	+	+						+	?		
SP16	++	-	+	+	?	++	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP17	++	+	++	+		++				+		+	+		I+
SP18	I	-	-	-		?	-	I	-					+	
SP19	I	-	I	I		+	-	I	-			I		+	

SP 1: Strategic Growth		
The LDP will provide for the future growth of the economy and housing requirement through the provision of following: a) 10,704 new homes to meet the identified housing requirement of 10,195. 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.		
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	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	++	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	I	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	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	++	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 **sustainability principles**.		
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		
LDP Response		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

SP 5: Strategic Sites		
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: • 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

		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	I	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	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	++	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.

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		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

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 is 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

		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	I	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	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	++	Allocation of employment land in both urban and rural areas, as well is 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 is 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.

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		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

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		
LDP Response		

Changes made to policy as a result of SA

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. 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**
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.

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		

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	I	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.

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	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 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 at a sustainable location 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		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

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.		
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	I	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

		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.

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
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.

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 in 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		
• Suggest specific reference is made to energy efficient design. **Suggested policy alteration:** Be adaptable to climate change, **<u>promote energy efficiency</u>** and utilise materials and resources appropriate to the area within which it is located;		

- 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.**

- Suggest reference to recycling of waste

Have regard to the generation, treatment, disposal **and recycling** of waste

- 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

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.

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.

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		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

SP 13: Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment		
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		
LDP Response		
Changes made to policy as a result of SA		

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.		
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
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.

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.

Suggested policy alteration:
To contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions by reflect**ing** sustainable transport principles and minimis**ing** the need to travel, particularly by private motor car

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: 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;		
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		
Policy should include a criterion stating that no significant impacts in the environment should occur as a result of waste management proposals. Suggest more in the supporting text regarding sustainable location of waste management facilities especially when situated outside of development limits. Make reference to design of buildings being in keeping with surrounding landscape. Include reference to the proximity principle to minimise distance between where waste is generated and managed.		
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 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	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	?		+/-	I	I	+	+	?	?	+	+
Spatial Option Hybrid	+	I	+	+/-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+	++	++	++	++
Strategic Policies															
SP1	+	-	-	-	?	+	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP2	+	I	+/-	+/-	I		I	I	+	+				++	
SP3	+	-	-	-	+	+	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	+
SP4	+									++	+	+	+	+	++
SP5	+	-	+/-	+/-	?	+	I	I	I	++	+	++	++	++	++
SP6	+	-	+/-	+	?	+	I	I	I	++	+/-		+	++	+
SP7	+							+		+	++		+	+	++
SP8	++	+/-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	++		+	+	+	++
SP9	+	I			?		I	I	I	+					+
SP10	+	I	+/-	+/-	I	+	I	I	I	+	+/-	++	+	++	+
SP11	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+		+		+	+
SP12	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	I	-	+	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP13	+	++	+	+	+		+		+			+		+	
SP14	+							++	+			+		+	
SP15	++	+	+	++	+	+						+	?		
SP16	++	-	+	+	?	++	I	I	I	++	+/-	+	+	++	++
SP17	++	+	++	+		++				+		+	+		I+
SP18	I	-	-	-		?	-	I	-					+	
SP19	I	-	I	I		+	-	I	-			I		+	

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 SO2 and NOx 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

	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
- Cu :	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 1Sustainability 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?

	Are new developments climate resilient? Does the LDP leave room for habitat adjustment and coastal and fluvial flood water?
5 Water	
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. 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. 5-3 To minimise diffuse pollution from urban and rural areas. 5-4 To increase water efficiency in new and refurbished developments 5-5 To make space for water, and minimise flood risk	Will there be an increase or decrease in the discharge of pollutants to water? Will there be an increase or decrease in water consumption from development? Will the LDP have a positive or negative effect on water quality and hydromorphology? Will it contribute to an increase in flood risk? Will it contribute to a reduction in flood risk?
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. 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. 6-6 Promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport (e.g. cycling and walking).	Will the LDP contribute to increased rates of recycling and higher resource efficiency? Will the LDP ensure that needs can be met locally? Will the LDP allow people to make more sustainable transport choices?
7 Soil	
7-1 To avoid and reduce contamination of soils and promote the regeneration of contaminated land. 7-2 To avoid loss of soils to non-permeable surfaces and minimise soil erosion. 7-3 To reduce SO2 and NOX emissions and nitrate pollution from agriculture.	Will the LDP increase or decrease land contamination? Will the LDP result in an increase or loss of good quality soil resources? Will the LDP improve or degrade soil quality? Will the LDP involve development on previously used land?
8 Cultural Heritage and Historic Environment	
8-1 To protect historic and cultural assets and local distinctiveness from negative effects of development/regeneration and support their enhancement 8-2 To promote high quality design reflecting local character and distinctiveness	Are there any sites of archaeological importance that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP? Are there any historic landscapes that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?

	Are there any listed buildings that can be positively or negatively affected by the LDP?
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 to promote high quality design 9-3 To encourage appropriate future use of derelict land	Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on landscapes or townscapes? Will the LDP have a positive or negative impact on designated landscapes? Will the LDP encourage the redevelopment of previously developed land?
10 Population	
10-1 Ensure suitable, affordable housing stock with access to education and employment facilities 10-2 Promote the retention of younger people 10-3 Promote inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups into society	Will the LDP increase the provision of affordable housing in Carmarthenshire? Will the LDP contribute to promoting the retention of young people in the county? Will the LDP contribute to social inclusion?
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	
12-1 Create opportunities for people to live active, healthy lifestyles through planning activities 12-2 Provide access to health and recreation facilities and services 12-3 Encourage walking or cycling as alternative means of transportation 12-4 Promote access to Wales' natural and cultural heritage	Will there be a positive or negative impact on human health? Will access to health services and recreation facilities including natural heritage features be increased? Will the LDP increase opportunities for walking and cycling?
13 Education and Skills	
13-1 Provide accessible educational and training facilities which meet the future needs of the area 13-2 Increase levels of literacy (in English and Welsh) and numeracy 13-3 Promote lifelong learning	Will the LDP contribute to increasing attainment levels amongst young people? Will the LDP promote access to education facilities for all member s of the community? Will the LDP contribute to increasing literacy and numeracy levels?
14 Economy	

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	Will there be any adverse economic impacts on land and premises in employment use? Will there by a positive or negative impact on jobs opportunities as a result of the LDP?
15 Social Fabric	
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.	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?

Appendix 2 Sustainability Monitoring Framework – Data Sources

SA Topic	SA Objectives	Monitoring Indicator	Source
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.

	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

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

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	

	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

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

			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

	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			(South West Wales value)
	14-2 To provide good quality employment opportunities for	Amount of employment land lost to non-employment uses	CCC planning data
	all sections of the population		
		Percentage of population in part and full time or self-	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/research-statistics/electoral-ward-county-profiles/#.W5J2dOmQyUk
		employment	
	14-3 To promote sustainable businesses in Wales	Number of active businesses in Carmarthenshire	http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=456&geoTypeId=
		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	Average annual crime level	https://www.police.uk/dyfed-powys/110/crime/stats/
15 – Social Fabric	property		
		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
	15-2 Promote the design of settlements that improve	Probability of having a strong sense of community (by local	Future Generations indicator 27:
	social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions	authority area)	https://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2017/170301-national-survey-who-most-likely-strong-sense-community-en.pdf

		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
Agenda 21: United nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/outcomedocuments/agenda21
Rio Declaration on Environment and Development UNEP 1992 http://www.unep.org/Documents.multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=78&ArticleID=1163&l=en
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change United Nations 1994 http://unfccc.int/2860.php
The Kyoto Protocol United Nations 1997 http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php
Convention on Migratory Species UNEP 1979 http://www.cms.int/
Convention on Biological Diversity UNEP 1992 http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml
The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands UNESCO 1971 http://www.ramsar.org/
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 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. 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.
EU Directive 2000/60/EC (the Water Framework Directive - WFD) The Council of the European Communities 23 October 2000 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: • 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

resources.

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

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.

Proposal for a new EU Environment Action Programme to 2020 European Commission 2012
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/newprg/index.htm

EU Directive 1999/31/EC (the Landfill Directive) The Council of the European Union 1999
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/landfill_index.htm

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 *"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".*

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:-

- 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.

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

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

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

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 11June 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. SSSI 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

- To encourage the efficient use of minerals and maximizing the potential use of alternative materials as aggregates.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016:

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.

Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020, 'Partnership for Growth:

This identifies Destination Management as fundamental in helping to improve the visitor appeal of tourism destinations throughout Wales.

Visit Wales - Developing the Visitor Economy: A Charter for Wales 2009:

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.

Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013:

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.

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.

Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play: Beyond the Six Acre Standard:

This provides guidance on the planning and design of outdoor sport, play and informal space.

Regional: Plan, Policy or Programme

The Swansea Bay City Region Economic Regeneration Strategy 2013 – 2030:

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 "*a confident, ambitious and connected city region, recognised internationally for its emerging knowledge and innovation economy"*. The Strategy contains 5 Strategic aims.

Swansea Bay City Deal 2017

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
	Blaenycoed		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	